

**SPEECH BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF STEVE TSHWETE MUNICIPALITY,  
HONOURABLE CLLR. MIKE MASINA AT THE OFFICIAL HAND OVER OF COMMUNITY  
FACILITIES AT COSMOS HALL BY OPTIMUM COAL IN HENDRINA ON THE 13<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER 2011**

**THANK YOU PROGRAMME DIRECTOR  
MEMBERS OF THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE  
ALL COUNCILLORS PRESENT  
OPTIMUM COAL CEO MR. MIKE TEKE & COO MR. RIAAN DU PLOOY  
STLM MUNICIPAL MANGER: MR. WILLIE FOUCHÉ  
CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER: MS NDUMI KHOZA  
EXECUTIVE MANAGERS, HODs MANAGERS & OFFICIALS FROM BOTH STEVE  
TSHWETE AND OPTIMUM COAL  
GENERAL MANAGER OF KOORNFONTEIN: MR. PIET STEYN  
DISTRICT DIRECTOR FROM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
HEAD MASTERS AND EDUCATORS  
SENIOR MATURED CITIZENS  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN**

**I GREET YOU**

I am proud to commend Optimum Coal for their generosity, I say that because, the three in one event has been possible because over the past few years, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality and Optimum Coal built a strong mutually beneficial relationship. I would like to express my sincere thanks for a project answers in the vocalised needs of our community.

The refurbished Cosmos Multipurpose Community Centre will go a long way in ensuring a safe and dignified place of gathering for functions, ceremonies and celebrations.

I want to assure you Mr. CEO that this time Cosmos Hall will be properly maintained, never again will this centre be dilapidated and vandalised like it had been because that will send a worn perception that the best government was the apartheid government, I hope the people of Hendrina will be on my side to proof to the world that we are even more capable under democracy.

The next phase should be to further clean the Cosmos Dam outside here to ensure that this place become the best place for the youth and old, families from all walks of life, as it is strategically situated between the location of Kwazamokuhle and Hendrina Town. It should be a tourist destination of choice.

**PROGRAMME DIRECTOR**

I said our mutual relations with Optimum Coal is a strong one because they did not only assisted on this cosmos project we are in, however they also handed earlier on an early childhood development (ECD) centre to Mphephethe Primary School in Kwazamokuhle. The Mphephethe ECD Centre comprises of three classrooms of which two are Grade R Learning Centres and one a Remedial Education Facility.

This will add tremendous value to the children's learning environment, as infrastructural development remain a critical component in the enhancement of the education of our children.

Mr. Raan du Plooy what Optimum has started some years back surely it will bear positive results as we all know that you are still committed to the education of our children through the bursaries you are paying for five of our students, Ms. Sbongile Shongwe just updated me recently about the performance of these dedicated students and I am certain that very soon they will contribute to the development of our country and economy.

One cannot over emphasize the importance of education, during our visits to schools I challenged learners to give us a positive head ache by passing in numbers and in flying colours and I am sure they will not disappoint, as Optimum Coal will not disappoint when we request for more bursaries

### **TO THE SENIOR MATURED CITIZENS**

Christmas time is a very special moment across the world, unfortunately the young one always forget to cherish this special time with our elderly people abo gogo nabo mkhulu to draw wisdom and a better understanding of life, surely there could be a sharp decrease to the societal ills.

*Therefore i-Steve Tshwete Municipality ngokubambisana ne-Optimum sibone kukuhle ukuthi sibize abogogo nabo mkhulu, sizojabula nani, siniphe izipho zika-khisimusi, sini bongwe nge-qhaza enilibambile emphakathini, sibheke kunina iziyalo ezinhle, ukuze sibe ngabaholi abaqotho kufanele nisibonise nisibekezelele ukuze uthixo asibusise nge-nala nokuthula emphakathini wethu.*

With those words I will like to thank Optimum Coal, STLM and all involved

**MAY YOU ALL HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND A FULFILLING NEW YEAR**

**DRIVE SAFELY AND ARRIVE ALIVE, DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE**

**ENJOY YOURSELVES RESPONSIBLE**

**ALL THE BEST!!!**

***I THANK YOU!!!! NGIYABONGA!!!! NGIYATHOKOZA!!!! BAIE DANKIE!!!!***