

# Aloe



City of Windhoek

City of many faces

Issue 18 • May 2014

## CEO's Corner

2004 - 2014

## 10 YEARS OF GREAT MEMORIES



Chief Executive Officer  
Niilo Taapopi

and unpopular decisions to make and at times we made jokes and through hummer made our way through some of the hardest challenges.

What lifetime memories I have of this beautiful City of Many Faces? It will be indeed treasured and remembered dear residents, as I look forward to what life has lined up for me after my departure.

It usually seems like life ends after retirement, but I say "life begins with retirement". I am certainly looking forward to enjoying my retirement as this will give me time to do what I couldn't do due to the demanding work schedule.

Dear residents, the City of Windhoek remains at your disposal, committed to continue enhancing the development of the City. Windhoek is of strategic importance to the nation and the globe. Your continuous co-operation and understanding on the role of the City of Windhoek will ensure the all-time uninterrupted service delivery to you our residents which is of crucial importance.

I can confidently express that for the last 10 years of my service with the City of Windhoek, our city has indeed grown

In June 2014, it will be exactly 10 years, since I took office as Chief Executive Officer for the City of Windhoek; it is unbelievable how time flies. I can almost not believe that time went by so fast so that sadly I write you this last message from the CEO's Corner.

I am to confess that certainly the journey I had with the City of Windhoek was indeed a great one., I had occupied various positions before, dating back as far as the struggle for Namibia's liberation and during the democratic era of our country.

I was privileged to have been accorded an opportunity to serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Windhoek. It was indeed a privilege for me to serve at this dynamic organisation.

Huge as the City is, I have managed to meet most of you, our residents, through consultations on various pertinent issues about the City. At times we had tough

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# Editor's Desk



**Josua Amukugo**  
Manager: Corporate Communications,  
Marketing, Tourism & Customer Care

When we change our time backwards on the first Sunday of April, this not only mean shortening of the daylight, but it officially highlights the commencement of winter time in Namibia. Consequently, it is just a natural phenomenon that you and I change our dress codes to protect ourselves from the cold breezes, and put back into our wardrobes, those more kiss-and-tell summer time dress codes.

However, as for us at the City, the winter arrival also comes as an opportunity to intensively speed up our actions in terms of services delivery as required and expected by the residents of Windhoek. We are required to strengthen our efforts in implementing the projects that are geared at making lasting impacts in the livelihoods of our people, so that we live up to our fundamental undertaking, that of "enhancing the quality of life of all our people".

The end of the summer season also brings an opportunity for us to carry out the much needed maintenance of our infrastructures, especially the roads, which have been damaged during the rainy season. It is against this backdrop that we once again request for your patience while we are carrying out the much-needed maintenance to eliminate the potholes on our roads.

While pondering on implementation of projects, it is important to mention that, we are about to conclude with the consultation exercise with our residents through various

Continued from page 1

economically and infrastructurally.

Our Council leadership is gradually presented with urban plan proposals for the approval of capital projects which are indicators of investor confidence in our City.

We have a viable investor friendly climate and a stable political atmosphere which are important ingredients to growing the economy.

Windhoek is well known for its cleanliness, a status which we should aggressively safeguard for the benefit

of generations to come.

I should acknowledge it will be pointless to talk about development without availability of developable land, but my plea is to follow set procedures in acquiring land.

With this few words from the CEO's Corner, I wish you all well, for the wellbeing of the inhabitants of the City of Windhoek and ensure that the City remains productive, progressive, sustainable and does well to attain the set vision of industrialization by the year 2030.

forms in order to get valuable inputs in identification of activities and projects to be considered for implementation in the 2014/2015 financial year. In other words, come June 2014, the budget will be tabled before Council for approval.

It is normally during winter time, that cases of fire especially wild fire are reported. We urge our residents to take precautions in keeping away sources of fire from children. Let us also be proactive in managing the vegetation and flammable materials surrounding our properties in order to help reduce the spread of fire, protect

our properties and human lives.

On a different note, the longest serving Chief Executive Officer of the City of Windhoek Mr. Niilo Taapopi announced his retirement as of June 2014. He has been very fundamental towards the successes of the City of Windhoek and his commitment and dedications will leave memorable recollections, and we wish him good health and a restful retirement, while humbly requesting him to ever avail himself for advice on civic issues.

Keep warm until next time!

