



**CLLR ANDREW MAPHETLE – EXECUTIVE MAYOR OF  
POTCHEFSTROOM  
BKS FUNCTION  
THURSDAY – 08 JUNE 2006  
19H00  
WILLOWS GARDEN COURT HOTEL**

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Mr Danie Botha;

Members of BKS (Pty) Ltd;

Distinguished guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Yesterday morning I was addressing the delegation of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) on their two-day seminar here in Potchefstroom. I told them about the importance of our delivery of basic services to the communities. I emphasized that our people can no longer wait to the infrastructural development of our municipalities.

Issues of sanitation, water, roads, environmental management, communications, social development and primary health care – must be central to our mandate and service delivery list. While we must indeed celebrate the high levels of optimism that inspire our people, who are convinced that our country has entered its Age of Hope, we must also focus on and pay particular attention to the implications of those high levels of optimism with regard to what we must do together to achieve the objective of a better life for all our people.

We have to respond to the hopes of the people by doing everything possible to meet their expectations. And here I include among those who have to respond to the high expectations of our people not just the government, but also the private sector [like yourselves], the labour unions and the rest of civil society, and patriotic individuals.

Bearing in mind that BKS (Pty) Ltd is driven by an energetic member of the fairer gender – I would like to take this opportunity [on behalf of the leadership and the people of Potchefstroom] not only congratulate you on that appointment, but also attribute our gains from your company. I personally know that you have assisted us with:

- The design of the Mooirivier Rylaan to the Correctional Services Department – and this was done as early as 1982;
- The inspection of the sewerage works in the South of our City;
- The consultancy of the building of our Cricket stadium;

- Upgrading of the Promosa and Ikageng stadiums;
- Construction of the Extension 7 bus route;
- Construction of the new Council Chamber and extension of the rates hall at our main offices – and many other projects that will take me long to mention.

With all these – I wanted to indicate to you that our bond is a very strong one and could have been tightened even earlier than 1982. You have an obligation, as one of the biggest successful groups in the world – to empower and leave positive legacies wherever you are employed.

Your 25 offices in South Africa and other African countries is a good sign of consumer confidence in you. Your empowerment programmes and share percentages of historically disadvantaged individuals in the group – puts you way ahead of your competitors and makes you truly African and specifically South African.

We must join hands as players in the South African economy and elaborate on the specific interventions that will ensure that the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative of South Africa (ASGISA) succeeds in its purposes – which include the reduction of the unemployment levels in our communities.

We fully recognize the efforts made by private sector, the trade union movement, women, youth and civil society who have participated in this process, making a valuable input into an important initiative that must be owned and implemented by our people as a whole.

Congratulation to Ms Danai Magugumela at the helm of this company – and our relationship is still growing further and tougher. I am humbled to be here with you this evening.

I thank you.