

An Official Magazine for Royal Bafokeng Administration Employees



ROYAL BAFOKENG ADMINISTRATION

Go tswa Isong

NOVEMBER 2009



A royal visit to Parliament



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Go tswa isong

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RBA introduces GIS for a better management of data



Ernie Kemm, Town Planning Manager.

The Town Planning department has recently introduced a new technology called Geographic Information System (GIS). This is the technology that makes our lives and the world we live in better, according to Ernie Kemm, Town Planning Manager. He said for RBA to fulfill its mission to provide services necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of its residents, the use of GIS is very critical. To find out more about the system; just what it does, its benefits, and how you can access it, Ernie Kemm explains further

Q. What is GIS?

E.K: Geographic Information System (GIS) is an organized collection of computer hardware, software, geographic data and personnel designed to efficiently capture, store, update, manipulate, analyze and display all forms of spatial information.

GIS is not a new system, it is widely used by government departments, for example the SA Police Services, Provincial departments, etc.

Q. Why is it necessary to use GIS and what can you do with it?

E.K: GIS is a computer-based tool for solving problems. GIS is designed and developed to aid the data management and decision making processes of an organization. It integrates information in a way that helps us understand and find solutions to problems, for example showing trends on the house breakings. In general, people use GIS for four main purposes: data creation, data display, analysis and output.

Q. How does GIS work?

E.K: It works in a simple way. Data about real-world objects is stored in a database and dynamically linked to an onscreen map, which displays graphics representing real-world objects. When the data in the database change, the map updates to reflect the changes.

Q. What are the benefits for the RBA and its employees?

E.K: RBA will benefit interoperable technologies, standards and methods from this system. It helps RBA in reducing stove-piped approach to collection of data, duplication of data and applications, staff time required to perform certain tasks and also helps with support to Morafe by generating reports or information quickly. Because the information is digital, it also allows for continuous refinement, enhancement, and increased efficiency.

Q. What is the importance of having a GIS?

E.K: A geographic information system (GIS) allows for the display of database information on a visual map. A GIS does not contain any maps or graphics, it creates maps and graphics from the information contained in the databases. GIS is not a mapping program, it is a complex mix of database management, display technology, and analysis tools that

can be used to create maps. All the information in a GIS is referenced to a location. A GIS can contain images of aerial photography, photographs of homes, and floor plans of buildings, and large amounts of text and attribute information, but they are all tied into the databases by their location on the earth's surface.

GIS technology combines a powerful database with the unique ability to display the database information on a map. This ability to visualize information on a map allows quick analysis of information, which makes GIS invaluable to public safety. By referencing all the data in a GIS to a location on the earth's surface, maps can be generated and displayed, information can be visualized, and decisions can be quickly made.

GIS allows us to view, understand, question, interpret, and visualize data in many ways that reveal relationships, patterns, and trends in the form of maps, globes, reports, and charts.

Q. What kind of information can be incorporated into GIS?

E.K: All information in a database format, preferably linked to an entity for example a stand number, consisting of crime statistics, data on schools, health related data, and infrastructure data, etc can be incorporated into the GIS.

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A sudden realisation ... in the heart of Parliament



*Refilwe Mushi, Public Relations Officer
in the Office of Kgosi.*

In October, 2009, I had the privilege of accompanying the Royal Bafokeng Supreme Council on a trip to the National Parliament in Cape Town. This was not a “holiday”, but rather an epic

assignment in African democracy. I was nervous from the outset. For starters, I am a freshman here in the Office of Kgosi, I’m still learning the ropes, and how on earth was I going to relate to my elders on a social basis? I kept on nagging myself, silently. Needless to say, though, I was excited at the prospect of being part of the delegation.

The trip provided me with an opportunity to fully appreciate a trait of Bafokeng, something only a historical event of this magnitude can

“I was reminded of the work that still needs to be done to ensure that the legacy of our forefathers is preserved.”

reinforce. I realised that **Bafokeng are pioneers!**

At the official dinner I challenged my newfound friends from Parliament to tell me what they really think about the infamous Royal Bafokeng Nation. I wasn’t prepared for the fiery debate my question was about to create.

It started with the history of Africa, and ended up with a projection of the future of rural Bafokeng! Wow, this is how far we’ve come... from being dominated in our own land to being a community that is economically driven.

