

Keynote and Message of Support by the Mayor of Collins Chabane Local Municipality, Her Worship, Cllr Bila Tintswalo Joyce during the Munghana Lonene Line-Up and Transmitter Launch held at the Worship Tabernacle Christian Church at Mavambe Village. The session was held at 16h30.

Acknowledgements:

- **Program Directors;**
- **The Honorable Speaker of Collins Chabane Local Municipality, Cllr Lebea Madume Elvis;**
- **The Chief Whip of Collins Chabane Local Municipality, Honorable Cllr Chauke Miyelani Gladstone;**
- **Executive Committee Members present here;**
- **Fellow Councillors;**
- **Hosi Mavambe and your Royal Council;**
- **Munghana Lonene Station Manager, Mr. Laurence Ubisi and your dedicated team;**
- **The Municipal Manager of Collins Chabane Local Municipality, Ms Ngobeni Tsakani Charlotte;**
- **Our decorated pastor, Pastor Malumane BR;**
- **Officials from Collins Chabane Municipality;**
- **Representatives from Sector Departments;**
- **The media fraternity as a whole;**
- **Collins Chabane Chamber of Business;**
- **Distinguished guests;**
- **All community structures represented;**
- **Media houses;**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen;**

Good evening!

It is an honour and indeed a great privilege for me to be accorded this opportunity to say a few words, in support of this historic event of the Munghana Lonene Line-Up and Transmitter Launch which is organized here at Collins Chabane Municipality in the Tabernacle Christian Church tonight.

My pleasure is coupled with the fact that – as a municipality – we are hosting a second SABC event in the barometers of our community. You will all remember that we organized the Munghana-Lonene and Phalaphala FM Mini Festival at Tshikonelo Tribal Council on the 3rd of March 2018 – which was (in my view), a successful event.

Program Director,

Let me on the outset, appreciate the SABC for a sterling job of being true to their functions as a radio station, and for being a true mediator of change and a merchant of unity in our area. Our municipality covers people of varied traditions, characters and beliefs. We are an area with potential to become an exemplary and trend-setter in the embracement of diversity. An area so rich with interesting heritage and glaring warmth.

Hambi swi ri tano, a hi swikoti tani hi mfumu, ku humesela erivaleni migingiriko xikanwe na xintu xa hina eka vaaka-tiko leswaku va swi tiva.

Hikokwalaho hi dinga vuhangalasi bya mahungu byo tani hi Munghana Lonene, leswaku miva nomo wa hina, hi ta kota ku fikelela eka vaakatiko. Hi ni fanelo yaku tivisa vaaka-tiko hi vukorhokeri lebyi hi va endlelaka byona.

Ngoho, nyanda dza mafhungo ndi tshone tshiko tsha tshanduko i todeaho. Nahone, na sa vha hone, Afrika Tshipembe li nga si kone u swikelela todea dzalo. Muvhuso a u nga divhei, nahone vathu vhashu vha balangana.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Munghana-Lonene's wide accessibility is a result of a number of factors, including the liberalization policies of the 'third wave' of democracy and its ability to transcend the barriers of cost, geographical boundaries, the colonial linguistic heritage and low literacy levels.

This positions the station strategically in facilitating political debate through programs such as **"Africa-wa-Vulavula,"** in shaping identities and assisting listeners as they discuss the challenges of everyday life in South Africa during programs such as **"Tidyondzo, Dzumba na Mina** and **Gingirikani."** It also accommodates children programs, as well as the late night **"Phofula"** with **Khel-Khel Makelani.**

We also appreciate the stress-confiscating programs such as the famous **Phaphama; Three-to-Six-Twii; Dzumba-na-Mina** and **Music Charts** to name just a few. This station covers everything including religious programs and fun. It empowers us with useful information and enables us to share views and learn from one another.

We are very pleased therefore, with the role that Munghana Lonene and the Media Fraternity at large is playing in mapping the future of our communities. We believe that media – particularly, radio – endorses social innovation, and the making of new publics. It creates listening communities that radically shift the nature of the public sphere. It creates a robust public domain.

Program Director,

Tonight Munghana Lonene is pronouncing new Line-Ups and the new Transmitter of 91.9Mhz which will improve its accessibility. They have chosen the month of April, which marks an auspicious moment in South African history and experience as we mark 24 years since the demise of official apartheid.

Elsewhere, the seemingly stubborn challenges of poverty, social inequality, discrimination and tyranny continue to bedevil our people.

The transformation in Munghana Lonene presents a fitting occasion to embark on the kinds of retrospection, introspection and predictions that look both at the past and the future in more fluid and dynamic ways – particularly in relation to the shadows and unfinished business of apartheid and the possibilities for imagining and creating a more just, egalitarian and humane world.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This program also affords us an opportunity to honour the Mother of the Nation, Manana Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, who was laid to rest last Saturday in Soweto. Her conviction was to free the marginalized from the hands of the minority.

In order for us to pronounce that we have indeed fully achieved Mama's democratic objectives, we must create a nation that can easily access information. The launching of this new transmitter will ensure that more and more people are able to access information. I believe that an uninformed generation threatens the national democratic tradition and the credibility of our democracy.

Program Director,

People who don't follow current events are less informed at election time. They are also less able to provide the societal dialogue and political pressure that needs to happen between election cycles. This lack of civic information is dangerous for a nation founded on the notion whose power rests within the citizenry.

If this trend continues, the very potency of our democracy will be at jeopardy. This may also affect our youth when they begin to assume leadership roles in society – their stewardship may be uninformed – and therefore, Collins Chabane and South Africa will have no future.

Program Director,

As we celebrate the growth of Munghana Lonene FM and its exploration to new and greater innovations, let us learn to be a

listening community. Let us allow radio to keep us in a touching distance with the affairs of our surroundings.

I am personally pleased that Munghana Lonene is swiftly coming down to its people. Our people must not hide behind a veil of detachment, but instead we must make a passionate argument for the view that Munghana Lonene play a significant role in the deepening of our democratic principles.

Program Director,

Let me conclude by indicating that the ANC led government and the leadership of Collins Chabane Municipality remains committed to the democratic objectives of the Constitution, and the freedom of radio, and media as a whole.

I thank you!