

Profile of MEC MMAPHEFO MATSEMELA



Introduction

Ms Mmaphefo Matsemela, the MEC of Economic Development and Tourism was born on the 11th of June 1968, in Magong v village (Moses Kotane). She is the tenth child amongst thirteen siblings, of Victor and Ntebaleng Rammala.

Unfortunately three of the thirteenth siblings have passed on. Ms Matsemela is a mother to Kamogelo and a Guardian to four children. She attended school at Magong primary school and proceeded to Thekwane middle school. She finished her matric at Tshukudu high school in 1987 and pursued a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from the University of North West in 1996. Her political life started at Tshukudu high school. It was at this stage that she saw the Freedom charter for the first time in 1986.

Work experience

Before qualifying as an Educator she worked for Bradlows in Jeppe Street (Johannesburg) and was promoted to Managerial position until she started her formal training. After her training as an educator MEC worked at the following schools at Ramodingwana Primary School from 1989 to 1990 as temporary teacher, Reatile Middle School in 1996-2005. She then was appointed to act as a Head of Department for Humanities. Ms Matsemela also played a meaningful role at the Teachers union, South African Democratic Teacher (SADTU) as well as Sports committees.

Political involvement and deployment.

She got involved in politics at a tender age due to the inspiration of her uncle, Mr Sello Ntsowe, who was imprisoned in Robben Island in 1970 and later was released under the house arrest act. Her involvement at the University saw her rising in SASCO. It was during that time that she became the Chairperson of Ngaka Modiri Molema residence under the auspices of SRC. Whilst a teacher she became a member of South African Democratic Teacher Union (SADTU).

She became the first woman to the Tlhabane branch leading approximately +-3000 members and contributed immensely in the formation of the first Tlhabane Branch of Congress of South African Students (COSAS).

She was also an active member of the African National Congress Youth League (ANCYL) and ANC. She later became the ANCYL Secretary in Bojanala Region. Currently she is the deputy chair of ward 13 of the ANC in Rustenburg and also serves as a member of the Regional Executive Committee (REC) in Bojanala Region.

Hon MEC Matsemela is the current member of the African National Congress (ANC) North West Provincial Executive Congress (PEC) and subsequently deployed as a convener of ANC REC in Bojanala Region. While taking part in ANC structures Hon MEC Matsemela was deployed in to National Parliament from 2005-2009, where she served in the following portfolio committees of Science & Technology in 2005, Health from 2005 to 2008, Joint Standing Committee on Defense from 2006 to 2007, Ad hoc committee dealing with National Mine workers issues in 2007 and Home Affairs in 2008 She completed the deployment process during the National and Provincial Elections to NW Legislature where through her capabilities was invited to serve in the Executive Council of Premier Maureen Modiselle as MEC for Economic Development and Tourism.

She currently oversees the Department of Economic Development and Tourism in the North West Province and its agencies such as: **Mafikeng Industrial Development Zone (MIDZ), Invest North West (INW, North West Parks & Tourism Board (NWPTB), North West Gambling Board (NWGB), North West Liquor Board (NWLB) and North West Development Corporation (NWDC).**

Ms Matsemela is a devoted rugby supporter. She enjoys listening to reggae and gospel music, going to church, reads a lot in her quest to empower herself and broaden her horizons.