

MILLENNIALS FINANCES HARDEST HIT BY COVID-19

South Africa – The COVID-19 pandemic is causing similar financial challenges for consumers around the world, but new research indicates that millennials are being challenged the most.

A just-released TransUnion global report, including seven regions on five continents, found that 84% of South African millennials indicated their household incomes have been negatively impacted by the pandemic, compared to the global average of 76%.

A clear outcome from the research is that many consumers are worried about their finances, but the millennial generation (ages 26-40) is under the most stress. In the seven regions featured in the study, 22% of millennials with household incomes negatively impacted have lost their jobs due to COVID-19 compared to 16% for all other generations. Just under half (45%) of millennials with incomes negatively impacted have seen their work hours reduced compared to 35% for the rest of the group. This pressure is compounded by the fact that 61% of millennials said they have dependent children living at home – a much greater rate than the 39% noted for other generations. In South Africa, 66% of millennials in the survey have dependent children living at home, compared to 48% for other generations.

Millennials who have seen their household incomes negatively impacted also are having more pronounced problems with certain debt obligations. For instance, 63% with negatively impacted incomes report they will not be able to make their rent or mortgage payment compared to 54% for other generations.

"Millennials are the first generation to be fully immersed in mass-market digitalisation and are savvy at securing credit," said TransUnion South Africa director of research and consulting Carmen Williams.

"The big question everyone is asking most, is how long the pandemic will last and what will be the impact on the global economy. No crystal ball exists. And people living today have never faced a similar global pandemic with such a far-reaching impact," said Williams.

"The good news is the research demonstrates that people are resilient, and most have figured out a plan for how they will manage their finances until economies re-open and employment opportunities return."

TransUnion press release extracts, 30 April 2020



2 X PROPERTIES FOR SALE 3 BEDROOM HOUSE + VACANT STAND, KOSTER



R830 000

- 2 Adjoining properties
- 3 Bedroom house
- Borehole
- Water tank
- Approved building plans for 10 houses
- Large stands
- Separate storeroom
- Avocado tree

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PLOT FOR SALE

3HA PLOT IN THE BOSCHFONTEIN AREA | 7KM FROM WATERFALL MALL



R2 970 000

- Stunning view of the mountains.
- 3ha Plot near Hunter's Rest
- 3 Bedroom House, 2 bath
- Fencing around the plot
- 1 x 1 Bedroom flat
- Borehole
- 4 Bungalows
- Swimming pool
- Flat and Bungalows need r&m
- Viewing strictly on appointment

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COUNCIL SUSPENDS OBJECTION PERIOD FOR NEW VALUATION ROLL PENDING REVIEW

Rustenburg – The Rustenburg Local Municipality (RLM), following its communication with property owners on Thursday 14 May relating to complaints emanating from the new valuation roll, had the matter tabled before council's virtual meeting held on 22 May.

Council resolved in that meeting to lodge an objection with the municipal manager in terms of Section 50(4) of the Municipal Property Rates Act (MPRA). In addition, the municipal manager must inform council in terms of the resolutions relating to the objections lodged, at a special council meeting within fourteen (14) days to make recommendations in terms of the designation of the municipal valuer under Section 33(4) of the MPRA.

Furthermore, council resolved to suspend the period for objections, pending the outcome of the process to be undertaken by the municipal manager. Another key resolution was the formation of the multi-party committee, with representation from each party in council and Troika (executive mayor, council speaker and single whip).

The committee to be convened by the council speaker, will investigate all the related processes and seek legal counsel in concluding its work. The committee has already begun its work today, by holding its first meeting in line with the resolution of last week's council meeting that the matter, be attended to on an urgent basis in order to resolve the current impasse. An extension of the validity of the current valuation roll will be requested from the member of the executive council for Local Government in terms of Section 32(2)(b)(ii) of the MPRA pending the outcome of resolution.

