

Date: 15 March 2021
To: Phalaborwa Herald Newspaper
From: Palabora Mining Company (PMC): Manager for Transformation, Stakeholder Engagement and Communications, Mr. Abby Ledwaba

Ref: **A Jet Sewer Machine that aims to end sanitation challenges in Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality**

Immediate Release

The world is grappling with the new normal brought by COVID-19. Picture the role that hygiene in line with water provision and sanitation plays in ensuring that people mitigate against the spread of the virus”, said Cllr Meriam Malatji, Ba-Phalaborwa Mayor. She further extended her appreciation to Palabora Mining Company (PMC) in collaboration with the Palabora Foundation for donating the Jet Sewer machine which she believes will elevate the level of service delivery to the community at large.

This machine is set to reduce backlog on clearing sewer blockages that have been troubling the residents of Ba-Phalaborwa. Nozipho Zitha, PMC Transformation Superintendent was excited at the idea of handing over the long awaited machine, “When we received the letter from the Municipality requesting for the machine, we did not hesitate to respond positively to their plea because we understood the sense of urgency and the change the Jet Sewer machine can bring about to our people. As a business, the health and safety of our community is a priority, therefore if we commit to something, we will ensure that we do it even though it may take time in some instances”.

Gift Hlungwane, Manager, Water Services at Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality extended his words of appreciation during the handover. “Thank you, PMC, for helping us in keeping our town clean. It is heartbreaking to see our roads flooded with water, which ultimately ruins the quality of the roads. The Jet Sewer Machine will make a huge difference and assist us in maintaining good hygiene and sanitation. Thank you once again for putting our people first.”

He further explained that it will take long to eradicate the sanitation crisis due to inadequate resources that the municipality is currently facing to solve the sewage challenges. On his list of



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needed resources was a Tractor Loader Backhoe (TLB) and a water pump which he believes will also help in ending this dilemma.

The municipality is one of PMC's valuable stakeholders, therefore it is in our interest to ensure mutually beneficial relations and continuous partnership for the benefit of all the residents of Ba-Phalaborwa. The official handover of the equipment which happened on the 10th of March 2021 at Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality was also graced with the presence of the Palabora Foundation team and officials from the Municipality.

End.