



Opening Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the Lekoa Athletic Club and Athletic Vaal Triangle at the George Thabe Stadium 08 August 2009, in Sharpeville in Sedibeng

Programme Director

Emfuleni Executive Mayor: Cllr. Assistance Mshudulu;

Sedibeng & Emfuleni Mayoral Committee Members for SRAC;

The Executive Committees of the Lekoa Athletic Club;

Athletic Vaal Triangle;

Our fit and able athletes;

Our constituent municipalities;

Our distinguished guests;

Members of the press

It is with great pride and honor that I received and agreed to be part of this enriching occasion. This is made more-so in the light of the nature of plight that seeks to make itself a permanent feature in the lives of the

young people of our country in general and our beloved Sedibeng District Municipality in particular.

I am referring here to the scourge of substance abuse, HIV-AIDS and the attraction to criminal activity. As if this is not enough, we see an upsurge of street kids, who for reasons unbeknown to us, choose to leave the warm shelter of their families to throw themselves to the dictates of the weather, both fair and foul.

It warms my heart as a parent to notice that indeed sports in general and athletics in particular are well and alive in our beautiful Sedibeng District. In the spirit of “**Sana Mana Incopora Sana**”, translated to mean “**A healthy Mind in a Healthy Body**”, I enjoin you all here present to shout this slogan up to the rooftops, challenge the youth of our beautiful River City to come and participate in sports and athletics.

I will, in my capacity also, take up the fight to challenge our Council to trumpet our call for greater participation in sports and athletics in particular. We will not rest until Sedibeng District Municipality is filled with giants in the mold of Khotso Mokoena our Olympian hero, Aaron Mokoena, our Bafana Bafana Captain. This to announce to the world that “Sedibeng District Municipality is the Land of the Great”

Without further ado, I declare this race meeting open.

I thank you