

2026

Issue 3

April



Aloe



The Gateway to Endless Opportunities



The mountain aloe is the official logo of the City of Windhoek and an important element of our corporate identity - appearing on municipal vehicles, buildings and stationery.

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City of Windhoek

Vision: To be a Sustainable and Caring City by 2027



The Gateway to Endless Opportunities

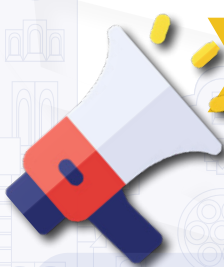
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City of Windhoek extends electricity access to communities in Okahandja Park, Mix, Babylon, Otjomuise, and the Havana Relocation Centre. For more information on this significant initiative, please turn to page 10.



Our Values: Teamwork | Customer Focus | Communication | Fairness and Equity | Integrity



Editorial

Dear readers of the Aloe Newsletter, There is a renewed sense of energy moving through the City of Windhoek. It can be seen in the activity of informal markets, heard in conversations around renewable energy, and felt in communities where families are being connected to the electricity grid for the very first time. It is the energy of growth, resilience, and a city steadily building a future that leaves no one behind.

This edition of Aloe reflects that spirit of progress.

At the centre of this issue is a reminder that development is ultimately about people. The City's 2025/2026 Electrification Project is about far more than cables and transformers. For over 1,300 households in Okahandja Park, Mix, Babylon, Otjomuise, and the Havana Relocation Centre, access to electricity means safer homes, better opportunities for learning, support for small businesses, and an improved quality of life.

The City's commitment to electrification forms part of a broader vision for inclusive urban development. Since 2018, more than 8,000 households in informal settlements have been connected to electricity through funding support from central government, particularly the ministries responsible for Urban and Rural Development and Industries, Mines and Energy. These are not simply statistics, but lives meaningfully transformed.

As Windhoek continues to grow, so does the need for innovative and sustainable

energy solutions.

The recent inauguration of the Windhoek Solar Centre marks an important milestone in expanding access to knowledge and practical support around solar energy.

In a country blessed with abundant sunshine, renewable energy presents both an environmental responsibility and an economic opportunity.

The Solar Experts Conference 2026 further highlighted the importance of collaboration in addressing challenges such as funding, access to information, and regulatory barriers.

Encouragingly, government, industry experts, academics, and communities are working together towards practical solutions.

This issue also highlights the City's investment in long-term infrastructure through the Khomas Intake Substation project, aimed at strengthening electricity supply capacity for a growing capital city.

Reliable infrastructure remains essential for economic growth, industrial expansion, and sustainable urban development.

Together, these stories reflect a City investing not only in infrastructure, but in people, partnerships, and opportunities. Windhoek's future can only be shaped by communities that is willing to work together towards a shared vision.

Until next time!

Lydia



The Aloe Survey

We need your help in continuously improving our external newsletter, The Aloe. Please let us know what you think about the content, design and availability of the publication by answering a few, short questions (six questions only). To take the survey now, please click and follow this link:

CLICK HERE
to take the Aloe Survey



Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey.

Survey available on our website at:

http://www.windhoekcc.org.na/aloe_survey.php

Aloe

The Aloe is produced by the Corporate Communications, Marketing and Public Participation Division in the Office of the Chief Executive Officer. The Aloe is a monthly publication. Readers' contributions should be submitted by the second week of the month for consideration. Please submit your contribution to cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na.

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Mayor's corner

Compiled by Anna Shiimi (Communication Trainee)

Under this section we bring you the voice of our city's leadership. This column features highlights of the latest announcements, speeches, and statements from the Mayor, providing valuable insights into the vision, plans, and actions that are shaping our community. Stay informed and engaged as we navigate the path of growth and development together, under the guidance of our Mayor.

Cllr. Sakarias Uunona, Windhoek Mayor

Dear Residents,

As we continue building a stronger and more resilient Windhoek, I would like to thank every resident who continues to contribute towards the growth and development of our city. Your commitment, cooperation, and continued support of municipal services remain essential in helping Council deliver on its mandate and improve the quality of life for all communities.

Despite ongoing economic pressures facing households and businesses, the City of Windhoek continues to demonstrate financial resilience and stability. I am pleased to report that the municipality has recorded steady progress in strengthening its financial position, with a reduction in outstanding arrears and improvements in revenue collection since the start of the financial year. This progress reflects the importance of responsible civic participation and allows the Council to continue investing in essential services, infrastructure, and community development initiatives.

Council is also making significant progress in engagements with the central government regarding the debt and land swap arrangement linked to the government loan. The successful conclusion of this process is expected to strengthen the City's liquidity position and create greater financial capacity for future infrastructure investment, service delivery expansion, and long-term urban development.

Creating a safer city remains one of the Council's key priorities. Through the Windhoek City Police Smart Policing Strategy, the City continues to embrace technology-driven solutions to improve public safety and law enforcement.

The expansion of surveillance systems equipped with artificial intelligence and automatic number plate recognition technology has significantly strengthened

traffic monitoring and crime prevention efforts across the city. These initiatives, supported through strategic partnerships with the private sector and other stakeholders, demonstrate our collective commitment to building a safer Windhoek for all residents.

Council also continues to prioritise road maintenance and infrastructure rehabilitation across the city. Following extensive damage caused by recent heavy rains, the City intensified efforts to repair potholes and improve road conditions. To date, more than 76 000 potholes have been repaired across Windhoek, covering over 57 000 square metres of damaged road surfaces.

Major infrastructure projects are also progressing steadily, including the near completion of Eveline Street rehabilitation works, while periodic maintenance on sections of Mandume Ndemufayo and David Hosea Merero Avenues will commence soon. Furthermore, the phased upgrading of gravel roads to bitumen standard in parts of Wanaheda Extensions 2, 3, and 4 continues as part of Council's broader commitment to improving accessibility and mobility within our communities.

Improving living conditions in informal settlements remains a priority for the Council. During this financial year, hundreds of households have been connected to electricity, bringing safer and more reliable energy access to residents across various townships. In addition, high mast lights are being installed in several informal areas to improve visibility, safety, and security for communities.

On the international front, the City of Windhoek recently had the honour of hosting a delegation from Berlin, Germany, further strengthening the longstanding partnership between our two cities.

A major highlight of the visit was the official inauguration of the Windhoek Solar Centre, an important milestone that reflects our shared commitment to renewable energy, sustainability, and innovation. This initiative forms part of ongoing international cooperation efforts aimed at advancing sustainable urban development for the benefit of our residents.

This month also marks the return of one of the city's most anticipated cultural events, the /Ae //Gams Arts and Cultural Festival, held under the theme "Nurturing Creativity, Growing Talents."

The festival continues to provide an important platform for artists, performers, entrepreneurs, and communities to showcase their talents, celebrate cultural diversity, and stimulate tourism and local economic activity. I encourage all residents and visitors to take part in this vibrant celebration of Windhoek's rich cultural heritage.

As part of our ongoing efforts to maintain Windhoek's reputation as one of Africa's cleanest cities, the 2026 Mayoral Clean-Up Campaign also continues across various communities.

I encourage every resident to participate in this important initiative and to take pride in protecting and preserving the cleanliness of our environment for future generations.

Council remains fully committed to strengthening service delivery, investing in infrastructure, improving community safety, and building a more inclusive and sustainable city for all.