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## 15th JUNIOR COUNCIL TO BE INAUGURATED



*2013/14 Outgoing Junior Council Members, with Her Worship, Cllr. Agnes Kafula, Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Muesee Kazapua, Cllr. Mwachina Veico, Alderman Boas Ekandjo, Cllr. Matrid Ukeva and Cllr. Joseph Shikongo during their inauguration in 2013.*

The City of Windhoek will on the 4th June 2014 inaugurate the 15th Junior Council. This year's Council is a historic fairer gender representation one as all the four office bearers (Junior Mayor, Deputy Junior Mayor, Secretary and Treasurer) are females.

This year's Junior Council will be led by Cllr Wilmar Horn from Windhoek High School as its Junior Mayor, deputized by Cllr Pewa Kanyemba from St George's Diocesan College. Cllr Ester Monde Likando from Delta SSW will serve as the Treasurer while Cllr Ann-Adeva from Academia SSS will be the Secretary. The occasion will also be graced by two former Junior Councillors, Dillish Matthews and Hassan Engelbrecht, Ambassadors of the City of Windhoek Junior Council.

The City of Windhoek has purposefully created the Junior Council to promote civic responsibilities amongst senior

learners.

It is also a platform that seeks to develop their leadership and organizational skills as well as the cultivation of civic responsibility. The current Junior Council comprises of twenty-six (26) secondary schools, each represented by two learners, with a total of fifty-two (52) Junior Councillors.

A grade 10 learner serves as an understudy while a grade 11 learner who was a grade 10 learner in the preceding year serves as a Junior Councillor. This is done to ensure continuity of projects while at the same time, accord the understudy an opportunity to observe and learn.

The Junior Council is actively involved in three standing social development projects, namely the elderly, cancer (House Acacia) and cancer (Windhoek Central Hospital).

In addition to these three standing projects, this year's Junior Council has decided to holistically address the prevailing social ills from the grassroots level, as its core project.

This core project is themed **"Love Yourself - Respect Yourself"** and will be held in a form of a Fun Day with build-up events at the various schools which will culminate into the Fun Day. The aim is to promote self-love, self-discipline and raise awareness on available services while at the same time influence decision making and avert the prevailing social ills confronting our youth, e.g. cyber bully, passion killing, suicide, alcohol and drug abuse etc.

We wish this year's Council all the best as they take up office in discharging their civic responsibility aimed at improving the quality of life of all our people.





# A REFLECTION ON ECD STAKEHOLDERS SEMINAR 2014

*Early Childhood Development training was one of the highlights deliberated on during the ECD Stakeholder Seminar. In the picture are the City of Windhoek staff, trainees, trainers, including our partners from the City of Vantaa.*

A group of Early Childhood Development (ECD) experts, interested parties including senior politicians and a Member of Parliament had recently converged at Arebbusch Travel Lodge on the outskirts of the our Capital City, Windhoek. Under the theme; **“Working Together for Quality Early Childhood Development”**, this seminar attracted diverse people from educational, political, media and other spectrums. Through the Vantaa-Windhoek project, the idea of the Seminar was always one of the activities of the cooperation. However, it was clear that other main stakeholders like the Ministry of Gender, Equality and Child Welfare (MGECW) and Ministry of Education (MoE) in Namibia as custodians of children issues were ready to make this seminar possible.

In addition, cooperation with other major external stakeholders such as the Ministry of Education in Finland as well as the Institutional Cooperation to Strengthen the Capacities of the MoE in Educator Policy Development (ICI) made the seminar possible. Institutions of high learning such as the University of Namibia (UNAM), Namibia College of Open Learning (NAMCOL), the University of Oulu as well as the University of Helsinki had formed part of the core of this discourse. International agencies such as the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) were part of the seminar. Private persons such as caregivers and day care directors from all fourteen regions were also part of these deliberations.

The Vantaa-Windhoek Cooperation jointly with ICI had funded the seminar which had seen experts in the field of Early Childhood Development both in Namibia and Finland exchanging views on the development of ECD in Namibia. The seminar was a platform at which views were expressed or advanced to form a learning benchmark from which Namibia could learn on best practices that Finland experienced some years back. The Seminar was also a learning curve for the Finnish experts to improve their own situations in the area of ECD. The main goal of the seminar was to discuss the possibility of transforming ECD from its current status into a more career path in which Namibians can enter and learn to make it a profession. Education and training of ECD professionals, and emphasizing the importance of articulated continuous professional development were others.

