

The New Age Page 9, 28 November 2017

MEC applauds long-serving officials

TISETSO MANOKO

ROADS and public works MEC Mxolisa Sokatsha applauded officials who have gone the extra mile in making sure that they deliver services to the people.

He was speaking during the awards ceremony for long-serving officials in his department last week.

Sokatsha also appreciated the idea that officials were also studying further within the public sector.

"We acknowledge nine officials who improved their qualifications in areas such as public management and administration, project management, governance and political transformation," Sokatsha said.

"Of the nine officials, three are women, the department supports women empowerment, but it is only able to grant opportunities if women show the necessary interest.

"I encourage women to apply for bursaries, to invest in yourself and your future. As permanent officials working in the public sector we should never think we have reached our destiny and we have arrived."

Sokatsha also honoured Piet September who worked for the department for 40 years as a senior foreman in Griekwastad.

"Thank you for your commitment and dedication to the government. We value your years of experience and knowledge and we believe that you will share and pass it on to your fellow colleagues who still face several years in administration.

"In the same vein I need to highlight the importance of mentoring and transfer of skills in the workplace. Not only does it give meaning to the humanitarian principle of ubuntu, but it also contributes to growth and multi-skilling of a workforce," he said.

Sokatsha said nine officials had 30 years of unbroken service, 27 officials had 20 years while 17 had 10 years.

"Thank you for choosing the public service. May we continue to be diligent and dedicated workers who render services with effectiveness and efficiency.

"This year we are saying goodbye to 15 colleagues as they are going on retirement, over the years you have invested your skills and imparted your knowledge in the government and for this we thank you.

"Thank you for waking up in the morning sparing time to attend to your work," he said.

Sokatsha urged those who were remaining to draw strength and inspiration from the selfless public servants.

"I can assure you that the remaining workforce will continue to build on the foundation that you have laid. We trust that you will spend meaningful time with your family.

"Enjoy your hard-earned pension money wisely. Do not go through the motions of merely just existing on a daily basis but live life to the fullest," he said.

On the same night, Sokatsha urged the young graduates to utilise their skills.

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PRAISE: MEC Mxolisa Sokatsha applauded dedicated civil servants.

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