

EPWP graduates honoured

A total of 75 Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) beneficiaries received certificates of recognition for the successful completion of work on various EPWP projects at the Overstrand Municipality for the past year.

The participants range from 18 and older in age and come from all over the Overstrand. Amongst the honoured beneficiaries were about 25 men and women from Gansbaai.

The EPWP is intended to alleviate poverty by providing temporary workers with a step-up through access to opportunities to earn money. During this time, beneficiaries also receive skills training and on-the-job experience to put them into a better position to become employed full-time.

As part of the 12-month programme, EPWP participants working in the Community Fire Protection Project are given training in Fire Fighter 1, Hazmat Awareness and First Aid level 3. This is the minimum requirement to qualify to become a fire fighter.

Additional skills development includes Rope Rescue, Fire and Life Safety Educator to educate the public and Major Incident Medical Management System.

The Municipality also offers EPWP participants the opportunity to work shoulder to shoulder with permanent staff.

Beneficiaries are further integrated into various other aspects of the Municipality's daily operations.

Awards

During the appreciation ceremony, special recognition was given to the Community Services Directorate for their contribution and efforts made to offer 756 opportunities as well as the Protection Services Directorate with the highest number of work opportunities converted into permanent employment (71 full-time employees).

The Directorate for Economic and Social Development and Tourism was very pleased to announce an additional Peer Support project that started on 1 August 2018. This category will assist persons with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities in the different communities through support, networking and advice services.