The Supreme Council’s visit to Parliament made sense to me in a profound way. I hope the delegation shared my sense that their capacity as leaders was enhanced and that our actions now have impact at a national level.

This trip was an affirmation for me as an individual that education is the primary tool our country should use to overcome the many social and economic problems we face in our era. We are part of a global community and

ignorance does us no good!

Kgosi’s desire to see the Royal Bafokeng Nation as a learned nation does not apply to the youth only; most of the Supreme Councillors are not young, but they undertook this exercise to learn and observe from Parliament. This is reminder to all of us to continue learning, regardless of age or stature.

It was a great honour for me to be in the presence of national leaders whose stories of learning against all odds inspired me to persevere in my own journey as an academic and lifelong student.

I was reminded of the work that still needs to be done to ensure that the legacy of our forefathers is preserved (through reading and teaching) so that we may continue to be innovative and break new ground wherever we go!



*Above: Kgosi Leruo Molotlegi with the
Royal Bafokeng Nation Supreme Council.*



*Left: Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe
addressing the RBN delegates, with him
(left to right) Kgosi Leruo Molotlegi,
Rre Magosi Tumagole and
Kgosana Joseph Rapetsana.*

Excellence through projects

The new Project Management Office (PMO) was established earlier this year in the Research & Planning Department to monitor all RBN social delivery projects and report on their progress. In its first six months, the PMO has gone from strength to strength

Dr. Elmie Castleman heads up the PMO, and Jean Slabbert (Project Analyst) and Mmapula Thihe (Intern) complete the team. Dr. Castleman says the team is “motivated to increase and improve project reporting throughout the RBN, to implement streamlined project management systems and to increase the quality of projects throughout the RBN.”

By the end of October 2009 thirty-six projects were registered on the MBP Portal. Fifty project managers attended Phase 1 of the Project Management workshop and twenty also attended Phase 2.

Currently, Education, Public & Community Utilities and Health are the top three priority areas in the RBN. By registering all projects within the RBN, reliable information will be readily available for decision making. The PMO invites all entities to register their



Left to right: Mmapula , Dr Elmie Castleman and Jean Slabbert.

projects (large and small) and invites all project managers to come for training. The PMO team is now in the process of designing the Royal Bafokeng Situation Room, a state of the art planning and information centre, which will be the hub of project information within the RBN.

The Royal Bafokeng Situation Room will be

the first of its kind in South Africa and will be able to project its information to any internet connection. Phase one of the room will be complete in January 2010, so watch this space...

“If you cannot measure it you cannot manage it.” – Dr. Elmie Castleman

TIME FOR NEW DREAMS AND GOALS

The year has come to an end but the big question is how many of those goals you set for yourself did you accomplish? Well it's ok to admit that you didn't accomplish what you thought you would or even worse, what you knew you could. Go tswa Isong took a look back at some of the resolutions made at the beginning of the year and made a follow up to see how much was achieved by some staff members

Tumelo Dikutle took a resolution to get out of debt and save money this year. He blames the current economic down turn for his failure to achieve this goal. He

said it was very difficult to save even a small amount for rainy days but hopes that the new year will be better for him

Lucky Mokgethi who wanted to help the needy children by mentoring them also mentioned that recession had a negative impact on him; however, he managed to buy school uniform and shoes for two children at Matsukubane Middle School.

Gadifele Molefe managed to keep most of her resolutions; she managed to complete her diploma in Business Administration Management and will be graduating in December.

As you knock on 2010's door remember

that life is all about challenges and facing them head-on, is the best thing you could do for yourself. Nothing is impossible only if you believe. Forget about the past, and focus more on what you're going to do in the New Year, it's time for new dreams and goals.

“The road to success is lined with many tempting parking spaces.”

Traditional Proverb.

RBA Introduces GIS for a better management of data

The more information received from the different departments the better for the functioning of the system. It is important that data is received and incorporated, that will enable departments to generate maps and reports showing outcomes.

RBA requires well-defined, consistent methods to produce correct and reproducible results. GIS is a more user-friendly approach for helping users within the administration. Feel free to visit the RBA intranet and to familiarize yourself with the GIS.



Tebogo Petlele explaining the GIS to a member of the community during Kgothakgothe in October.

quickly and cheaply and assess alternatives.

- Ability to offer an improved map service.
- Greater efficiency resulting in increased staff capacity and savings.

