



CEREMONY:
MEC Mxolisi Sokatsha (right) cutting the ribbon with the mayor of Siyathemba Municipality, Mvuyo Howard Tsume, and Pastor Martinus Theunis (far left).

Picture: Kurt Aspeling

Learners build better future

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THIRTY out of 41 women and youths from Prieska graduated after completing a learnership qualification in civil and building construction, Level 3.

The students completed theoretical and practical 12-month training where they underwent training at Tswelelopele Skills Centre and assisted in renovating the Morewag Hostel.

At the graduation ceremony in Prieska yesterday, the MEC for Roads and Public Works, Mxolisi Sokatsha, said the graduates were qualified to commence with artisan and construction apprentice-

ships in various trades.

“Behind the Tswelelopele Training Centre a Trade Test Centre is being constructed that will serve as an additional facility to provide accredited training. A general agreement has been signed on funding for the construction of the Trade Test Centre and the refurbishment of Morewag Hostel. Various learners will be able to enrol in a three-year Building Construction Level 3 course at the Northern Cape Rural Technical and Vocational Education Training College.”

Sokatsha urged the community to desist from vandalising the Morewag Hostel that was handed over to the Northern Cape Rural

Technical and Vocational Education Training College.

“This neglected building that was illegally occupied was restored with the assistance of the students, while at the same time they were able to put to use their skills as plumbers, electricians, carpenters and masonry. The hostel will accommodate students from all over the Province while they are completing their studies.”

He added that government was in the process of taking possession of state buildings that were being illegally occupied.

“Vacant and run-down buildings often lead to incidents of crime and devalues the properties.”