I thank you.
Cllr. Sakarias Uunona





Windhoek Hosts Urban Mobility Workshop to Improve Public Transport

By Lydia Shifa, Communication Specialist

The City of Windhoek recently hosted an Urban Mobility Working Session that brought together senior leaders and stakeholders from the transport sector to discuss ways of improving public transport and advancing the city's long-term mobility plans.

The workshop included representatives from the Ministry of Works and Transport, Khomas Regional Council, Roads Authority, Road Fund Administration, Road Transportation Board and other key stakeholders involved in Namibia's transport sector.

Opening the session, Pierre van Rensburg said Windhoek's rapidly growing population has increased the need for a public transport system that is reliable, affordable, safe, and efficient. He noted that the city requires a modern bus network capable of meeting the growing demand for transport services.

Van Rensburg also highlighted funding challenges facing the public transport sector and encouraged stakeholders to work together in finding sustainable ways to finance transport improvements in the city and across the country.

The workshop was facilitated by Dominic Wilhelm and included interactive discussions and breakout sessions focused on identifying practical urban mobility solutions.

Discussions focused on three key priorities identified by the City of Windhoek. These included securing sustainable funding for transport projects, finalising Namibia's Draft Public Passenger Transport Act, and improving coordination between institutions responsible for transport planning, regulation, funding, and service delivery.

Among the proposals discussed were the introduction of annual government funding allocations and fuel levies to create more stable financial support for public transport improvements.

Participants also agreed on the importance of finalising the Draft Public Passenger Transport Act to strengthen the legal framework governing public transport and improve the implementation and management of transport services in Namibia.

Stakeholders further emphasized the need for stronger cooperation between institutions to improve planning, reduce duplication, and ensure better service delivery for commuters.

The discussions come at a time when urbanisation continues to increase both globally and locally. With approximately 500,000 people living in Windhoek, nearly one in every five Namibians resides in the capital city. As a result, transport and

mobility decisions made in Windhoek have a direct impact on access to jobs, education, healthcare, and other essential public services.

In her closing remarks, Albertina Amutenya reaffirmed the City's commitment to implementing practical solutions discussed during the workshop. She said the City remains focused on improving accessibility, strengthening integration across different transport systems, and enhancing the daily travel experience of residents.



City of Windhoek Strategic Executive for Urban and Transport Planning, Pierre van Rensburg, welcoming Deputy Minister of Works and Transport Hon. Hans Haikali to the Urban Mobility Conference



Seated is Deputy Minister of Works and Transport, Hon. Hans Haikali and the Deputy Mayor, Cllr. Nangula Amutenya standing are Industry experts, City of Windhoek councillors and officials who attended the Urban Mobility Conference.



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Windhoek Invests N\$280 million in New Electricity Substation

By Lydia Shifa, Communication Specialist



City of Windhoek councillors and city officials posing for a picture with project coordinators of the Khomas Intake Substation.

Windhoek mayor, Cllr. Sakarias Uunona, together with other City councillors, accompanied by the City's chief executive officer, Moses Matyayi and City officials, conducted a site visit to the Khomas Intake Substation construction site in Otjomuise recently to assess progress on one of the City's most significant electricity infrastructure projects.

The Khomas Intake Substation project, valued at N\$280 million, is jointly funded by the City of Windhoek and the Central Government. The City has committed N\$208 million towards the project, while Government contributed N\$72 million, reflecting a shared commitment to strengthening electricity infrastructure and supporting the capital's long-term development needs.

Once completed, the Khomas Intake Substation will become Windhoek's second major electricity supply point and is expected to provide additional power capacity needed to accommodate the city's rapid urban growth. The project will support electricity demand from expanding residential areas, commercial developments, and industrial activities across the capital.

At present, the City relies primarily on the Van Eck Substation for electricity supply. However, the existing substation has reached its maximum design capacity and can no longer be upgraded to meet the increasing electricity demand

associated with population growth and urban expansion.

The development of the Khomas Intake Substation is therefore regarded as a critical investment in ensuring the reliability, stability, and sustainability of electricity supply within the city. The additional supply point is also expected to improve energy security and reduce pressure on existing infrastructure.

During the site inspection, the managing contractor confirmed that construction work is progressing steadily and remains on schedule. Key construction activities are currently underway, with completion

of the project anticipated before the end of the year.

According to project timelines, the substation is expected to be commissioned in February 2027, after which it will begin supplying electricity into the City's distribution network.

The City of Windhoek said the project forms part of its broader infrastructure development strategy aimed at improving service delivery, supporting economic growth, and ensuring that residents and businesses continue to have access to reliable electricity services as the city expands.



Cleared space for the Khomas Intake Substation



PUBLIC NOTICE

REGISTRATION OF STANDBY GENERATORS & SOLAR PV (PHOTOVOLTAIC) SYSTEMS

Start date of Amnesty: 16 September 2024

Due date of Amnesty: 16 September 2026

The City of Windhoek's Electricity Department is announcing a mandatory registration process for all embedded generators, including standby generators. This measure is necessary due to the evolving nature of our electricity distribution network and the potential hazards posed by these generators, such as feedback into the grid that can endanger operating personnel, cause network instability, and damage equipment.

1. **Registration Requirement:** All clients must register their embedded generators, including standby and solar PV systems, within the next 24 months (inclusive of weekends and public holidays), starting from the date of this notice. Failure to do so will be considered an illegal wiring offense, which may result in penalties.
2. **Inspection Process:** All generators will be subject to general inspections by City Council inspectors. This will include:
 - Testing for interlocking systems to prevent parallel operation with the grid.
 - Visual inspections and testing.

Clients must address any substandard wiring issues identified during the inspection before approval is granted.
3. **Licensing for Large Generators:** Standby generators with a capacity exceeding 500kVA must possess a generation license in accordance with the Electricity Act, 2007. Please attach this license to your registration application.

For registration and any inquiries, please contact:

Niklaus Puturi,

Senior Installation Inspector,

Email: Niklaus.Puturi@windhoekcc.org.na,

Tel: 061 290 2460

Joseph Mundilo,

Engineer Installation Inspection & Renewable Energy,

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Note: Registration is a requirement under the Distribution Grid Code: Electricity Act, 2007.

We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring the safety and stability of our electricity network.



Issued by:

Office of the Chief Executive Officer • Corporate Communications, Marketing, and Public Participation

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Windhoek Strengthens Partnerships Through New Cooperation Agreements

By **Cillie Kapolo**, Communications Specialist (CPRP)



Grootfontein acting CEO, Mr. Indileni Lungameni and His Worship Mayor Cllr. Moritz Gaingob shaking hands with Windhoek Mayor, Cllr Sakarias Uunona following the signing of the MOU during the official ceremony held in Windhoek recently.

The Windhoek has strengthened its commitment to cooperation and development through the signing of new Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and the renewal of existing agreements with local authorities and key stakeholders.

The joint signing ceremony, recently held in Windhoek, brought together representatives from various towns, villages, and organisations to formalise partnerships aimed at improving governance, service delivery, and community development across Namibia.

One of the major highlights of the event was the signing of a new agreement with Kosmos Digital Namibia Limited, formalising the City's long-standing partnership with Radio Kosmos. The partnership has been instrumental in supporting crime prevention and public safety through the COPPS 94.1 radio programme.

The programme, broadcast live every Friday, provides residents and visitors with updates on crime prevention, traffic law enforcement, and public safety matters. It also serves as a direct communication platform between the Windhoek City Police Service and the public, helping to promote responsible road use and community awareness.

