

JUNE 2018



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EDITOR'S Note



New year. New look.

Welcome to the newly rejuvenated quarterly edition of the PSETA News, I trust that you will find this issue informative.

The past four months from April to July have been nothing but eventful for the PSETA, witnessing the successful appointment of the new Accounting Authority by the Minister of Higher Education & Training, Honourable Naledi Pandor. In light of this appointment, this edition will introduce you to the newly appointed members of the Accounting Authority. Furthermore, it will give you a brief background of how appointments of this nature are conducted in terms of the legislation.

In the quest to be a socially responsible organisation, PSETA partnered with Cell C and hosted girl children to afford them exposure to the world of work. PSETA hosted learners from Olievenhoutbosch Secondary School, under the theme 'Facing Fear. Embracing Ambition'. To commemorate youth month in June, PSETA officially launched the first project with a community-based organisation, Nkungumathe Youth Centre in Nkandla, KwaZulu-Natal. See the full story on page 3. It was exhilarating to witness the end results of hard work and commitment by learnership beneficiaries from different organisations being awarded their qualifications.

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**'With hard work, drive
& passion it is possible'**

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From the Acting CEO's Desk

As the financial year of 2017/18 comes to an end, we are pleased to know that the disbursement of discretionary grants has improved tremendously. Further to this, we are gratified that all the

monies received were committed to worthy projects within the public-sector skills domain.

In the previous edition we looked into initiatives put in place to address the issue of planning for the allocation

of discretionary grants. I am delighted to report that on 31 March 2018, we had already approved grants to the value of R35 million and had already communicated with successful applicants.

Based on the previous lessons, we have implemented rigorous rules to ensure that no unwarranted delays are experienced. This is why we expect successful grant applicants to sign and return MOAs within the thirty calendar days from the date of issue. Achieving this will guarantee a productive expedition process of indenturing learners, and will result in the timely disbursement of funds during the second quarter of the financial year.



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Introducing the Newly Appointed PSETA Accounting Authority

The term for the Public Service Sector Education and Training Authority (PSETA) Accounting Authority (AA), which served from 2012, came to an end on 31 March 2018. This resulted in the appointment of a new AA by the Minister of Higher Education and Training (MHET), Honourable Naledi Pandor.

The appointment is done in line with the *Skills Development Act* (SDA) and the standard SETA's Constitution, which guides the constituencies to be represented by employer organisation representatives from labour formations, which include the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (POPCRU), National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (NEHAWU) and the Public Servants Association of South Africa (PSA), as well as bargaining councils with jurisdiction in this regard.

The appointed Accounting Authority is as follows:

Advocate Diamond Mushwana	Independent Chairperson
Ms Sandisiwe Schalk	Employer Representative from Parliament
Ms Maletsha Tlaletsi	Employer Representative from Office of the Premier in Northern Cape
Ms Primrose Gwala-Khumalo	Employer Representative from Office of the Premier in KwaZulu-Natal
Mr Bheki Maduna	Employer Representative from the Department of Labour
Mr Andries du Plessis	Organised Labour: PSA
Mr Geoffrey Esitang	Organised Labour: PSA
Mr Michael Shingange	Organised Labour: NEHAWU
Mr Jeffrey Dladla	Organised Labour: POPCRU
Ms Johanna Mahlobogoane	Organised Labour: POPCRU
Mr Tshepo Mokherenyana	Organised Labour: NEHAWU
Ms Sharlaine Oodit	Bargaining Council
Dr Emma McKinney	Community Organisation



Advocate Diamond Mushwana



Ms Sandisiwe Schalk



Ms Maletsha Tlaletsi



Ms Primrose Gwala-Khumalo



Mr Bheki Maduna



Mr Andries du Plessis



Mr Geoffrey Esitang



Mr Michael Shingange



Mr Jeffrey Dladla

Ms Johanna
MahlobogoaneMr Tshepo
Mokherenyana

Ms Sharlaine Oodit



Dr Emma McKinney

Launch of the PSETA Funded Programme in Nkungumathe, KwaZulu-Natal



Acting CEO of PSETA, Mr Marks Thibela, speaking at the PSETA funded programme launch in Nkungumathe, KwaZulu-Natal

On Sunday, 10 June 2018, PSETA launched a skills development funding programme in Nkungumathe, KwaZulu-Natal. Taking place during youth month, the launch aimed to commemorate this historic month which is dedicated to young people throughout the Republic of South Africa.

Addressing guests at the celebration, Acting CEO Mr Marks Thibela indicated that the launch marked the beginning of a life changing journey for the youth of Nkungumathe. The Acting CEO encouraged the youth to actively participate in skills programmes, and embrace the challenges ahead of them.

"I say this because, the road to success is not easy to navigate, but with hard work, drive and passion,

it is possible to achieve whatever you dream of. In the programmes you are embarking on, there are mentors and supervisors assigned to assist you throughout this journey, make sure you consult with them when you need clarity,” said Mr Thibela.

