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City welcomes new recruits

The City of Ekurhuleni (CoE) officially welcomed more than 1 700 new recruits for the Ekurhuleni Presidential Employment Programme (EPEP) and the Extended Public Works Programme (EPWP) at Germiston Stadium on November 18.

The induction ceremony was attended by Executive Mayor Nkosindiphile Xhakaza, along with MMC for Development Planning and Real Estate, Nomadlozi Nkosi, and MMC for Corporate Shared Services, Sivuyile Ngodwana.

During his State of the City Address in April, Xhakaza committed to absorbing 3 000 locals into the EPEP initiative.

The first group of over 1 400 recruits joined the programme in May.

"The CoE remains dedicat-

ed to fostering growth, development, and service delivery through initiatives like EPEP and EPWP, which positively impact the community and contribute to workforce development," Xhakaza stated during the event.

The mayor emphasised the programme's significance as a stepping stone for young professionals.

"This is a great opportunity to kick-start your careers. Treat it as such and make the most of it. Even though the contract is short-term, the experience gained is invaluable," he said.

Participants in EPEP and EPWP will gain essential skills and experience, with contracts ranging from six months to one year—often addressing the common em-

ployment barrier of requiring prior experience.

Xhakaza also highlighted EPEP's role in supporting the Presidential Employment Stimulus Programme and the Gauteng Provincial Nasipani Programme.

Since 2021, the EPEP and EPWP have provided temporary work and skill development opportunities for over 7 000 residents.

"These programmes address unemployment, promote social development, and equip individuals with the skills and knowledge to enter the formal workforce," Xhakaza said.

The event marked a significant step in the city's commitment to alleviating unemployment and enhancing economic opportunities for its residents.



MMC for Corporate Shared Services Sivuyile Ngodwana, MMC for Development Planning and Real Estate Nomadlozi Nkosi, and Executive Mayor Nkosindiphile Xhakaza. With them are some of the new recruits.