



public works

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Enquiries: Thami Mchunu 079 519 6997

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MEDIA STATEMENT

MINISTER NXESI VISITS IZIKO MUSEUM FOR QUALITY INSPECTION AND ALSO MEETS DPW PROGRAMMES BENEFICIARIES

Public Works Minister TW Nxesi, MP, has visited the Iziko Museum in Cape Town for a quality inspection tour. The museum complex is being renovated and extensions are being effected on the complex the Department of Public Works.

Work being undertaken by the DPW on the R194m project, includes a clever design on not just the physical structure, but also on the landscape. The design has green elements and offers better safety and maximum use of space. Renovation work involves some specialised heritage work in the oldest building on the entrance side. Two new floors have been constructed, electrical upgrades and energy saving measures have also been implemented throughout the site.

The Internationally recognised museum was established in 1825 and is the first museum in the southern hemisphere and amongst the earliest to be constituted outside Europe and the United Kingdom.

The renovation will lead to the construction of a new conference facility which will have breakaway seminar rooms, a large sun terrace, a catering kitchen capable of serving large gatherings and an extensive serving area or bar. This facility will serve Iziko's own purposes, and will allow it to host national and international conferences.

Some of the green methods used include air-cooling, eliminating the use of scarce water for cooling, Heat pumps provide cooling in summer and heating in winter, using one third of energy consumption when heating, compared with direct electric

heating. The light emitting diode (LED) lamps with a minimum five year lifespan have been used. These offer between 60 – 70% energy saving when compared to standard fluorescent lamps.

Later, the Minister had a meeting with DPW programmes beneficiaries including bursary recipients, Young Professionals, Artisans, High school learners and representatives of Tertiary institutions. The beneficiaries are part of the skills development initiative of the DPW. With the country experiencing skills shortages, DPW adopted the skills Pipeline Strategy within the built environment to resolve this challenge. The strategy is aimed at building technical capacity while addressing issues of transformation in the built environment.

ENDS

Issued by: Thami Mchunu

Director: Media and Stakeholder Relations

Contact: 0795196997 / 012 406 1841