Speaking during the ceremony, Darren Smith of Radio Kosmos said the agreement officially recognises a partnership that has existed for nearly 15 years between the radio station and the Windhoek City Police Service. He noted that the collaboration has played an important role in strengthening community policing and improving communication with the public.

The City of Windhoek said the formalisation of the partnership reflects its continued commitment to community safety and responsible

citizenship through effective public communication.

During the ceremony, the City also renewed cooperation agreements with the Usakos Town Council and the Gochas Village Council. In addition, new agreements were signed with the Grootfontein Municipality and the Koes Village Council, further expanding Windhoek's partnerships with local authorities across the country.

Morits Gaingob expressed confidence that the partnership would bring positive and measurable benefits to communities. Meanwhile, Clerens Katorab stressed the importance of collaboration among local authorities, saying cooperation is essential for national development and community growth.

In his keynote address, Sakarias Uunona reaffirmed the City's commitment to sharing knowledge, expertise, and best practices with partner councils. He said stronger cooperation between local authorities is important for building resilient communities and improving the quality of services provided to residents.

The agreements focus on several important areas, including governance, infrastructure development, economic growth, human capital development, community development, and waste and resource management. According to the City, these partnerships are expected to support innovation, improve service delivery, and contribute to sustainable development in participating communities.



The Mayor of Usakos, Councillor Clerens Katorab, and the Mayor of Windhoek, Councillor Sakarias Uunona, sign a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen inter-municipal cooperation.



Representing Kosmos 94.1, Darren Smith and Chairperson of the Windhoek Municipal Council, Councillor Austin Kwenani, sign the agreement as the City Police Chief and the City of Windhoek CEO look on.



Mayors and CEOs from sister local authorities pose for a group photo with the Mayor and CEO of the City of Windhoek following the signing ceremony held in Windhoek recently.

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CoW signs an agreement to transform UN Plaza into a science hub.

By Lydia Shifa, Communication Specialist

The City of Windhoek has entered into a five-year Memorandum of Agreement with the National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST) to establish a Science Centre at the UN Plaza Community Complex.

This partnership signals the beginning of an inspiring transformation, one that will see the facility evolve into a vibrant hub of learning, collaboration, and technological advancement.

Under the stewardship of the NCRST, the centre is set to become a dynamic space where students, entrepreneurs, young innovators, and educators converge. It will foster creative thinking, nurture innovation, and support the development of practical solutions to local challenges through science and technology.

Speaking during the signing ceremony, Windhoek Mayor Sakarias Uunona said the partnership aligns with the city's vision of becoming a Sustainable and Caring City by 2027, as it will play a pivotal role in incubating start-ups focused on addressing urban challenges through technology-driven solutions. "The signing of this Memorandum of Agreement is more than a formal commitment, it is the forging of a bridge between knowledge and opportunity, science and society, ambition and achievement," said the Mayor.

He further noted that the establishment of the Science Centre at the UN Plaza Community Complex marks a bold step forward for Windhoek, reaffirming the City's commitment to harnessing the power of research, science, and technology to uplift our communities and propel Namibia toward a brighter future.

Echoing this sentiment, NCRST Chief Executive Officer, Anicia Peters, described the centre as a powerful catalyst for youth empowerment and social progress. She noted that it will provide a safe, engaging, and inspiring environment where young people can explore, experience, and interact with science in meaningful ways. "This initiative creates a platform where young people can see, touch, and experience science, igniting curiosity and inspiring the next generation of innovators," she said. "It will contribute significantly to youth development, social inclusion, and the reduction of negative socio-economic behaviours," she remarked.

Through the agreement, the NCRST will assume management of the facility, transforming it into a thriving ecosystem for innovation and collaboration. The centre will serve as a meeting point for ideas and action, where creativity is nurtured, technologies are developed, and solutions for real-world challenges are born.



NCRST CEO Anicia Peters, Chairperson of the City's Management Committee, Austin Kwenani and City of Windhoek CEO Moses Matyayi, signing the Memorandum of Agreement to establish a Science Centre at the UN Plaza Community Complex

The agreement was formally signed by the City of Windhoek's Chief Executive Officer, Moses Matyayi, and NCRST Chief Executive Officer, Professor Anicia Peters, with Austin Kwenani, Chairperson of the City's Management Committee, witnessing the occasion.

As Windhoek takes this bold step, the envisioned Science Centre stands not only as a physical space but as a symbol of possibility, where ideas are ignited, potential is realised, and the seeds of a brighter tomorrow are planted.



The teams from the two institutions pose for a picture to pledge their commitment to the science project



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Windhoek Receives Surveillance Cameras to Improve Road Safety

By Lydia Shifa, Communication Specialist



CoW Management receiving the donated CCTV cameras from the CEO of MVA Fund, Rosalia Hausiku.

The City of Windhoek has received three CCTV cameras valued at N\$141,000 from the MVA Fund of Namibia as part of efforts to improve road safety in Khomas Region.

Speaking during the formal handover on 24 April 2026, Windhoek Mayor Sakarias Uunona said the donation aligns seamlessly with the City of Windhoek's broader smart city strategy, which emphasizes digital infrastructure upgrades to promote inclusivity and sustainability.

The mayor thanked the MVA Fund for the donation, noting that the collaboration reflects "our shared commitment to leveraging innovative technologies and strategic partnerships, ultimately transforming Windhoek into a smart, inclusive, and sustainable city by 2027."

According to MVA Fund Chief Executive Officer Rosalia Martins-Hausiku, the Khomas Region continues to record some of the highest rates of road crashes, injuries, and fatalities in the country, a reality that has driven the Fund to donate CCTV cameras to the City of Windhoek as part of a strategic intervention aimed at strengthening the response to road safety challenges.

She further noted that the footage and data generated from the cameras will contribute to improved data collection and analysis, which will allow the MVA Fund and road safety partners to better understand crash patterns, identify hotspots, and design targeted accident- and injury-prevention initiatives.

The cameras will be installed at strategic locations that will enable enhanced real-time monitoring of high-risk areas, support the early detection of crashes, and enable quicker and coordinated emergency response.

Head of the Windhoek City Police Service, Chief Leevi Shivolo Iлека, acknowledged that the installation and integration of the donated cameras into the City Police surveillance network will have a profound impact on modern policing and will empower police officers with critical tools to prevent incidents and protect lives.

He concluded that the cameras will be capturing crucial evidence that will aid in the resolution of incidents and the apprehension of criminals, making it easier for the justice system to conclude cases with evidence readily available.

More than just equipment, the cameras symbolize a growing partnership between institutions committed to public safety. As Windhoek continues its journey toward becoming a smart city, initiatives like this demonstrate how technology, data, and collaboration can come together to create safer, more resilient communities.



From left, MVA CEO Rosalia Martins Hausiku, Cllr. Sakarias Uunona, CEO Moses Matyayi poses for a picture with other city councillors and City Police, Chief Leevi Iлека.



Windhoek Powers Over 1,300 Homes in Landmark Electrification Drive

By Lydia Shifa, Communication Specialist



Residents of Mix Settlement turned out in large numbers to witness the groundbreaking of the electrification project

The City of Windhoek has launched the 2025/2026 Electrification Project, which will extend electricity access to more than 1,300 households across Windhoek's informal settlements.

The project, which will cost about N\$33 million, is jointly funded by the City of Windhoek and the central government through the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development, as well as the Ministry of Industries, Mines, and Energy.

The electrification rollout will benefit residents in Okahandja Park, Mix, Babylon, Otjomuise, and the Havana Relocation Centre, communities where access to electricity has long remained out of reach for many.

Speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony held on 27 April 2026 at Mix Settlement, Windhoek Mayor Sakarias Uunona described the initiative as a meaningful step toward improving the lives of residents. "This project is not merely symbolic," he said. "It represents hope, progress, and our collective commitment to enhancing the quality of life for our people."

He noted that electricity is far more than a basic service. It is a catalyst for transformation, enabling safer communities, supporting small businesses, and creating an environment where children can study after sunset. "It is

a foundation upon which dignity and opportunity are built", noted the mayor.

Since the launch of the City's electrification programme in 2018, more than 8,000 households in informal settlements have been connected to the grid. The 2025/2026 project builds on this momentum, reinforcing the City's long-term vision of equitable service delivery and sustainable urban growth.

Complementing the electrification effort is the ongoing high mast lighting programme, which will see the installation of 15 high mast lights across informal and peri-urban areas. This initiative is expected to significantly enhance visibility at night, strengthen public safety, and contribute to crime prevention.

"Well-lit communities are safer communities, and this intervention allows residents to move freely and securely after dark, while also supporting social and economic

activity within these neighbourhoods," remarked Cllr Uunona.

The event brought together key stakeholders, including municipal councillors, Windhoek Rural Constituency Councillor Willem Gariseb, City of Windhoek Chief Executive Officer Moses Matyayi, community leaders, and city officials, all united in their commitment to building a more connected and inclusive Windhoek.

As the first cables are laid and the groundwork begins, the Electrification Project stands as a powerful reminder that access to energy is not just about light, it is about unlocking potential, restoring dignity, and shaping a brighter future for all.



(From left to right) Windhoek Mayor, Cllr Sakarias Uunona, alongside city councillors and Windhoek Rural Constituency Councillor, Willem Gariseb, officially groundbreaking the electrification project.



Windhoek Unveils Solar Centre to Boost Access to Renewable Energy

By Lydia Shifa, Communication Specialist

The City of Windhoek has officially inaugurated the Windhoek Solar Centre, a new public facility dedicated to improving access to sustainable energy and expanding the use of solar technologies across the capital.

Located at 1800 Erickson Street, the centre will function as a knowledge hub, offering residents, businesses, and community institutions impartial information, consultations, and training on solar energy solutions. Its goal is to help households understand solar systems, support businesses exploring renewable energy investments, and empower communities seeking practical, sustainable alternatives.

Speaking at the inauguration, Windhoek Mayor Councillor Sakarias Uunona said the centre marks a significant advancement in addressing energy access challenges in the city. He noted that many residents remain without electricity due to rapid urbanisation, limited financial resources, and ongoing efforts to formalise settlements. He said the centre would contribute to “affordable and sustainable energy solutions” and raise awareness about renewable technologies.

Also addressing the event, Michael Biel, State Secretary of the Senate Department for Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises in Berlin, said Namibia is uniquely positioned to harness solar energy as a sustainable and resilient solution for its future energy needs. He emphasised that the Solar Centre will play a critical role in improving energy security, supporting economic growth, and contributing to climate protection efforts. “People need knowledge, guidance, and trustworthy advice, and that is exactly what this solar centre will provide,” he said.

The project stems from over two decades of cooperation

between Windhoek and Berlin, under a partnership agreement signed in 2000. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, with an investment of approximately N\$4.3 million, part of which was used to renovate the facility.

The Solar Centre is expected to serve as a catalyst for expanding renewable energy uptake in Windhoek, particularly in underserved communities, while supporting the City’s goal of promoting clean, reliable, and sustainable power for all residents.



Windhoek Mayor Councillor Sakarias Uunona, Councillors Ignasius Semba, Ricardo Garoeb, and Fransina Kahungu during the inauguration ceremony of the Windhoek Solar Centre.



Windhoek Mayor, Cllr Sakarias Uunona, alongside Berlin State Secretary Michael Biel, officially inaugurates the electrification project.



Chief Engineer: Systems and Protection in the City’s Department of Electricity, Michael Kavalata, briefs City Councillors and the Berlin State Secretary Michael Biel, during a tour of the newly inaugurated Solar Centre.





Experts Discuss the Future of Solar Energy in Windhoek

By Lydia Shifa, Communication Specialist



City of Windhoek Cllrs taking a moment posing for a picture from left cllr Demetreo Beukes, Khomas Governor, Sam Nujoma, Deputy Mayor Nangula Amutenya, Visiting Berlin state secretary Senate Department of Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises, Berlin, Michael Biel, Windhoek mayor cllr Sakarias Uunona, Cllr Toini Ambabi, Cllr Werner-Meck Tjhuiko and CEO Moses Matyayi

The transition to solar energy in Windhoek is gaining momentum, but as industry leaders recently acknowledged, the journey toward a sustainable energy future is as complex as it is promising.

Recently, the City of Windhoek convened the Solar Experts Conference 2026, gathering leading voices from academia, regulatory bodies, and the solar industry under the theme: "Solar Energy for Urban Development in Windhoek: Implementation, Innovation and Capacity Building, creating a vital platform for dialogue at a pivotal moment in the city's energy transition.

Coming just a day after the inauguration of the Solar Centre Windhoek, the gathering underscored the growing momentum behind renewable energy initiatives in the capital. Experts highlighted persistent barriers, including complex bureaucratic processes, limited access to reliable information, funding constraints, and the lack of comprehensive data and installer databases as some of the challenges that must be addressed to unlock Windhoek's solar energy's full potential.

In his opening address, Windhoek Mayor, Sakarias Uunona underscored Namibia's immense solar potential, noting that the country ranks among the highest globally in solar irradiation. This, he emphasized, places Namibia in a strong position to leverage solar energy not only as a

sustainable environmental solution, but also as a catalyst for economic growth, innovation, and community development.

He noted that the City's commitment to advancing green energy solutions is rooted in a broader vision to reduce reliance on bulk electricity supply from NamPower while building a more resilient and sustainable energy system for its residents.

Khomas Region Governor, Sam Nujoma, reinforced the national perspective, noting that renewable energy development is closely aligned with Namibia's broader development agenda. He noted that the government, through policy frameworks and energy transition initiatives, continues to support investment in infrastructure, innovation, and skills development in alternative energy solutions. Visiting State Secretary Senate Department of Economic Affairs, Energy and Public Enterprises, Berlin, Michael Biel, described the conference as more than a formal engagement, but as a

dynamic space where cities learn from one another and transform shared experiences into practical action. He also highlighted the enduring partnership between Berlin and Windhoek, a relationship that has spanned over 25 years and continues to support mutual growth and cooperation.

Apart from expert roundtable and stakeholders dialogue and panel discussions, the conference also brought together service providers in the solar industry for an exhibition of the latest technologies in the innovations in the industry, offering a glimpse into the evolving possibilities within the renewable energy sector.



Exhibitors of the Windhoek Vocational Training Centre (VTC) showing the Windhoek Mayor and councillors how the green hydrogen system works.



German Delegation Supports Solar Energy Initiative in Havana Informal Settlement

By Anna Shiimi, Communication Trainee

A German delegation from Berlin, led by Michael Biel, State Secretary of the Berlin Senate Department for Economic Affairs, Energy, and Public Enterprises, recently visited the Moses Garoeb Constituency Office in Havana to assess progress on community solar energy initiatives aimed at improving safety and living conditions in informal settlements.

The visit focused on the important role renewable energy can play in reducing shack fires and improving access to safer energy solutions for residents living in vulnerable communities.