For enquiries regarding the GIS, please contact Tebogo Petlele / Ernie Kemm in Town Planning Department.

Other benefits of a GIS

- The GIS provides information at any given time.
- Access to information is made easy and it will help decision makers to make more informed decisions. Maps can be produced and even distances calculated.
- Providing quick and easy access to large volumes of data.
- It can select information by area or by theme to merge one data set with another, to analyze spatial characteristics of data, to search for particular features, to update

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!!

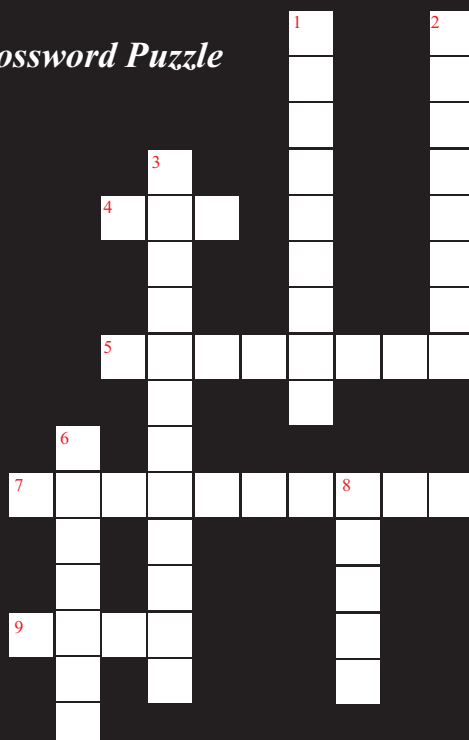
The Editorial team of Go Tswa Isong and everyone behind it would like to thank you all for your wonderful and honest support during the year. 2009 would not have been so fruitful if it was not for you and your greatest support in making sure that you get informative and exciting stories in the magazine.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

RE A LEBOGA. THANK YOU. DANKIE!!



Crossword Puzzle



Across

4. Geographic Information System. Abbreviation (3)
5. This can be calculated using the Geographic Information System.
7. The Supreme Council visited this place recently.
9. Richard Moseki advises anyone to invest this important aspect to improve oneself.

Down

1. Holiday ahead.
2. This is the attitude employers expect from employees.
3. Josina Rangaka advises one not to be discouraged by this in life.
6. "The road to success is lined with many tempting ----- spaces".
8. Jean Slabbert is also responsible for the facilitation of this course.

(Puzzle By Khumo Molobye)

Staff Achievements



Josinah Rangaka:
(Human Resources)

Achieving goals needs commitment, focus and determination. This is according to Josinah Rangaka who recently graduated from Unisa with a National Diploma in Public Management. Having been in HR for about ten years, this was her greatest achievement which of course did not come easy.

As she traveled her path, she met with many challenges that almost discouraged her. But with determination and good advice, she is proud of her achievement.

She says she owes her success to former HR Manager Frans Moatshe who encouraged her and supported her throughout her studies. She believes that her success may have eluded her if it were not for Moatshe. "He was my mentor, I

owe my success to him; had he not encouraged and supported me I would not have achieved what I have today. I will always be grateful to him," she said.

Motivated by her achievement, Josinah did not waste any time after graduating, she is currently doing a certificate course in Occupation Directed Education Training and Development Programme with Maccavlei Training Centre. With this she says, she will be able to add even more value to RBA.

Her advice to other employees is that "there are no shortcuts to success, do not be discouraged by difficulties along the road because they are there to motivate us", she said.



Richard Moseki:
(Protective Services.)

Richard Moseki also received a Diploma in Policing from Unisa recently; a qualification he says will help him in performing his duties as a Protective Coordinator even better as he now has a better understanding of the law.

When he joined Protective Services seven years ago, he had no background in policing as he served most of his career in the military as an Intelligence Officer. He then realized that the department does not only render physical security at defined sites belonging to the RNB but also renders patrol policing services to promote safety and security to the members of the community residing within the RBN areas. This he said, is what motivated him to study for a diploma in policing.

His word of advice to the young people is that "hard work never kills, invest more time in improving and developing your skills by furthering your studies", he said.

