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MEDIA RELEASE

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Windhoek to Host the First Annual Kapana Festival: A Celebration of Namibia's Culinary Heritage

The Municipal Council of Windhoek is excited to announce the inaugural **Annual Windhoek City Kapana Festival** from **22 to 23 November 2024** in the heart of the city. This festival promises a cultural and culinary journey that highlights Namibia's rich heritage through its beloved street food, Kapana. Set to take place from **10:00 to 23:00** along Independence Avenue in front of the Municipal Head Office, this vibrant event will showcase Namibia's dynamic food traditions, from sizzling beef to flavorful local salsas.

Themed "**Savour Local**," the festival invites residents and visitors alike to experience the city's meat-loving culture and sample the best of Namibian street food. With Windhoek's unique blend of cultures and traditions, the festival offers an ideal setting for people to enjoy local flavors, celebrate cultural diversity, and foster social unity.

Why Kapana?

Kapana, a traditional open-fire grilled meat, holds a special place in Namibian hearts and appetites. Rooted in Namibia's identity as a top beef producer, particularly in regions like Khomas, Otjozondjupa, and Omaheke, Kapana reflects the country's dedication to quality, flavor, and tradition. Locally known by various names in Namibia's languages "Kapana" in Oshiwambo, "Braaivleis" in Afrikaans, and "Outete" in Otjiherero, this flavorful dish represents the essence of Namibian street culture.

Festival Highlights

The Annual Windhoek City Kapana Festival will feature an array of mouthwatering kapana-style dishes, traditional sides, and drinks from both established and upcoming vendors. The festival also aims to promote inclusivity, with diverse options such as mutton, chicken, fish, and even vegan alternatives for those with dietary restrictions. In addition to food, visitors can enjoy:

- **Live Music and Entertainment:** From renowned local artists like Tate Buti, Adora, Yeezir, and DJ Siya, to a kid-friendly corner with dedicated activities, the festival promises a lively atmosphere for all ages.
- **Kapana Cooking Competition:** Vendors will compete to be crowned the best Kapana chef, with guests invited to sample and vote for their favorites.
- **Corporate and Community Stands:** Local businesses can showcase their services and join the culinary celebration by hiring Kapana masters to cater to their staff.

Economic and Cultural Benefits

The festival provides an invaluable opportunity to support small businesses and emerging entrepreneurs. By giving exposure to local vendors and creating a platform for food artisans to promote their unique recipes, the event also enhances the city's economic landscape. Not only will the festival drive culinary tourism and boost short-term employment, but it will also circulate funds within the community, supporting livelihoods and enriching Windhoek's vibrant Central Business District.

The Annual Windhoek City Kapana Festival is more than an event; it is a celebration of the entrepreneurial spirit, a way to unite people from all walks of life, and a chance to experience Namibia's cultural diversity through food. The Municipal Council of Windhoek welcomes everyone to join in this exciting new tradition and savor the best that Windhoek has to offer.

Food Safety Commitment

As always, the City of Windhoek prioritizes food safety and hygiene. Our Health Inspectors will work closely with vendors to ensure proper food handling practices, providing a clean and safe environment for everyone to enjoy.

Event Details:

- **Event:** Annual Windhoek City Kapana Festival
- **Date:** 22–23 November 2024
- **Time:** 10:00 – 23:00
- **Location:** Independence Avenue, CBD, Windhoek
- **Entry:** Free for all

Join us to celebrate Namibian flavors and community spirit. Experience the heart of Windhoek through its iconic street food – Kapana!

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ISSUED BY:
City of Windhoek
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Corporate Communications, Marketing, and Public Participation

For more information about this statement, please contact our Corporate Communication Section at Tel.: 061 290 3797 /2044, or email: cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na