Welcoming the delegation, Stephanus Ndengu, the Chairperson of the Khomas Regional Council, expressed appreciation for the continued support provided through the solar electricity initiative. He said the project is especially important for communities in informal settlements, where shack fires continue to pose a serious danger to residents and often result in the loss of lives and property.

According to Ndengu, the initiative is not only improving access to electricity, but is also contributing to safer living conditions



Berlin State Secretary, Michael Biel (third from left) pictured with the Solar Champions of the Moses Garoëb Constituency.

and greater community awareness around energy use.

During the visit, the delegation officially handed over solar electrical toolkits to 12 volunteer "Solar Champions" from the community. The 16-piece toolkits are intended to assist the volunteers in

educating and supporting residents on the use of safer and more sustainable solar energy solutions.

Speaking at the handover ceremony, Biel said he was encouraged by the visible progress being made through the project and highlighted the importance of community involvement in ensuring its success.

He noted that Namibia has great potential for solar energy due to its abundance of sunshine and said partnerships such as these can help communities benefit from renewable energy solutions while improving livelihoods.

Biel also emphasized the important role played by local volunteers who work directly with residents to share information, build awareness, and encourage safer energy practices within communities.

The visit further strengthened cooperation between Namibian stakeholders and German partners, while highlighting the growing importance of renewable energy projects in supporting safer, more resilient, and sustainable communities in Windhoek.



The Solar Champions pictured with City of Windhoek officials and the Berlin delegation and City of Windhoek officials.



Windhoek and Berlin Strengthen Partnership Through Youth Skills Development Initiatives

By Anna Shiimi, Communication Trainee

The partnership between the cities of Windhoek and Berlin continues to grow stronger following a recent visit by a high-level German delegation led by Michael Biel, State Secretary of the Berlin Senate Department for Economic Affairs, Energy, and Public Enterprises. The visit focused on strengthening cooperation in skills development, youth empowerment, sustainable development, and economic opportunities for Namibians.

As part of the programme, the delegation visited the Namibia Training Authority (NTA), where they participated in a high-level roundtable discussion on the SkillUp Namibia pilot project. The initiative, spearheaded by the Kayec Trust in collaboration with various stakeholders, seeks to equip marginalized and vulnerable youth with practical vocational skills through modular training programmes designed to promote

economic independence and long-term employability.

The discussions brought together government officials, training institutions, and industry representatives to talk about the challenges facing the skills and training sector, as well as opportunities for future growth. One of the key ideas discussed was how Berlin could support vocational training programmes for Namibian youth through KAYEC and similar initiatives.

Participants agreed that training programmes and new technologies should focus on solving real-life problems and improving people's lives. The discussions also highlighted the importance of creating opportunities that are practical, affordable, and accessible to communities.

Another important topic was the need for cooperation between different sectors and organisations to ensure long-term development and job creation. Delegates also stressed the importance of responsible growth and making sure development projects remain environmentally sustainable.

The visit concluded with a shared commitment by both Namibian and German stakeholders to continue strengthening partnerships that promote innovation, skills transfer, and inclusive economic development. Participants reaffirmed that collaborative intelligence and cross-sector cooperation remain essential to shaping resilient and future-ready communities, while establishing a strategic roadmap for continued cooperation in the coming year.



The German delegation, pictured alongside stakeholders from various sectors during a roundtable discussion held at the Namibia Training Authority (NTA).





City of Windhoek

Vision: To be a **Sustainable** and **Caring** City by 2027



PUBLIC NOTICE **SUBMISSION OF TITLE DEEDS FOR PROPERTIES WITHIN EXTENDED MUNICIPAL BOUNDARIES**

22 April 2026

The City of Windhoek refers to its Public Notice issued in 2018 regarding the extension of municipal fee charging to properties within the extended municipal boundaries, which came into effect on **1 August 2018**. In terms of that notice, all properties within these extended boundaries are subject to municipal charges, including Rates & Taxes, Waste Management, and Fire Brigade services.

CALL TO ACTION

All property owners within the extended boundaries are **hereby urgently requested** to submit their Title Deeds to the City of Windhoek. This is necessary to ensure the accurate and timely updating of the municipal billing system.

Please note that documentation from several property owners remains outstanding and is long overdue.

AFFECTED AREAS

The following areas fall within the extended municipal boundaries:

- Finkenstein Estate
- Sungate
- Regenstein
- Ormeya
- Herboth's Blick
- Brakwater Area and Brakwater Industrial Estate
- Nubuamis Industrial Park
- Kempinski
- Farm Ondekeremba
- Farm Bellerode
- Farm Kranzneus
- All other farms and townships within the extended municipal boundaries

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The City of Windhoek advises that failure to submit Title Deeds timeously may result in back charges being levied. Property owners are strongly encouraged to submit their documentation without further delay.

Prompt submission will ensure:

- Accurate and up-to-date municipal accounts
- Correct billing of Rates & Taxes, Waste Management, and Fire Brigade levies
- Avoidance of retrospective back charges

HOW TO SUBMIT

Please deliver your Title Deeds without further delay to:

Property Rates and Taxes Section

City of Windhoek

Enquiries: +264 61 290 2021 | 2487 | 2483 | 2644

Your cooperation in this matter is highly appreciated.



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Global Partnerships, Local Progress: Windhoek leads the way in Sustainable Growth

By **Steven Kashekele**, Corporate Communication Officer

The City of Windhoek continues to demonstrate its status as a forward-thinking African capital through its robust international partnerships and its unwavering commitment to community upliftment. Recently, City of Windhoek Councillors conducted an extensive oversight tour of several key educational and environmental facilities, highlighting the transformative power of the city's collaborations with its sister cities, the City of Freie Hansestadt Bremen, and Japan.

These strategic alliances have moved beyond mere diplomatic agreements, manifesting instead as tangible lifelines for the residents of Windhoek. By focusing on early childhood development and sustainable waste management, the city is effectively addressing both the immediate social needs of its people and the long-term health of the local environment.

The tour showcased several success stories, most notably the Natanael Maxuillili Community Centre and Library in the Babylon informal settlement. This hub has become a vital resource for digital inclusion, offering internet access and computer literacy workshops to bridge the technological divide. Similarly, the Jonas Haiduwa and Aam Bee Dee Early Childhood Development centres have become cornerstones of the city's educational fabric, providing high-quality foundational education to children who might otherwise be left behind. These facilities represent a shift toward play-based learning and cognitive growth, ensuring that the city's youngest residents are prepared for future success.

Furthermore, the Waste Buy Back Centre serves as a shining example of how

Windhoek is leading the way in the circular economy. By collaborating with the EU and Bremen, the city has successfully turned waste management into a dignified income-generating mechanism for waste pickers. This dual-purpose approach cleans the city while simultaneously creating economic stability for households. As External Relations Manager Christoph Eita emphasized, the city's ability to transform "white elephants" into vibrant community hubs is a testament to the effective use of international relationships. This proactive leadership not only enhances the quality of life for all Windhoek residents but also reinforces the city's reputation as a world-class destination for sustainable development and social innovation. Through these initiatives, Windhoek is building a more resilient, educated, and prosperous future for every citizen.



Councillors joined children and staff for a group picture at the Aam Bee Dee Early Childhood Development Centre.





A community member shares with councillors how the Natanael Maxuilli Community Centre and Library in the Babylon informal settlement has supported her livelihood through sewing for many years.

