



MEDIA RELEASE

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Exciting agricultural learnership programme

The Vineyard Academy in collaboration with the Mayoral Office has established an Agricultural Learnership.

A group of 60 young individuals gathered in the Municipal Council Chambers on Monday, 23 October where they participated in a pre-assessment as part of the learnership admission process.

This learnership focuses on both the Greater Knysna unemployed youth and young entrepreneurs. The objectives of this programme are critically interlinked and include youth development through access to skills and career development; supporting land reform; and enterprise development.

These learners will be taught about mixed farming methods, and plant and animal production. The completion of the qualification can enable a career path in farm management, entrepreneurial development or formation of co-ops.

Knysna Executive Mayor, Eleanore Bouw-Spies said, "I am delighted about the partnership with the Vineyard Academy and I am grateful that the Department of Agriculture has also come on board. Due to my previous career as a teacher, I have always been passionate about youth development and education, a passion that has grown through my political career. I believe that it is partnerships such as these give us the perfect opportunity to develop and grow our future leaders and build inclusive, innovative and inspired communities."

The selected participants will undergo a training programme comprising of a Logical Integration of National Certificates, NQF 2 and NQF 4 over a period of 10 months. All learners will receive a monthly stipend of R1 800, which will be dependent on their class attendance. The group is scheduled to commence with the programme on Wednesday, 1 November.

ENDS

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