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Finance, Economy & Enterprise Development

North West Provincial Government  
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## Media Statement

**To : All Editors and Journalists**

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### North West Province committed to 6% economic growth by 2019

Despite the current economic challenges, the North West province is committed to pull out all stops to fully exploit economic potential with the focus on Agriculture, Culture and Tourism sectors as strategic economic pillars to grow its economy by the targeted six percent by 2019.

Delivering her department's R 486 million budget vote in the Provincial Legislature, Finance, Economy and Enterprise Development MEC, Mme Wendy Nelson said the need for the province to diversify its economy cannot be over emphasized in order to mitigate the risks of over reliance on the mining sector, which has been the backbone of provincial economy.

The budget vote deliberately seeks to support economic growth by ensuring value for public finance spent, economic sector development, and diversification.

Nelson said within the context of the Villages, Township and Small Dorpies (VTSD) strategy, the budget will be an instrument to improve the lives of the marginalized and disadvantaged people of Bokone Bophirima.

She further added that the unfavourable economic conditions facing the country and the province which led to the reduction in budget allocations will not deter the provincial government in implementing developmental programmes which seek to radically transform the socio-economic conditions of the province and its citizens underpinned by the interventionist programmes introduced by the fifth administration: The programmes include Bua le Puso, Setsokotsane and Reconciliation, Healing and Renewal.

The Bokone Bophirima Government re-affirms its commitment to achieve the 6% growth rate by 2019 through its provincial economic pillars; namely, Agriculture, Culture and Tourism (ACT)



**Together moving Bokone Bophirima forward.**

and tributaries such as mining and beneficiation, service industries, manufacturing and green economy within the context of the National Development Plan (NDP).

The NDP proposes that the South African economy should grow by 5.4% per annum in order to create additional jobs for the many unemployed South Africans, reduce unemployment to 6% in 2030 and reduce income inequality.

As a province we are fully committed to growing a diversified and prosperous economy *and the "Saamwerk- Saamtrek"* philosophy compels us to work together to achieve the 6 per cent growth rate. In order to achieve the 6 per cent, public private partnership anchored on co-operatives and SMMEs becomes essential.

We want to urge the people of this province to support this administration in its efforts to massify economic participation in this Province. We recognize that this road will not be easy and that we will face many challenges, we are ready for them, said MEC Nelson.

The provincial economy enjoyed economic growth of 5 per cent in 2005 which is the highest peak since 1996 and since then the economic growth only hovered around 2.5 per cent.

## Ends

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