

THE RESURGENCE OF COVID-19 AND OTHER MATTERS



Bagaetsho,

I am writing to you with some urgency to alert you to the fact that, here in the Bojanala District, in the North West province and in many other places in South Africa, the number of COVID-19 cases is on the rise. In fact, President Cyril Ramaphosa addressed our nation on Sunday, 30 May to alert us to this rise in cases and to place the country on lockdown Level 2.

Statistics gathered by our own COVID-19 Task Unit show that, as of 10 June, 296 new cases of COVID-19 with no new deaths recorded in Bojanala. Since we were first struck by the pandemic last year, there have been 33 480 cases and 548 deaths recorded in Bojanala.

While it is pleasing to report that there have been 30 369 recoveries, we cannot be complacent in the face of the third wave.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

Vaccination of health workers, who are the most vulnerable, is ongoing and at an advanced stage. RBN and its partners have started a vaccination outreach programme for people 60 years and older in all RBN villages. This outreach was started to prevent the elderly from travelling long distances to receive their vaccinations. The schedule for the vaccination programme has been posted on our Facebook page, so please visit the page to learn more.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Due to COVID-19, it has been some time since we have been able to communicate with each other, face to face, according to our long-established traditions.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO TAKE ALL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS



We must continue to practise all the COVID-19 precautions we are now familiar with, to try to contain the spread of infection:

- wearing masks;
- washing our hands frequently;
- social distancing; and
- avoiding crowded places as much as possible.

I refer here particularly to Makgotla, Kgotha-Kgothe and Dumela Phokeng.

We are looking at ways we can get back to doing Kgotha-Kgothe and Dumela Phokeng safely. We will keep you posted on our progress with this and ask you for your patience and understanding in the meantime.

It was recently announced that Makgotla would resume from 1 May but, due to the rise in the number of infections, it has been decided to suspend these again until further notice, as a safety precaution.

TRIBAL COURT

The proceedings at the Tribal Court have been suspended; you will be notified when work resumes. When operational again, strict COVID-19 precautions will be followed. Only invited members will be allowed inside the Court; observers will not be allowed to attend.

SERVICES

While most of the Royal Bafokeng entities' staff continue to work from home, again as a safety precaution, please be assured that all essential services are still available to you.

THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all, on behalf of the Royal Family, for the support received at the time of the passing of our dear mother and grandmother and since then. Her loss continues to be felt, of course.

As the Royal Family, we are very aware that we have not been alone in experiencing the loss of a loved one recently. Close to home and indeed, across the world, COVID-19 particularly has brought so much suffering to many, many families.

If there is anything we can learn as human beings in this continuing struggle against the pandemic, it is to be kinder and more caring towards each other. We are all in this together.

Please help to keep yourselves, your families, colleagues, friends and neighbours safe.

Kgosi Leruo Tshekedi Molotlegi

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