He pleaded with the young people to shun the idea of dropping out and cultivate a culture of resilience, passion and tenacity.

PSETA prides itself on working with stakeholders who share its goal of changing lives of the people for the better. In the current financial year of 2018/19, Nkungumathe Youth Centre was one of the qualifying stakeholders that received funding to advance the PSETA’s mandate of skills development in rural areas. PSETA funded 87 various learning programmes, to a total value of R6,945 million.

In detail, 20 beneficiaries all participate in an apprenticeship programme National Qualification Framework (NQF) level 4; 25 learners take part in learnership programmes at NQF level 5; 30 learners to benefit from a Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) programme at NQF level 6; and other learners awarded bursaries for skills development programmes at NQF levels 4 and 7.



Guests, including learners at the launch

COGHSTA & the DoJ Learner Certification Ceremony

On Friday, 25 May 2018, families, friends and colleagues gathered at Emperors Palace in the Ekurhuleni to witness a certification ceremony of a PSETA funded learnership in Further Education and Training Certificate (FETC): Accounting Technician NQF Level 4.

A total of 67 employed learners from the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ and CD) and Department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlements and Traditional Affairs (CoGHSTA) Limpopo, successfully completed their learnerships, which they braved over a period of 12 months. The learnership was facilitated by private learning college, Oxbridge Academy.



Learners from the DoJ and CoGHSTA that completed their year-long PSETA funded learnership



Mr Charles Mooke & Mr Benjamin Motlhabane



Take a Girl Child to Work Day

Friday, 25 May 2018, saw PSETA host learners from Olievenhoutbosch Secondary School, in Centurion for the Cell C 'Take a Girl Child to Work Day'.

The annual event was in partnership with Cell C, under the theme 'Facing Fear. Embracing Ambition'. The event aimed to afford learners with the opportunity to gain exposure in the workplace for a day, and to assist them in planning for their future careers. The young scholars were prompted to realise their power to make their greatest dreams come true by believing in themselves.

Take a Girl Child to Work Day is a corporate social investment initiative, which necessitate organisations' positive influence in communities by giving back.

In governance, it is a standard practice for organisations to spend 5% of their revenue in giving back to communities. As a public entity,

PSETA also leveraged this influential programme and actively immersed young girls in its dynamic work environment.





First PSETA Learnership for People Living with Disabilities

For the first time in the history of PSETA, on Friday, 29 June 2018, a congregation gathered to witness a learner certification ceremony for learners living with disabilities in Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape.

Learners successfully completed a learnership in Public Administration, at NQF Level 3. The learnership was developed specifically for people living with disabilities, facilitated by the Amandla Obunye Training Academy and led by Dr Frikkie Stoltz, CEO of Amandla Obunye Training.

“When one becomes disabled in the prime of one’s life, it is hard to imagine the difficulties that every aspect of your life suddenly presents. Unfortunately, one of the biggest hurdles faced by someone with a disability is breaking down the potential prejudices of possible employers. There is a perceived stigma that

physical disability is somehow associated with a mental disadvantage. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth,” explained Dr Stoltz.

Dr Stoltz - who has a long career in education and training, has always aspired to be able to provide skills and real employment opportunities that change lives.

He proudly exclaimed: “Amandla Obunye Training Academy is proud to be a pioneer in the training industry, by being the first training provider to offer a learnership exclusively to disabled learners, in partnership with PSETA.”

Amongst some of the delegates that attended the ceremony was Dr Emma McKinney, a PSETA Accounting Authority member with extensive experience in disability studies, and Mr Marks Thibela, Acting CEO of PSETA.





Employee Health & Wellness Launch

On Thursday, 14 June 2018, PSETA launched its first ever Employee Health and Wellness Programme. A variety of activities were identified to mark the day, with a theme: 'Work-Life Balance'.

This initiative is centred around management's response to prioritise the wellness of employees by ensuring work-life balance and demonstrate PSETA's utmost care to its employees.

The activity-filled day also included health professionals, who educated employees about the importance of regular checks for ailments including diabetes, high-blood pressure and sexually transmitted diseases. Specialists included an optometrist, dietician, audiologist, podiatrist, physiotherapist, and an orthodontist, who conducted health screenings on employees.



'Work-Life Balance'



URGENT NOTICE TO ALL PROSPECTIVE AND EXISTING SKILLS DEVELOPERS.

As from 01 July 2018, all new applications for SDP accreditations to offer historically registered qualifications on the OOSF, and/or gazetted trades must be made directly to the QCTO (as is currently the case for occupational qualifications). Note well that QAPs will remain responsible for the accreditation applications for skills programmes and implementation of learnerships. Each SDP will be required to complete a letter of intent available on the QCTO website (www.qcto.org.za) before applying to the QAP. The QCTO will acknowledge the letter of intent and advise the SDP to follow the QAP accreditation process using application forms provided by the QAP.

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ETA

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