The training aspect is one crucial element that needs strengthening if anything, and this is how the training institutions in both countries were invited to lead the dialogue in this direction. Another object was to work towards an advocacy campaign designed by the MGECW and MoE to make ECD more visible among policy- and decision makers. The other objective was to seek solutions that guarantee the support for ECD centers of the City of Windhoek. The City of Windhoek (CoW) in collaboration with the City of Vantaa in Finland had established cooperation comprised of synergies that have been

transformed into action and are bearing positive results. As a result, the ECD Policy gave impetus to the establishment of two City of Windhoek ECD Centers namely the Rocky Crest Multi-Purpose Centre (RCMPC) situated in Rocky Crest and Jonas Haiduwa ECD Centre situated in Ombili.

Among other things, this cooperation has made possible exchange work visits between the counterparts of the two cities, capacity building of the ECD staff in the privately owned day care centers in Windhoek and internship program in which master students from Universities of Oulu, Helsinki and Laurea in Finland spent their three months stay at the ECD centers and assist in building the capacity of the staff. In general, key lessons from this seminar are the fact that ECD and Education can break the cycle of poverty and at the moment ECD provision is costly to parents. It was also learned that once the investments are lower there will be higher costs, and vice versa. There was a great need for the integration of services and systems including ECD and pre-primary school.

One of the recommendations of the seminar was to establish and introduce subsidies and/or salaries for the caregivers including the grants to ECD programmes and the realization of ECD as a career by formalizing and professionalizing it. This would be realized through the articulations of training programmes for these ECD professionals and those that may aspire to become ECD professionals.



## RESTRICTION OF THE USE OF JAN JONKER ROAD TO HEAVY VEHICULAR ABOVE 9 TONS

The recent escalation in the use of Jan Jonker Road by heavy vehicular traffic (especially articulated mine-ore carriers and long-haul transport operators) is a major concern to the traffic flow on that road, as it is posing an increasing danger and inconvenience to residents and road users.

The Jan Jonker, Stein and Nelson Mandela Ave are definitely not intended for use by these type of heavy vehicles, which for some

obscure reasons seem to prefer this route, in spite of the speed bumps, steep gradients and sharp corners to be navigated, to the more direct (albeit slightly steeper) Sam Nujoma route.

Although the public has been informed that with effect from 04 April 2014, the use of heavy vehicular traffic will not be allowed on that road, this type of vehicles are still seen passing through this road despite the prohibition signs that were erected at, Nelson Mandela

Ave, Stein and Eadie Street respectively. Truck Drivers are encouraged to make use of Sam Nujoma Nujoma Drive and Robert Mugabe Avenue to Truck port or Western Bypass.

The City Police encourages the public in the spirit of Community Partnership to report operators that are transgressing the law at the 24 hour toll free number 061-302302 or sms alert line 44 44 as well as our direct telephone number 061 258 473.

## WINTER MESSAGE "YOUR PARTNER IN SAFETY"



Law Enforcement campaign that would aim at less or no collisions as well as criminal activities.

For the simple reason of transparency, it was thought appropriate to inform the public of our intended actions:

### **Don't be a victim of crime this winter.**

Home owners are encouraged to reduce the chances of house-breaking during this winter season by making sure their homes are securely locked with no valuables on display. Keep windows and doors locked at all times even when indoors. Members of the public are also encouraged to be vigilant against suspicious people and to contact the police if they see anything suspicious in their neighborhood.

Mutual responsibility by passengers and pedestrian remain pertinent to

promote road safety.

Passengers are urged to control the drivers through reprimand and redirection should they disregard the traffic rules and/or indulge in irresponsible alcohol consumption. Pedestrians should refrain from drinking and walking, wear discernable clothing when using the road at night and avoid isolated places for their own safety.

### **Community Partnership**

We call on the public to, without any fear of victimization, furnish the particulars of any vehicle which might pose a threat to other road users or person through any unlawful act or behaviour at our 24-hour Communication Centre. Toll free at: 302 302 or Tel: 258473 /2902722 or sms Alert line 44 44. Finally we wish all citizens to have a blessed Winter Month.

The City Police will from time to time join the Namibian Police to adopt a Zero Tolerance law enforcement approach on lawlessness. Crime and crash data will be used to target the zones across the City of Windhoek that are known for specific crimes of concerns.

Citizens will see increased visibility of Law Enforcement as we will make ourselves highly visible through traffic stops (Roadblocks), zero tolerance and vigilance to ensure an effective





# CITY CAUTIONS RESIDENTS AGAINST WILDFIRE DURING WINTER



Windhoek experiences a lot of wildfires during this time of the year. Human activities are almost entirely responsible for these fires.