The Site Supervisor, Nenghama Sabas explains how recycling works at the Waste Buy Back Centre, where waste management is creating sustainable income opportunities for waste pickers.



His Worship, second from left Mayor Sakarias Uunona, stresses the importance of Early Childhood Development Centres in shaping and supporting child development.



City of Windhoek Councillors together with staff members of the Waste Buy Back Centre.





“Wastewater is not Waste” - Windhoek’s Water Recycling System sets global standard

By **Steven Kashekele**, Corporate Communication Officer

The City of Windhoek continues to stand as a global pioneer in water sustainability, with its long-established water reclamation practices and the innovative Windhoek Goreangab Operating Company (WINGOC) water refinery system reinforcing its position as one of the world’s leading cities in water reuse.

Windhoek is widely recognised as the oldest city to implement direct potable water reuse, with recycling practices dating back to the early 1800s. Today, this legacy remains central to the city’s water security strategy, with approximately 20 percent of the water consumed by residents being safely treated and recycled for drinking purposes.

At an exhibition held at the Windhoek Museum, city officials highlighted Windhoek’s historic role as one of the first cities to implement direct potable water reuse, dating back to the early 1800s, and noted that the public is welcome to view this unique setup.

Speaking on the significance of this achievement, the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Windhoek, Moses Matyayi, emphasised the unique historical and geographical context of the capital. He noted that, unlike many major cities around the world, Windhoek was not established near a river or major natural water source. This reality, he explained, has shaped the city’s long-standing relationship with water conservation and innovation. He further highlighted the cultural and historical meaning embedded in the name “Otjomuise,” derived from the

Otjherero language, which translates to “the place of steam” or “the place where water vapour rises.” The term reflects the early inhabitants’ search for water and their reliance on natural springs, ultimately influencing the establishment and growth of what is now Windhoek.

“This is why we have Windhoek today,” he said. “Our history is rooted in the search for water, and that legacy continues to guide our approach to water management.”

At the heart of the city’s modern water system is the water reclamation plant, which treats wastewater to potable standards through advanced purification processes. The system is internationally recognised for its efficiency and safety, serving as a model for water-scarce regions across the globe.

Reinforcing the importance of this system, the CEO described it as more than just infrastructure, but a philosophy of sustainability. “The recycling system is a living example that wasted water is not waste,” he said. “It demonstrates how innovation and responsibility can transform a limited resource into a sustainable solution.”

However, maintaining the efficiency of the system remains an ongoing challenge. Jacobus Theron from the City of Windhoek’s Infrastructure, Water, and Technical Services Department pointed out that improper waste disposal continues to pose a significant threat to the refinery process. He noted that the dumping of foreign materials by the public into the system frequently leads to blockages,

slowing down treatment processes and increasing operational costs.

“The biggest challenge we face is the disposal of waste into the system by the public,” Theron explained. “This not only disrupts operations but also affects the overall efficiency of water treatment.”

Adding a governance perspective, Councillor Nangula Amutenya, Deputy Mayor of Windhoek, underscored the broader significance of water management initiatives in the city. She stressed that water remains a critical and strategic resource for Windhoek, particularly in the context of climate variability and growing urban demand.

“The exhibition of water rehabilitation is not an ordinary exhibition,” she said. “It is a journey, a cultural expression, and a valuable asset to the City of Windhoek.”

As Windhoek continues to navigate the challenges of water scarcity, its commitment to innovation, sustainability, and public awareness ensures that it remains a leader in water reuse, offering valuable lessons for cities around the world.



Jacobus Theron, Section Engineer, Mechanical/Electrical, pictured during the recent launch exhibition at the Windhoek Museum, themed “Wasted Water Is Not Waste.”



City of Windhoek CEO, Mr. Moses Matyayi, speaking at the launch of the exhibition at the Windhoek Museum.



Invited guests pictured during the recent launch exhibition at the Windhoek Museum.



City of Windhoek strengthens Informal Market Leadership through training initiative

By **Cillie Kapolo**, Communications Specialist (CPRP)



Section Head for SME Development, Leonora Joodt, addresses participants during the official opening of the two-day leadership training programme on informal market management.



Economic Development Officer Ivondia Kanguuehi leads a training session for market committee members.



Jackson Karipo, a committee member from Bokamoso Market, participates in the leadership training programme.



Economic Development Officer Paulus Tjukulia facilitates a session during the leadership training programme.



Members and City of Windhoek officials pose for a picture at the end of the training.

The City of Windhoek has launched a two-day leadership training programme aimed at improving the management and sustainability of its informal markets.

With 25 informal markets operating across the city, the initiative seeks to ensure that these trading spaces remain well-organised, compliant with health and hygiene standards, and responsive to the needs of both vendors and customers.

Each market is managed by a committee that works closely with the municipality to provide leadership, maintain order, and address traders' concerns. These committees play a key role in ensuring the smooth operation of markets while supporting livelihoods and promoting safe, accessible environments for consumers.

The training, organised by the City's Economic Development Department, is facilitated by Economic Development Officers Paulus Tjukulia and Ivondia Kanguuehi. It focuses on strengthening leadership, communication, and conflict management skills among committee members.

Participants have been drawn from several informal markets across the city, including Soweto, Oshetu, Okuryangava, Okahandja Park, Bokamoso, and Katutura Industrial Stalls, among others.

Speaking at the official opening, Section Head for SME Development Leonora Joodt described the programme as a strategic intervention aimed at strengthening governance within informal

markets. She said committee members, as elected representatives of traders, play a critical role in bridging the gap between vendors and municipal authorities, while promoting fair and sustainable practices. According to Joodt, early improvements are already evident, including better coordination within markets, stronger stakeholder relationships, and increased trust among traders.

Officials expect the initiative to contribute to more effective market management, empower traders, and support broader efforts towards inclusive economic growth. The programme also positions Windhoek's informal markets as a model for community-driven economic development.





Traditional Games celebrate culture and community in Windhoek

By **Cillie Kapolo**, Communications Specialist (CPRP)

Traditional games took centre stage in the capital on Saturday, 25 April 2026, as part of the City of Windhoek's /Ae //Gams Arts and Culture Festival pre-events, held at the Windhoek City Museum.

The event brought together communities in a lively celebration of Namibia's cultural heritage, with *Blik volmaak*, also known as *Fufila* or *Dila Ekende*, emerging as the main attraction. The popular childhood game challenges players to fill a tin or bottle with sand, knock it down, and attempt to refill it while avoiding being struck by a ball.

Teams also competed in other traditional games, including *Skululu* and *Amagoes*, adding to the day's competitive spirit and variety. The atmosphere was vibrant, with spectators cheering on participants and families turning out in large numbers to enjoy the festivities. Many competitors welcomed the opportunity to relive games they grew up playing in villages and urban communities across Namibia.

A total of 17 community teams took part in the competition, reflecting strong public interest and participation. Games official and referee Leonard Witbeen said traditional games remain an important part of Namibia's cultural identity and should be preserved and further developed to ensure they are passed on to future generations.

The competition concluded with 24/7 Fitness taking first place and winning a cash prize of N\$4,500. Khawa A secured second place, earning N\$3,000, while Khawa B finished third, receiving N\$1,500. The organizers thanked the participating teams, supporters, and stakeholders for their contributions to the success of the event and expressed optimism for an even larger event next year.

This competition is part of a series of build-up activities leading up to the main /Ae //Gams Arts and Culture Festival, which is scheduled to take place on May 8 and 9, 2026, at the City of Windhoek parking area on Independence Avenue. The festival will have no entrance fees, and everyone is welcome to attend. Its aim is to celebrate Namibia's diverse cultural heritage.



