



# Lephalale Municipality

Tel: 014 763 2193  
Fax: 014 763 5662  
Website: [www.lephalale.gov.za](http://www.lephalale.gov.za)

Private Bag X136  
Lephalale  
0555

## PRESS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

19 June 2015

**LEPHALALE** - Lephalale Municipality in conjunction with The Waterberg District Municipality hosted the Waterberg Mining Summit on Thursday, 18 June 2015. The theme of the summit was "Changing People's Socio-Economic Conditions through Mining Development" and was attended by several stakeholders in government and the mining industry.

The Mayor of Lephalale, Cllr Jack Maeko welcomed the assembly to one of the fastest growing municipalities in Limpopo and soon to be the first city born in the democratic South Africa. He thanked the mining industry for their contribution to the growth of Lephalale, and invited even more participation and investment to see lives changed for the better in the region.

The Executive Mayor of the Waterberg District, Cllr Rosina Mogotlane said in her keynote address that Mining companies venturing into the Waterberg should explore opportunities to empower communities in the District. She stated that of the 680 000 people who reside in the Waterberg, approximately 28,1 % live in poverty. She called for an even greater transformation in the mining industry in order to bring dignity and prosperity to the people.

During the summit presentations were rendered by Joel Raphela, the Deputy Director General in the department of mineral resources. He encouraged Municipalities and Mining companies to work in partnership with the Department to address social economic issues in all six mineral rich municipalities in the Waterberg. He indicated that apart from the 21 mining rights that have been issued by the Department, fourteen more has recently been approved for the Waterberg. Over 200 applications for prospecting rights are being processed.

Dr J van Vuuren, Project Manager for SIP 1 (Strategic Integrated Projects) spoke about government's commitment to unlocking the Northern Mineral Belt with Waterberg as the catalyst as part of government's National Infrastructure Plan. He revealed plans to transform Lephalale into a green city. Prof. Mark Oranje from the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Pretoria spoke about the need for long term planning in the Mining industry especially in the Waterberg region. Delegates were given an opportunity to engage with the presenters through a question and answer session facilitated by Vuyo Mvoko from the SABC.

Queries:

Valerie Cilliers  
Communications officer  
LEPHALALE MUNICIPALITY  
Tel: 014 7621634  
0828743822  
Email: [valerie.cilliers@lephalale.gov.za](mailto:valerie.cilliers@lephalale.gov.za)