The impact of wildfires on the environment includes the destruction of natural ecosystems, flora, fauna damage infrastructure and properties; it affects the air quality and can cause loss of human lives.

Windhoek has a lot of Open Spaces and is surrounded by precious mountain ecosystems and commonage farms.

Open Spaces serve many functions

such as preserving ecosystems, wildlife habitat, aesthetic, cultural, historical and archaeological areas, outdoor recreation, pedestrian thoroughfares, walkways, trails and so on.

Thus, unauthorised burning of grass in open spaces may aggravate all functions outlined above. This year the problem of wildfires will be exacerbated by the fact that we received exceptionally high rainfall and that the grass is much taller and therefore much biomass to cause huge fires.

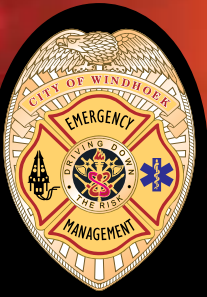
The City of Windhoek would therefore like to urge all residents of Windhoek

to refrain from intentionally setting fires and from throwing cigarette butts and any other items that can easily ignite the dry biomass.

Residents are also urged to remove vegetation and any flammable material near their properties (4 meters from the boundary wall) to help reduce the spread of wildfire and protect human lives.

For further information please contact us at the following numbers, +264-61-21 1111 or +264-61-290 2748.





# WILDFIRES / FELDFIRES!! ARE YOU PREPARED?

## REMEMBER

Local Authorities Fire Brigade Act, Regulation 12

### COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL

12. (1) No person shall store or cause or permit to be stored, whether inside or outside any building, any timber, forage, packing cases, straw or other combustible material in such quantities or in such a position or in such manner as to create a danger of fire to any building.
- (2) No person in occupation or control of any premises shall allow grass, weeds or any hedge or tree to grow, or rubbish to accumulate thereon in such a manner or in such quantities as to cause or create a danger of fire to any building or premises.

### MAKING FIRES

13. (1) No person shall make, or cause, permit or suffer to be made, a fire in the open air in such a place or in such a manner as to endanger the safety of any building, premises or property.
- (2) No person shall in any event without first obtaining permission, in writing, from the chief fire officer, burn cause, or permit or suffer to be burnt, in the open air, whether on private property or not, any rubbish, wood, straw or other material: Provided that no such permission shall be required for the burning in the open air between the hours of 10.00 and 16.00 of such material as aforesaid in a quantity not exceeding at any one time one cubic meter.
- (3) Permission given under sub regulation (2) of this regulation, shall be made subject to such conditions as the chief fire officer may think fit to impose.

### With the regulations in mind the Emergency Service wants to recommend the following:

- Keep a 3m area (firebreak) cleaned from vegetation and other debris around your premises.
- Do not dump garden refuse or any other combustible material in the veldt or any other place than the appropriate sites.
- Do not make fires in the open veldt.
- Report veldt fires as soon as possible.
- Report cases of arson.
- Keep a garden hose connected to a tap which can reach the boundaries of your premises.
- Regularly clean your roofs and gutters.

### When you are burning garden refuse:

- Burn it in a barrel with a grid or grill over the barrel to prevent burning

debris flying around.

- Keep a garden hose connected to a tap handy to put out small fires.
- Never leave the fire unattended.
- Do it with the knowledge and consent of your neighbour.
- Remember you are allowed to burn garden refuse only between 10h00 and 16h00 and not more than 1cubic metre at any one time.

### When there is a thatched structure on your premises:

- What is the condition of the thatching? if it is eroded consider the replacement of the eroded grass because it is highly combustible and catches fire easily.
- Keep a garden hose, long enough to reach the boundaries of your premises, fixed to a tap.
- Keep a long handled rake at hand to remove burning debris from the

thatch.

- When a sprinkler is installed on the thatch everyone has to know where to open it.
- Keep your thatch clean from debris or other combustible material.
- Make sure that any part of your thatch is not hanging over the boundary.
- Remind your children about the hazards of a veldt fire and keep work telephone numbers at hand for them or domestic workers to use in an emergency.



City of Windhoek

City of many faces



# THE WINDHOEK JAZZ FESTIVAL

01<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER 2014

## Use the skip container correctly



Do not burn the skip



No general waste



Dump inside the skip



Only garden refuse and building rubble



"My Waste, My Responsibility" — Report illegal dumping to: 061 - 290 3110/1