New Appointments

Jean Slabbert joined the Office of Kgosi at the beginning of October as a Project Analyst in the Project Management Office (PMO) of the Research & Planning Department

His duties include among others, to conduct all analysis for the PMO, create reports that allow the PMO and RBN leadership to follow the progress across all projects and programs, monitor and evaluate the efficiency, efficacy and suitability of projects and programmes, support all departments with the recording and reporting of valid, accurate statistics, report on the progress of projects and programmes against set indicators and to develop and



Jean Slabbert:
(Project Analyst.)

facilitate Excel training courses for staff.

Prior to joining the RBN, Jean was

employed as an M&E Officer with the Foundation for Professional Development in Pretoria— the second largest HIV/AIDS management program in South Africa. He is in the process of completing his Master's degree in Econometrics at the University of Pretoria, where he previously completed his Bachelors and Honors degrees, also in Econometrics.

Jean says working for the RBN has given him the opportunity to really develop and learn personally, professionally and spiritually. He said he is extremely excited about his time here and can't wait to share with everyone in this dream of sustainability, that is the Royal Bafokeng Nation.

ONE MASSIVE RISE TO NETBALL VICTORY



RBA Netball Team.

After raising funds for the anticipated tour to Maputo, the Royal Bafokeng Sports team has returned from Maputo with top honours. This was made possible by the CEO after Kgosi's approval. The team travelled to Mozambique for the 2009 Southern Inter Municipal Games that took place in Maputo from 5 – 12 September 2009

The RBA netball and soccer teams competed against 46 other Municipalities that took part in the tournament. Teams from as far as Namibia and Swaziland participated. The Soccer team only reached the top 3 spot after playing fairly, and our Champions, the Netball Team managed to reach the Semi-Finals but due to the complications that were met, the games were suspended but RBA was declared the winners within Pool A because of their

wonderful performance.

Maureen Moforutshe, RBA Sports Secretary said: "we really had a great time in

Maputo and though there were problems we faced, my team never failed to work together into climbing the victory ladder. I am disappointed that we did not come home with the trophy but I can assure everyone that RBA Sports represented the organization very well, with pride.

We are now known and I am not talking about here in RSA only but teams in Namibia, Swaziland, Mozambique, and Botswana know RBA very well. I just want to send my appreciation to the CEO's office, Kgosi Leruo Molotlegi, Mr Adolf Zietsman, Mr Moatshe, and all the Managers within RBA to have let their employees take part in this important tournament.

Also, thanks are due to everyone who made it to Maputo and for conducting themselves in a professional and matured manner that led us into being the top team in the Southern

Africa. It is indeed no doubt that RBA Sports is going places and plans of hosting a tournament for RBA employees to see the team's performance are under pipelines."

And after complications from Maputo, the team never stopped playing as they beat every team they played against. They then affiliated for the annual Bojanala District Municipality Tournament where 7 municipalities (Madibeng District Municipality, Moretele, and Rustenburg Local Municipality) to name a few were part of this tournament that took place on Saturday 5 – Sunday 6 December 2009 at Olympia Park Stadium.

The Netball team beat all teams into becoming the 2009 Champions of the said tournament then the pool table team (chosen from the soccer team) managed to come home with Silver Medals. Unfortunately the soccer team could not reach the finals. They are the host next year and preparations will be put to place soon.

We are indeed proud of them. Halala RBA Sports Halala!!

Football friday

Fridays will never be the same for RBA employees until the end of 2010 World Cup. RBA is hereby invited to be part of the national Football Friday Campaign that is taking the country by storm

Football Friday is the initiative that was launched in Mpumalanga on 10 July 2009 and the main objective is to create awareness and excitement towards the 2010 World Cup. Staff members are urged to dress up in their football regalia on Fridays to support this and a penalty of R5.00 will be sought from those who will not be dressed in football gears.

Proceeds will then be donated towards the

Health & Social Development services.

South Africa is indeed ready to host, Africa awaits history!

Happy football Fridays...



BIRTHDAYS

November 2009

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Violet Mahlangu | 05 |
| Millicent Mosue | 18 |
| Katlego Kgwadi | 26 |

December 2009

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Mpho Mokua | 02 |
| Khumo Molobye | 07 |
| Obakeng Phetwe | 26 |
| Charmaine Rangaka | 28 |

January 2010

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Sarah Molefe | 04 |
| Baatseba Pheko | 07 |
| Selaelo Morotoba | 18 |
| Refilwe Khunou | 26 |