MEDIA RELEASE
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MEC MHLAHLO TO LAUNCH BUFFALO CITY SAFER SCHOOLS COMMITTEES

Eastern Cape MEC for Safety, Liaison, Roads and Transport, Mr Thobile Mhlahlo will officially launch school safety committees for 11 Buffalo City schools at Greenpoint School Grounds in East London on Friday 13 June 2008 at 12h00.

This launch forms part of MEC Mhlahlo’s Youth Month Programme, which promotes maximum youth participation in crime prevention activities with a particular focus on Xenophobic Attacks, Gender-based Violence, Drug Abuse, Building Community-Police Relations.

It is a response to the resolutions of the Safer Schools Summit, which was jointly hosted by the Eastern Cape Departments of Education and Safety and Liaison in East London last year.

Safer Schools Committees are constituted by principals (convenor), teachers responsible for school safety, learners, School Governing Bodies, Community Police Forums and SAPS. Their role is to conduct continuous assessment of the schools environment, develop plans and programmes to improve safety and security in schools.

These schools include Archie Velile (Dimbaza), Kei Road Combined, Moses Mabhida, JF Mati, Masixole, Ulwazi, Sithembiso, Sinikiwe (Mdantsane), Qaqamba, Greenpoint and Uviwe (East London). They form part of the 40 schools in the province, which were identified by the Department of Education as a pilot and needing urgent attention due to the recent incidents of crime and violence within those schools.

This launch will be preceded by a Fun Run Against Crime, Xenophobia and Gender-Based Violence, which will start at 9am from Buffalo Flats Cricket Grounds to Windridge Road to connect to Douglas Smit Highway and back to finish next to Greenpoint High School. More than 100 participants have confirmed.

Issued by:
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