

Women's Day

9th August 2011

Heroes of the Past & Present

Bojanala Platinum District Municipality



Bojanala Platinum District Municipality

In commemoration of the 55th Anniversary of August 9th, when women of all races and class marched to the union building, demanding the abolition of the pass law, we continue to remember those courageous souls that ensured that the Women's struggle is catapulted to the fore. A fifth decade that compels us to reflect and analyze how far we have come within the context of the gender struggle, be it in the participation of the mainstream economy, leadership in various disciplines and so forth.

Women have faced numerous challenges from different angles. From choosing a career, finding the right job, earning the right salary to self-employment, access to resources and contribution as well as participation in the mainstream economy, there have never been easy channels to follow in order for women to achieve set goals.

The late 20th and now 21st centuries have seen a swift uphill increase of women as major contributors to their countries' economies. Given that women's challenges have always been unique, it has been a common goal for women to be recognised in various sectors and industries. Countries all over the world have celebrated achievements of women in the public and private sectors - South Africa being one of the highly celebrated countries on such developments. Our Elections have always confirmed the women as the largest number of voters and the strongest voice in favour of the fundamental social transformation of our country. No government in Southern Africa could ever claim to represent the will of the people if it failed to address the central task of the emancipation of women in all its elements. This is a call towards economic freedom for women all over. This call is for women to unite from all walks of life and take on challenges, thereby participating and being recognised in the global sphere.

People often wonder why we celebrate Women's Day on the 9th August in South Africa. It has definitely nothing to do with honouring women just because we need another "Mother's Day".

This day commemorates an important date in the long history of the struggle for an independent South Africa. It is within this background that the Executive Mayor of Bojanala District Municipality wishes all the women, a women's month full of vigour and opportunities. This will however not end within the celebration of the Women's month, but will go beyond women young and old. We commend these brave women and what their actions have meant for us in today's society.

Viva Women! Stand together and show the strength that we know is part of who you are! We leave with us a legacy to our children and grand children... How will you be remembered...



Cllr. Louis Diremelo, Mayor of the Bojanala Platinum District Municipality

