

Premier paints a pretty picture

North West wants to reduce accruals

By **Boitumelo Tshehle**

North West premier Supra Mahumapelo said that when he took office in June 2014 accruals amounted to R1-billion.

He has successfully reduced that to R750-million in the last financial year.

“We have taken a decision to further reduce this to R600-million when we close our books at the end of 2017/2018 financial year in March 2018,” he said.

These accruals saw some government departments, including education, health and public works, placed under administration.

He said the Mahikeng airport will be named after Barolong Boo Ratshidi chief Dick

Montshioa, and that the airport precinct development was part of the broader Mahikeng rebranding, repositioning and renewal programme and making Mahikeng the real capital city.

He also highlighted that the recapitalisation of Mahikeng Airport precinct into an international cargo hub was progressing at an impressive pace.

“The department of arts and culture has covered much ground in addressing all compliance issues as part of accelerating the process to restore the Mahikeng Airport’s international status,” he said.

The golf estate, Leopard Park, will be named after late soccer and TV personality Cebiso Manyapa.

Youth in the province will also get jobs in the bricklaying industry.



North West premier Supra Mahumapelo at the State of the Province Address in Marikana, North West. / MDUDUZINDZINGI

Mahumapelo said the department of public works and roads was finalising the establishment of 11 brick-making plants.

He said the plants have the capacity to produce 5 000 bricks a day to 25 000 bricks per day per shift.

They were expected to cre-

ate a minimum of 1 000 work opportunities when fully operational.

He also mentioned that in 2014, the majority of departments had acting capacities in heads of departments, with most departments hugely unequal in gender representation.

“We are happy to announce that heads of departments positions were filled 100% until a resignation in the last two months, but the position is already at interview stage.”

He spoke about the steady and sustained increase in the number of people coming into the province. He said international arrivals since 2014 had grown steadily. No less than 50 000 tourists had come into the province.

“Beds or nights have increased by over one million and it is estimated that the industry has created some additional 20 000 jobs.”

In 2014, the province experienced high levels of impatience among some sections of society with service delivery challenges.

He said the introduction of Setsokotsane Operation Centre had significantly improved the level of satisfaction of communities.

In the 2017/2018 financial year alone, Setsokotsane Operation Centre resolved more than 1 500 complaints raised by members of the public.