

DIRECTORATE:

Private Bag X9043, PIETERMARITZBURG, 3200

Communication

Inkosi Mhlabunzima Maphumulo House, 172 Burger Street, Pietermaritzburg, 3201

 Tel: 033 355 8624
 Fax: 033 355 8632

MEDIA ALERT

Friday, 15 October 2021

## MEC NKONYENI TO ROLL OUT THE PLANTING SEASON PROGRAMME IN ILEMBE DISTRICT

KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Transport, Community Safety and Liaison Ms. Neliswa Peggy Nkonyeni in her capacity as the District Champion of iLembe District Municipality will roll out the planting season programme.

The programme was officially launched by the Honourable Premier Mr. S Zikalala on the 29th of September 2021 at Bergville, in the uThukela District Municipality.

The Planting Season seeks to assist indigent and smallholder farmers in order to promote crop production as a catalyst for economic development, job creation and poverty alleviation with the following:

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has identified and availed land to be utilized in Sikhonyane area at Sikhonyane Cooperative agricultural land.

MEC Nkonyeni who will be joined by iLembe District Mayor Cllr SS Gume and Mandeni Local Municipality Mayor Cllr T Mdlalose will also hand over agricultural tools to the Sikhonyane Cooperative and demonstrate the planting of maize in field.

MEC Nkonyeni will also lead a planting of three fruit trees at the three households in ward 6 in Mandeni. Local farmers will also be exhibiting their products.

The programme will take place in three phases.

Details are as follows:

Planting of a Garden Date: 16 October 2021 Venue: Sikhonyane Cooperative Agricultural land (Ward 16) Time: 09:00 – 09:30 am Planting of the Fruit Trees Date: 16 October 2021 Venue: Emathunzi area (ward 6) Time: 09:45 -10:20 am

Community Engagement Date: 16 October 2021 Venue: Mkhize Sports Ground, Mandeni Local Municipality (ward 6) Time: 10:30 am

Media is invited to attend. COVID-19 regulations will be strictly monitored. Ends/