Games official Leonard Witbeen officiates during the traditional games event.



A participant in action during a round of Blik volmaak, also known as Fufila or Dila Ekende, at the Windhoek City Museum.



Team 24/7 Fitness celebrates after securing first place and a cash prize of N\$4,500.



Team Khawa A, runners-up in the competition, received a cash prize of N\$3,000.



Team Khawa B claims third place, earning a cash prize of N\$1,500.



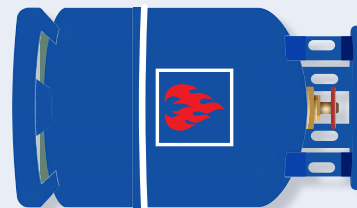


City of Windhoek

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FIRE SAFETY TIP: Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG)



Always keep gas cylinders upright (**never lying on their side**), even when transporting, to prevent liquid gas leaks which can cause fires, explosions, or damage to the valve.



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Windhoek Inaugurates 27th Junior Council for the 2026/2027 Term

By **Lydia Shifa**, Communication Specialist and **Anna Shiimi**, Communication Trainee

The Windhoek officially inaugurated its 27th Junior Council for the 2026/2027 term on 28 April 2026 during a special ceremony attended by parents, teachers, learners, and city officials. The event marked the beginning of a new leadership journey for the young councilors who will represent the voices and interests of youth in the city.

Speaking during the ceremony, Moses Matyayi expressed pride in the newly elected junior councilors and commended them for stepping forward to take on leadership responsibilities at a young age. He said the Junior Council continues to play an important role in encouraging civic participation, leadership development, and youth involvement in community matters.

Held under the theme "Youth Rising, Windhoek Thriving," the event highlighted the importance of empowering young people to actively contribute to the future development of the country. Sakarias

Uunona emphasized that the growth and success of Namibia depends greatly on the involvement and empowerment of its youth.

Addressing the incoming councilors, the Mayor encouraged them to lead with honesty, humility, and dedication. He reminded them that leadership is not about status or recognition, but about serving communities, listening to the needs of others, and inspiring positive change.

Outgoing Junior Mayor, Milano Gogol from Windhoek Gymnasium reflected on the achievements of the outgoing Junior Council during the past term. Among the key initiatives highlighted was the establishment of the first Junior Council Garden at Farm Okukuna to support elderly residents, as well as awareness campaigns and marches against violence towards children.

Gogol said the experience taught him that leadership is about service and making a meaningful difference in communities. He encouraged the new

council to continue building on the work started by previous junior leaders.

The newly inaugurated Junior Mayor, Kovii Kambai from Chairman Mao Zedong High School pledged to lead with unity and collaboration during his term in office. He also introduced the Junior Council's main project for the year titled "Enhancing Youth Empowerment Through Accessible Skills Development and Safe Recreational Spaces."

According to Kambai, the project aims to equip young people with practical skills while also creating safe environments where youth can learn, interact, and grow. He described his appointment as a shared achievement for all young people who believe in progress, leadership, and community development.

The inauguration ceremony once again highlighted the City of Windhoek's continued commitment to empowering youth and creating opportunities for young leaders to actively participate in shaping the future of their communities.



Windhoek councillors joined the newly inaugurated Junior Council leadership for a memorable group photo



(From left) Secretary Khiara Raath, Deputy Junior Mayor Sakaria Nandago and Junior Mayor Kovii Kambai with Windhoek Mayor, Sakarias Uunona, and Deputy Mayor, Abertina Amutenya, proudly pose with the newly appointed Junior Council leadership



The newly inaugurated Junior Council with the senior Councillors and Officials



NUST Students develop Smart Communication Solutions for Windhoek

By Anna Shiimi, Communication Trainee

2026 HACKATHON CHALLENGE



The Gateway to Endless Opportunities

Fourth-year Computer Science students at the Namibia University of Science and Technology spent the week turning ideas into real digital solutions during an exciting hackathon challenge hosted in partnership with the Windhoek.

From Monday morning until Thursday night, students worked tirelessly to design a centralized messaging platform that would improve communication between the City of Windhoek and residents. The proposed system aims to provide real-time updates, improve service delivery, and create dedicated channels for sharing important public information with communities.

The week-long challenge pushed students to think creatively, work under pressure, and solve real-world problems using technology. By Friday morning, the atmosphere was filled with excitement and nerves as teams presented their projects to a panel of judges who evaluated the prototypes based on innovation, creativity, functionality, and overall impact.

Despite the competitive nature of the event, the hackathon also focused on learning and growth. Addressing the students, Fillemon Neputa, the City of Windhoek's Strategic Executive for Information and Communication Technology (ICT), encouraged participants to continue believing in their ideas and abilities. He reminded students that many of today's successful global technologies first started as simple classroom concepts.

Neputa praised the students for their teamwork, determination, and willingness to tackle real challenges facing the city. He added that the experience gained during the hackathon would play an important

role in shaping their future careers in the ICT sector.

One team emerged as the overall winner and walked away with a one-year internship opportunity at the City of Windhoek's ICT Department, where they will gain practical experience working on municipal technology systems and infrastructure.

Although only one team claimed the top prize, all participants were encouraged to continue developing their ideas and skills. The event highlighted the growing role young innovators can play in helping build smarter cities and improving services through technology.

Through their creativity and dedication, these students are helping lay the foundation for a smarter, more connected Windhoek.



Officials from the Namibia University of Science and Technology and the City of Windhoek pictured with the students who secured first place in the Hackathon competition.



Computer Science students from the Namibia University of Science and Technology who claimed the top spot, earning a life-changing one-year internship opportunity with the City of Windhoek ICT Department.

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City hosts Quarterly Performance Awards

By **Cillie Kapolo**, Communications Specialist (CPRP)



Strategic Executive for Human Capital and Corporate Services, Archie Nikanor, delivers welcoming remarks during the Employees' Quarterly Performance Awards.



Ogone Thataone, Housing Schemes Officer in the Department of Housing, Property Management and Human Settlement, delivers a motivational address.



Vernouman Endjala, Manager: Sustainable Development in the Department of Housing, Property Management and Human Settlement, delivers the keynote address on behalf of the CEO.



Musician Black Dice, real name Jason Andrease, and a Constable in the Windhoek City Police, captivates the audience with an electrifying performance.

The City of Windhoek proudly hosted its Employees' Quarterly Performance Awards on Friday, 24 April 2026, at the Katutura Swimming Pool in Windhoek. The event brought together staff from across all departments to celebrate outstanding performance, dedication, and service excellence.

The atmosphere was vibrant and celebratory, as employees gathered for a morning of recognition, networking, and inspiration. The awards ceremony forms part of the City's ongoing commitment to fostering a culture of excellence, aligned with its vision: "To be a Sustainable & Caring City by 2027."

In his welcome remarks, Strategic Executive for Human Capital and Corporate Services, Archie Nikanor, emphasised that the awards programme is rooted in the City's Employee Recognition and Awards Policy. He highlighted that the initiative not only recognises outstanding performance but also reinforces the values, behaviours, and contributions that drive the organisation forward, while promoting fairness, transparency, and inclusivity.

Delivering the keynote address on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer, Vernouman Endjala, Manager of Sustainable Development in the Department of Housing, Property Management and Human Settlement, highlighted the strategic importance of the awards programme. He described it as a vital tool in reinforcing organisational values such as accountability, integrity, and customer focus. He further commended employees who continue to go beyond the call of duty, noting that excellence is demonstrated through daily actions, teamwork, innovation, and a strong commitment to service delivery.

