

DRAWING INSPIRATION FROM THE LION OF THE MIDLANDS, CDE HARRY GWALA



The African National Congress (ANC) Gauteng Provincial Executive Committee (PEC) held its annual Lekgotla during the weekend of 1st - 2nd February 2020 at Indaba Hotel, Spa and Conference Centre in Fourways, Johannesburg.

Held under the theme “Strengthening Organisational Capacity for Effective Governing and Transformation” the Lekgotla reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the ANC’s 13th Provincial Conference resolutions since 2018 and the roll out of the Growing Gauteng Together 2030 (GGT) manifesto implementation plan as adopted by the 6th Administration. It also developed a comprehensive programme of action to guide the work of the movement in the 2020/2021 financial year.

The PEC Lekgotla was attended by

PEC members, NEC deployees, the leagues, Alliance representatives, Mass Democratic Movement structures, including cadres deployed in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature and across spheres of government.

This year marks the Centenary of one of the gallant and fearless fighters of our movement, Umto’mdala, the lion of the Midlands, Comrade Harry Gwala.

The PEC Lekgotla drew inspiration from the life of this selfless leader of our movement who remained true to the revolution until his last day on earth.

Comrade Harry Gwala taught us that we must always prioritise the needs of our people, listen to the concerns of the people and work with them to resolve their problems.

The ANC in Gauteng will develop a programme to mark the life of this revolutionary leader of our people.

“The 13th Provincial Conference defined a clear strategic perspective informed by cardinal pillars that would underpin the work we do during our political term by resolving that everything we do and say should be

anchored on the desire to unite the ANC, being of service to the people, to demand the highest ethical standards and integrity from all our members and to renew our commitment to the values of the movement, including renewing our interaction with the people,” states Cde Jacob Khawe.

The Lekgotla through its various commissions took time to reflect on this mandate and the extent to which we have executed the tasks of unity, service, integrity and renewal.

The Lekgotla noted the detailed resolution tracking report, which has been self-critical in frankly pointing out that whereas our structures are implementing the conference resolutions, there are organizational constraints that are still impeding effective implementation of some of the resolutions.

In particular, the report makes an elaborate point that the ANC should urgently focus on improving its capacity to coordinate programmes from the province to the branch level.

***ANC Gauteng Provincial Secretary – Comrade Jacob Khawe**



GROWING GAUTENG CITY REGION TOGETHER

The PEC Lekgotla noted and welcomed the Growing Gauteng City Region Together 2030 plan which details how the ANC-led government will resolve and address the challenges, of poverty, unemployment and inequality through economic transformation initiatives towards the Gauteng of our dreams.

The GGT2030 reflects our collective vision for the Gauteng City Region of 2030. It is our provincial plan to implement the National Development Plan. The Lekgotla mandated the Premier of Gauteng to unveil the details of the plan during the forthcoming State of the Province Address.

THE KEY PRIORITIES OF THE GGT2030 PLAN INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- Focusing on consolidating the 5 corridors of development in the province with much more emphasis and focus on reviving depressed economies of Sedibeng and West Rand regions through deliberate government interventions and private sector investment.



- Consolidating the good work we are doing to improve access to quality education in the province, including access to quality Early Childhood Development (ECD), as well as producing the skills set required by our economy.
- Improving quality of health care services and patient experience at the point of service. The ANC led government in Gauteng is working around the clock to prepare our health care centres for the roll out of the national health insurance by ensuring that 90% of clinics, community health centres and district and regional hospitals meet the ideal clinic standards within five years – with health service centres opening on time, stocked with adequate medicines and equipment, and providing safe,

clean and patient-friendly services.

- The completion of incomplete housing and urban renewal projects, hand-over of outstanding title deeds, and fast-tracking of the rapid land release programme.

- Reducing crime by 50% in the 40 worst crime hotspots (high priority police precincts).

- The Gauteng Provincial Government and municipalities mounting standing campaigns across the province on gender-based violence.

- Targeting clean governance and ethical leadership – the Lekgotla in particular noted that the ANC-led government would soon be making public announcements on the work being done in this regards).

- Work underway to establish the Gauteng Transport Authority, which will bring affordable, reliable integrated public transport closer to residential and industrial nodes and improve the provincial road network.





GOVERNANCE OF STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES



The Lekgotla noted that the work to review State Owned-Enterprises in Gauteng Province including entities of municipalities so

that these institutions can be aligned to our priorities towards 2030. The Premier has been tasked to prepare a report for the PEC in this regard

MEGA CITIES



huge changes including Social and Economic activities in the surrounding communities can never be overstated as these are catalytic projects aimed at addressing the skewed apartheid spatial development patterns in the province while building new post-apartheid cities.

