KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE HONOURABLE CLLR T.E RESENGA DURING THE RE-LAUCHING OF THULAMELA YOUTH COUNCIL

VENUE: THULAMELA COUNCIL CHAMBER

DATE: 30 JULY 2011

TIME: 10H00

Thank you programme Director.

We have assembled here today for the relaunching of the youth Council. The Youth council in each and every Municipality needs to be relaunched annually.

Programme Director,

As the Local Municipality, we have a responsibility to ensure that our youths become part and parcel of youth political organizations, social movement organizations, etc. In so doing we are making sure that our youths do not pursue their self-interests only, but are focused and determined to push the frontiers of the struggle to higher levels. In the process we will be discouraging many of our folks from drug and alcohol indulgence. We need to produce and nurture the youth that is robust, militant and energetic. The youth that is prepared to face issues of their own interest lead on. These youth must be concentrated in all sectors of society including sports, infrastructure developments, economic and social participation, and many more.

Programme Director

Our youth Council is not spared of challenges.
during the previous launch at was highlighted that
the youth Advisory Centre at Malamulele
clubhouse was facing challenges of finance which
came as a result of the merger of the Umsobomvu
Youth Fund and the National Youth Commission

when the National Youth Development urgency was established, is now not operating. This centre was helping young people to access all Economic opportunities and help young people in career guidance at high schools. It is imperative that an institution of such magnitude of importance be a revived. Unemployment has continued to be scourge of this rural municipality which has aggravated the state of poverty.

Programme Director

The incoming Youth Council is thus urged to actively engage organizations like small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA) Limpopo Business Support Agency (LIBSA) Micro Finance Apex Fund (SAMAF) and many more. These financial institutions are useful in providing advice on matters pertaining to how to start small businesses and provisioning of start-up capital.

Programme Director

We applaud the outgoing Council for joining **Vhembe District Municipality and this Municipality** in our back to school campaign when we visited several schools in January 2011. Their presence greatly enhanced our efforts to spur our schools to up their performances. I also wish to thank the Youth Council for their participation during the 2011 Municipal Elections, where they voted in large numbers. They should continue to commit themselves in protecting our hard won democracy by continuously campaigning for the youth to be part of the election process. As the future of this country lies in their own hands, it is they who are supposed to protect and defend the gains of democracy that we achieved in 1994.

Programme Director

Youth Council has a responsibility to launch and relaunch Ward co-coordinating committees. These committees are very important as they work as the link between youth council and its constituencies in Ward level, thus strengthening the presence of the Youth Council in our townships and villages. As a Municipality we urge you to intensity your efforts and see to it that all ward co-coordinating committees are launched.

Programme Director

I would also like to congratulate the youth league in their participation organizational efforts during the annual June 16 event. This is a very important event of our history of the liberation struggle, which must be honoured to the best of our abilities

Programme Director

As I come to conclusion, I would like to remind the incoming Youth Council of the dangers of HIV and AIDS as well as Sexually Transmittable Diseases. It should be one of the Council's responsibilities to preach the gospel against irresponsible sexual behavior by our youths. The Youth Council must be able to convince the youths out there to abstain from sexual intercourse, or else they must condomise.

Programme Director

With these few words I wish the incoming Youth Council a successful term. I therefore declared the re-launching of the new Youth Council open.

I THANK YOU.