



25TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER & 2017 GRADUATION CEREMONY

Delivered by Cllr Ntandoyenkosi Khuzwayo,

March 24, 2017

Durban Exhibition Centre, Coast Of Dreams

Programme Director,

Chairlady - Ms Cynthia Joyce of SACCAWU,

Vice Chair - Mr Richard Hlophe of SANCO,

Members of the Staff of Workers' College Natal,

Trade Unions Present,

Leaders,

Community Activists,

Graduates,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Sanibonani,

First and foremost I would like to thank you for making us a part of this worthy function. It is a privilege to welcome you all to the 25th Anniversary Gala Dinner and Graduation Ceremony of the Workers' College. We recently celebrated Human Rights day, which allows for all human beings

to have rights simply because they are human, and today we are here to celebrate a fundamental right, which is a right to education.

Education is an essential gateway to other human rights as it promotes individual freedom and harvests important development benefits. A graduation ceremony is a life-long achievement in anybody's life, as it is one of the most memorable events no matter what your age, position, gender, race or sexuality. You being here today, already proves that you are diligent self-starters who are ready to make a mark in life.

The workers college is a special Institution which has been offering education to working workers; work leaders and community activists, giving them an opportunity to plough their trade and grow as individuals.

As eThekweni Municipality we encourage education development practices to not only assist on the progression of skills that also assist in the demands of the industry. Education serves as a weapon in the fight against socio-economic ills such as unemployment and poverty.

The Municipality offers an opportunity for businesses, schools and training colleges, established as a Skills Development Agency at the Sizakala Customer Centre in Umlazi, MegaCity, which is intended to help people obtain information and find out more about the training courses offered.

South Africans, regardless of Age, gender or sexuality need to learn the art of empowering one another. We need to encourage or leaders and community activists to stop stealing from their people, but instead build each other and start taking responsibility for our actions/lack, working towards finding solutions to some our problems.

In closing, I would like to congratulate you all for qualifying to attend today's graduation, as I declare this ceremony open.

Nelson Mandelas once said, "An educated, enlightened, and informed population is one of the surest ways of promoting the health of a democracy."

I thank you.