The lekgotla welcomed the update given on the Vaal River City and Lanseria City which are long overdue due.

These will play a major role in boosting the local economies in Sedibeng and the West Rand, where the projects are located.

The role of mega human settlement projects in bringing

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

The Lekgotla noted that the process for the passing of the necessary legislative measures to realise universal health coverage and good quality health is currently in the public hearing phase following the releasing of the NHI Bill.

The ANC Gauteng Province and its Caucus in the Gauteng Provincial Legislature are gearing up to have pre-mobilisation and information sharing programs to ensure that all ANC structures including the Alliance get to actively participate in the public participation process.

Continue to pg 4



Continued from pg 4

The public hearings in Gauteng are expected to take part during the month of February 2020. In Tshwane on the 21st, in West Rand on the 22nd, in Joburg on the 23th and Ekurhuleni on the 24th.

It is imperative that all members of society make use of

this opportunity to make their voice heard. The ANC in Gauteng is in support of the introduction of the national health insurance as this is a game changer in the in the health sector which will give South Africans access to good quality healthcare irrespective of their financial status.

DECISIVE ELECTIONS VICTORY IN 2021 AND BEYOND



The Lekgotla was alive to the fact that 2020 is a crucial year in strengthening the foundation for solidifying the electoral gains made since the 2019 general elections and the subsequent By-Elections to date.

Hence the ANC and its structures has committed to double efforts to restore hope and confidence among the people of Gauteng through the unwavering implementation of our manifesto commitments.

The ANC will be fielding candidates in the upcoming By-

Elections in Joburg's Ward 68, 120 and 130, Tshwane's Ward 3, Ekurhuleni Ward 60, 89 and 103 and Emfuleni's Ward 16 between March and April 2020. We are confident that the people of these wards will once more express their confidence in the ability of the ANC to lead the process of transforming their communities working together with them.

Developments in municipalities like Joburg, where the ANC-led coalition government is restoring basic services to the people of the city - following the short-lived,

PR-driven, years of the DA-led administration, - and in Tshwane where the DA-led government is on the brink of collapse, are by no means incidental. They are in a way a clear signal that the people of these metropolitan municipalities have grown the wiser and more discerning. Their message is much clearer - "deliver or ship out!!"

We are currently in talks with all political parties in the Tshwane municipal council except for the Democratic Alliance on the future of the municipality.



NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION

The year 2020 marks the beginning of a new decade. This presents an opportunity for the ANC to reflect on global and national developments of the past three decades and the impact of these developments on the ANC and the National Democratic Revolution.

On the same note, we should reflect on the capacity of the State we lead and the challenges faced by our state-owned enterprises, including Eskom and SAA. These and other political issues should help the PEC to frame a perspective on how the ANC should position itself to continue to lead the National Democratic Revolution for the next three decades and beyond.

The ANC in Gauteng will hold a special PEC in March that will begin the process of shaping our inputs in this regard as we prepare ourselves to make a meaningful contribution to the organisation's National General Council to be held later in the year.



CONDOLENCES



Comrade Gregory Malebo



Comrade Ben Turok



Comrade Naga Lipudi

The Lekgotla took time to pay homage to fallen comrades who departed whilst in pursuit of the aspirations of the people of Gauteng as expressed in the GGT plan.

Their contribution to the Growing Gauteng Together vision, has not been in vain. In fact, it is their determination to realise this noble goal that will spur us to march forward with greater urgency.

To Comrade Naga Lipudi we say your 'simplicity, humility and compassion' in the service of your people will serve as a constant reminder that we ought to at all times be one with the people we seek to serve.

To Comrade Gregory Malebo we say your principled stand first against the oppressive apartheid regime and later on against underdevelopment in our communities will always be a reminder to

never betray the public trust placed upon us by the masses of our people.

To Comrade Ben Turok whose life was celebrated in a special tribute on 02 February 2020 - a day which coincided with the 30th Anniversary of the unbanning of the ANC and other organizations, we say through your revolutionary ethical leadership you have set the bar high for all of us to emulate.

As the ANC in Gauteng we once more convey our deepest sense of loss and sympathies to the families of these gallant comrades who have served the movement selflessly and with distinction.

In honour of their memory we shall labour tirelessly to ensure that we fulfil the mission for which they dedicated most of their lives to – which was to realise a better life for the people of Gauteng and ultimately South Africa.

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