RLM press release, 25 May 2020



THE BUZZ AROUND TOWN

South Africa – World Bee Day on 20 May is an important day that raises awareness around our declining bee population and recognises how integral these pollinating powerhouses are to our planet's sustainability. Candide, the free community gardening App that connects gardeners, made a big buzz on the day by launching #PolliNationSA, a 10-month campaign that runs until March 2021. It aims to recruit a minimum of 100,000 South Africans to become bona fide bee protectors.

How? It's as easy as A-Bee-C. All one needs is the Candide App and a pollinator-friendly plant.

"There's no underestimating the importance of having a healthy bee population," explains Candide market lead Shani Krige. According to Candide, bees are pollinators of more than a third of all our food crops and about 90% of wildflowers and with the population of bees declining around the world, ensuring that they survive, thrive and flourish – is crucial.

The #PolliNationSA campaign really is for everybody and getting involved couldn't be simpler. Here's how easy it is:

1. If you're not already part of the Candide community, download the free Candide App, available on the Apple Store and Google Play Store.
2. Snap a pic of a bee-friendly plant that you're growing in your garden, on your stoep, windowsill or balcony. Bee-friendly plants and flowers include Aloe, Vygies, Clivia, Daisies, Protea, and Rosemary. Candide's got loads of information on pollinator-friendly plants – you may also want to consider more than one plant to ensure there's something in bloom for the bees throughout the year.
3. Share the pic on the Candide app using the hashtag #PolliNationSA.
4. Once posted, you'll receive a #PolliNationSA icon that will be added to your Candide profile pic confirming your pollinator status.

"With #PolliNationSA we're hoping to leverage off the existing awareness and provide an opportunity for everyone to get involved in something truly worthy", concluded Krige.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Honeybees communicate with one another by dancing.
- The queen bee can live up to five years and is the only bee that lays eggs. She is the busiest in the summer months when the hive needs to be at its maximum strength and lays up to 2,500 eggs per day.
- Honey has always been highly regarded as medicine. It is thought to help with everything from sore throats and digestive disorders to skin problems and hay fever.
- The honeybee is the only insect that produces food eaten by man.
- When a bee finds a good source of nectar, it flies back to the hive and shows its friends where the nectar source is by doing a dance which positions the flower in relation to the sun and hive. This is known as the 'waggle dance'.

IMPLATS SUPPORTS DEEP CLEANING CAMPAIGN

Rustenburg – Impala Platinum Mine handed out personal protection equipment (PPE) to two schools on Tuesday 26 May as part of a campaign aimed at ensuring educational institutions are ready to prevent the spread of COVID-19 when they open their doors for learning on Monday.

North West member of the executive council (MEC) for education Maphefo Matsemela, Rustenburg Local Municipality (RLM) executive mayor Mpho Khunou and Impala Platinum Mine chief executive officer (CEO) Mark Munroe visited Platinum Village Secondary School and Kutlwanong School for the Deaf to launch the campaign.

The campaign is part of an initiative to empower schools with the proper health equipment for both teachers and learners ahead of the resumption of learning activities from Monday 1 June. Temperature scanners, masks as well as posters and pamphlets with messages on how to curb the spread of COVID-19 were donated by the mining company to the two schools. Impala has committed to supporting 33 schools through various initiatives aimed at fending off COVID-19.

Said Munroe: "Education is the cornerstone of producing good future leaders in our country and communities. Learners must learn in a safe environment."

The MEC, who was grateful to the mine for their intervention, urged all schools to get ready to resume the academic calendar. "Schools need to comply with



From left: RLM executive mayor councillor Mpho Khunou, North West MEC for Education Maphefo Matsemela and Impala Platinum Mine CEO Mark Munroe, displayed some of the items that were handed over to Platinum Village Secondary School.

the requirements of the lockdown regulations," Matsemela said. The mayor pointed out that Impala's positive response towards initiatives aimed at fighting COVID-19 demonstrated their commitment towards uplifting Rustenburg. "Impala came on board under very difficult circumstances. We are happy that they rose to the challenge to assist us. They play an important role because they are a very big employer in the North West province," Khunou said.