

**WELCOME SPEECH BY COUNCILLOR BEATRICE MPHAHLELE ON  
BEHALF OF THE MAYOR TO THE 2012 LAUNCH OF THE YOUTH  
BUILD PROJECT, A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN NYDA AND WATERBERG  
FET COLLEGE, LEBOWAKGOMO CIVIC CENTRE.**

21 JUNE 2012

Programme Director

Our MEC

Representatives from CDM

Chairperson of NYDA

CEO of Waterberg FET College

Protocol observed

Let me take this opportunity to welcome everyone who has sacrificed other commitments to come and witness this Youth Build Project, a partnership between NYDA and Waterberg FET College. This month NYDA celebrates three years of its existence. This month again this country is celebrating the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the youth and related uprisings.

We are very impressed as Lepelle Nkumpi Municipality about the remarkable journey of the NYDA with their successes but yet not a simple one. You had your fair share of challenges which were not and still not insurmountable.

We are quite aware that the NYDA, working in collaboration with research institutions have developed the Youth Context Manual which is consistent with the National Youth Policy, which covers economic participation, health and wellbeing; education and skills development; social cohesion and civic participation; youth work and national youth service.

The current context of young people in South Africa raises a number of cross cutting questions that needs to be strategically addressed by all of us. Given that the population age structure of the country is relatively young, the most

critical question to ask is whether South Africa is positioned to benefit from the large youthful working age population.

This partnership is therefore an important milestone for our country's quest to begin to explore ways of improving the potential of young people's contribution to the development of a growing and stable economy. We believe that going forward everyone will prioritise young people as main beneficiary of their respective programmes. This partnership will not only benefit the youth, but will ensure that South Africa's economy remains competitive in the world market.

We believe that this intervention will address key issues of youth development such as employment; education and skills development, creation of a cohesive society and nation building and building a healthy and productive cadreship of young people.

To all our invited guests and experts, I trust that you will enjoy your stay here. We are confident that this partnership will take our country to a high level.

I THANK YOU!!!!