



NLC Responds to Raymond Joseph's facetious allegations

Date: 22 March 2019

The National Lotteries Commission has noted with great concern a frivolous report authored by Raymond Joseph. The report was first published on GroundUp and further syndicated to other media houses.

The report insinuates that the NLC has been awarding grants to associates of Mr Lesly Ramulifho.

The NLC dismisses this mischievous personal vendetta that is disguised as journalism with the contempt it deserves. We have been reiterating to Raymond Joseph, for quite some time now, that the NLC do not fund individuals but, Non-profit making entities that are doing work to uplift communities. Joseph has consistently ignored this basic policy and founding principle of the NLC.

The attacks continue despite the NLC inviting Raymond Joseph on several occasions, with the intention of clarifying the NLC processes and procedures to better equip him to write accurate media articles on the NLC and its beneficiaries. Suffice to say, Joseph continues to rely on inaccurate, and unlawfully obtained and processed information that continue to mislead the public.

Joseph has been on a crusade to tarnish the image of the NLC. Out of this the NLC can today reveal that Joseph has been conniving with Ado Krige. Krige is a service provider to Denzhe Primary Care on a drug rehabilitation project the NLC funded. Ramulifho is a member of Denzhe Primary Care. Krige and Ramulifho have since been in conflict and they are seeking resolution before the courts. The NLC would like to make it categorically clear that the conflict between Ramulifho and Krige has got nothing to do with the organization but affecting the implementation of a funded project.

We are now aware that in all his communication Krige copied Raymond Joseph. This brings to question the credibility of Joseph's journalism and ethics. Joseph must explain to us why he is part of Krige's attempt to blackmail and extort money from the NLC. We have email proof to which Joseph even responded. The NLC take a dim view on Joseph's silly insinuation that grants are awarded to Ramulifho's associates. The NLC has got policies and procedures on grant

adjudication and allocation as stated in the Lotteries Act and wishes to reiterate that due process has been complied with in the appointment of implementing entities for the execution of the projects he refers to.

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These projects were funded because of challenges experienced by the schools in the rural parts of Eastern Cape and Limpopo where the disadvantaged communities still struggle with the basic right to sanitation. The cases of Lumka Mthetwa in the Eastern Cape who was a Grade R pupil aged 5 years, living in Mbizana, Eastern Cape of Luna Primary School and Micheal Komape also 5 years old of Mahlodumela Primary School in Limpopo, who tragically passed away in 2014 and 2018 respectively because of the inhumane conditions of the “pit toilets” in their schools. As a result of the empowering provisions of the Lotteries Act 57 of 1997, as amended which permits direct intervention in the form of pro-active funding, the NLC saw it fit to intervene and respond to this worthy good cause.

The NLC has funded the construction of ablution facilities in ten (10) schools within the jurisdiction of the most disadvantaged communities in our country with the intention of restoring the dignity of the young black children in post democratic South Africa. To this end the NLC has appointed professional, independent engineers to assist in the quality assurance of these projects and the monitoring and evaluation thereof. The progress reports depicting work done to date in all schools within the aforementioned provinces are attached hereto for ease of reference.

We assure the Public and our beneficiaries that the NLC remains committed to clean governance and all allegations of misuse of funds by the beneficiaries are taken seriously and investigated thoroughly.

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