A powerful highlight of the programme was the motivational address by Ogone Thataone, an officer within Housing Schemes under the Department of Housing, Property Management and Human Settlement, who delivered a thought-provoking message centred on the theme: "Service is a soul, not a script."

In his address, Thataone encouraged employees to reflect on the true meaning of service, reminding staff that while systems, procedures, and policies are necessary, genuine service goes beyond compliance. He emphasised that service within a public institution is not driven by profit, but by a deeper moral and social responsibility to serve communities with empathy and purpose.

Quoting the powerful notion that "service is a soul, not a script," he highlighted that true service is human, intentional, and rooted in compassion. He further urged employees to embody the City's core values, teamwork, customer focus, communication, fairness, equity, and integrity, not merely as principles, but as lived experiences reflected in daily interactions.

His message resonated strongly with attendees, as he acknowledged both recognised and unsung heroes within the organisation, noting that it is often the quiet, consistent efforts of employees that sustain the City's progress and impact.

The highlight of the event remained the presentation of awards across four key categories, with a total of 36 employees recognised:

S.T.A.R (Special Thanks and Recognition) Quarterly Awards

Recognising employees who go above and beyond the call of duty.

Recipients included Hanna Antindi, Anna-Maria Niipare, Athanasius Haingura, Melanie Majiedt, Erika Shipo, Edward Mushongo, Fillemon Mupupa, Karl Gille, and Magdalena Cloete.

Living Our Values Quarterly Awards

Honouring employees who embody the City's core values in their daily work.

Recipients included Iyandjua Tjimbonde, Urivi Mbingeneeko, Hilda Siluzungila, Carlos Smith, Gert Van Wyk, John Eino Iyambo, Maryna Ockhuizen, Buckhadat Modisa, and Beverly Eimann.





Serving the Client Quarterly Awards

Recognising exceptional customer service delivery.

Recipients included Lukas Amukwaya, Edvig Namhindo, Hilda Siluzungila, Jacob Lazarus, Charlton Sittler, Abraham Iyambo, Penehafo Ivali, Levinia Araes, Regina Luyenu, and Paulus Nuunyango.

Smart Employee Quarterly Awards

Celebrating innovation and improved operational efficiency.

Recipients included George Mbala, Abel Hamutenya, Melanie Majiedt, Susanna Hartzenberg, Roonny Mbarandongo, Franco Van Wyk, and Ronel Viljoen.

The ceremony also featured a standout musical performance by one of the City's own, Black Dice (real name Jason Andrease), a Constable within the Windhoek City Police. His performance captivated the audience and earned praise from Director of Ceremonies Rouxche Locke, who described his talent as being of international standard. Staff were also treated to a luncheon, rounding off a memorable and uplifting event.



Israel Kahiurika, Municipal Fleet Manager, presents the Living Our Values Award to Constable Iyandjua Tjimbonde of the Windhoek City Police.

The Quarterly Performance Awards continue to serve as an important platform for recognising excellence within the organisation. By celebrating the

achievements of its employees, the City of Windhoek reinforces a culture where hard work, innovation, and dedication are acknowledged and rewarded.



S.T.A.R (Special Thanks and Recognition) Quarterly Award recipients





#SOCIAL MEDIA CHATS

Your questions answered

By Lydia Shifa, Communication Specialist



We share a lot of valuable information with residents on our social media channels and thought it's only fair that we share that with our Aloe readers as well. You can be part of the conversation with #Social Media Chats every month, where we share a selection of informative questions and answers that were discussed on our social media channels.

Potholes across the city continue to worsen and are causing damage to vehicles. What progress has the City made in repairing rain-damaged roads now that the rainy season has subsided?

The City of Windhoek is actively implementing its pothole repair programme to address road damage caused by recent rainfall. Maintenance works are currently underway at identified priority locations across the city. Subject to favourable weather conditions and minimal disruptions, the City anticipates completing the current phase of repairs by June 2026.

How much funding did the City receive from the Roads Fund Administration (RFA) for road maintenance?

For the 2025/2026 financial year, the City requested a minimum allocation of N\$180.2 million from the Roads Fund Administration to support traffic-related maintenance, in accordance with the Road Fund Administration Act (Act 18 of 1999).

However, the City was allocated N\$45 million. While this contribution is appreciated, it represents less than 12% of the estimated annual requirement of approximately N\$384 million, as determined by the City's Pavement Management System.

What plans are in place to improve access to reliable and affordable public transport for residents in informal settlements?

The City's long-term transport strategy is guided by the Sustainable Urban Transport Master Plan (SUTMP), which aims to promote equitable, affordable, and environmentally sustainable mobility. Key priorities include the expansion of public transport, development of non-motorised transport infrastructure, introduction of express bus routes, and improved integration between land use and transport systems.

The expansion of municipal bus services into informal settlements is dependent on road formalisation. As these areas are upgraded, the City intends to integrate them into structured public transport networks. Additionally, the MOVE Windhoek initiative, supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), seeks to enhance service reliability, frequency, and coverage across the metropolitan area.

Why is the City investing in additional burial land while there is a need for residential land? What informed the decision to secure 21.5 hectares in Rocky Crest, and how long will the new cemetery meet demand?

The acquisition of 21.5 hectares for a new cemetery in Rocky Crest was informed by comprehensive spatial planning data, historical burial trends, population growth projections, and long-term demand modelling. These considerations ensure the sustainable provision of burial space in line with the City's planning obligations.

The current phase of development will provide approximately 10,200 graves. Based on an average burial rate of around 960 burials per year, the facility is expected to meet demand for approximately 10 to 11 years under normal conditions. This estimate excludes second interments, which are permitted under municipal policy and may extend the operational lifespan of the cemetery.

What is the total amount owed to the municipality by defaulters, and how does this impact service delivery?

The total outstanding debt owed to the City of Windhoek across water, electricity, rates, and taxes exceeds N\$800 million, with arrears extending up to 120 days.

These outstanding amounts place significant pressure on the City's cash flow, which in turn affects the timely implementation of planned projects and slows the delivery of essential services. Furthermore, it impacts the City's ability to meet its financial obligations to bulk service providers such as NamPower and NamWater, who supply electricity and water we provide to residents.





City of Windhoek

Vision: To be a Sustainable and Caring City by 2027



FIRE SAFETY TIP: Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)

- Regularly test for gas leaks by applying soapy water to connections and watching for bubbles.



- Always keep the cylinder in a well-ventilated area and never position it near drains or enclosed spaces.



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Aloe "seen around"



The scenes of the Easter Gospel Night Show, a beautiful night of worship and praise it was.



Aloe "seen around"



During the windhoek Karneval (WIKa) after receiving the key or permission to rule the city for the next 11 days by Windhoek deputy mayor Albertina Amutenya.

Learn more about the stories behind these photos on our social media channels!

E-mail: cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na



**OUR CALL CENTRE NUMBER HAS CHANGED
YOU CAN NOW REACH US ON OUR NEW NUMBER:**

081 950 3777

**For all your service enquiries,
reports & assistance**



Operating Hours

Mon–Fri: 06h00–22h00 | **Afterhours Standby:** 22h00–06h00

Sat, Sun & Public Holidays: 08h00–18h00 | **Afterhours Standby:** 18h00–06h00

Email: enquiry@windhoekcc.org.na

