



FOR PSA MEMBERS: **DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE AND RECREATION - FREE STATE**

03-04-2025

## The Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation problems reported to PSA

The PSA would like to inform members about an upcoming Departmental Task Team meeting with the Department of Sport, Arts, Culture, and Recreation to discuss several important issues. Members' attention to the following points is crucial:

### **Approval for PSA members to attend meetings**

According to GPSSBC Resolution 3 of 2014, Paragraph 4.3 grants the PSA the right to hold meetings at workplaces. However, the PSA faces challenges in obtaining approval for these meetings and in getting district managers to release members. Despite sending emails to district managers, the PSA has not received responses, particularly from the Thaba Mofutsanyane, Xhariep, and Fezile Dabi districts at Library Services. The PSA requests a clear procedural circular to ensure both the PSA and the employer understand the approval process and the release of members for meetings. The PSCBC resolution also allows for mass meetings in towns with approval from the Free State Director General. However, district managers often do not release members even when the DG grants approval. We seek clear directions on this matter.

### **Training to handle snakes at the Basotho Cultural Village (BCV)**

PSA and shop stewards have raised concerns about the presence of snakes at the BCV premises. Employees frequently encounter snakes and are unsure how to respond. There is no snake-bite kit available, and employees lack training in identifying snakes and handling snake encounters. The PSA requests that employees at the BCV receive training on snake identification, appropriate actions when confronted with snakes, and procedures to follow in case of a snake bite.

### **Cleaning material**

Numerous complaints have been received from members working in centers and libraries about the lack of cleaning materials. The PSA seeks clarification on how cleaning materials are ordered and distributed to libraries and centers.

### **Tools of Trade**

There is a shortage of equipment at the Arts Centre in Qwa-Qwa and the BCV. The Arts centre was promised new equipment in 2023, but it has been delayed to 2024 and now to 2025. The PSA requests clarity on the way forward and a plan for providing the necessary equipment. Employees at the BCV need proper tools for grass cutting and maintenance. Despite raising this issue with management, the PSA has not received a response and requests an update on the plan for providing the required tools.

PSA will provide feedback to members when the meeting has taken place.

For any inquiries or assistance, please contact the Bloemfontein office at 051 403 1300 / 051 403 1315 or email at [bloem@psa.co.za](mailto:bloem@psa.co.za).

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