



BCM to host Salga National Assembly

The City will host the National Members Assembly (NMA), the most senior decision making body in organised local government after the National Conference from June 10 to 11.

The country's 283 municipalities will deploy their Mayors, Speakers, Councillors and top municipal officials who will be joined by MEC's and Cabinet Ministers at the South African Local Government Association (Salga) Assembly.

The 2009 edition of the NMA will be a watershed event whose structure and content will, amongst other imperatives, be determined by national priorities, especially in the area of municipal service delivery.

The meeting comes hot on the heels of national and provincial elections as well as the State of the Nation address. It is therefore envisaged that local government will be obliged to reposition itself to effectively implement the wider policies and programmes of Government at large in accordance with the mandate entrusted by the electorate.

For the City, the event presents an opportunity for BCM to – at our doorstep – interact and benchmark itself amongst other Cities and learn on their experiences.

The City was a proud recipient of the Vuna Awards as the Best Local Municipality in the province last year and the Assembly allows is to consolidate in areas of excellence and improve on challenges.

The Assembly also presents a significant human resource pool at the disposal of our top ambassadors who can pull from their counterpart's experiences.

A well governed City that is home to world class expanding manufacturers, Buffalo City is financially stable with an annual budget of more than R3 billion.

Buffalo City is South Africa's 7th largest city. Home to nearly a million people spread over 2 500 square kilometers of municipal land, it is one of the country's secondary cities and one of the nine members of the South African Cities' Network which together accounts for 80% of the GDP of Africa's powerhouse.

Buffalo City Executive Mayor Zukisa Faku who will be welcoming delegates described the hosting of the event as very important for the City.

"It will not only boost the local economy but will expose the City's rich culture and other tourist attractions such as the beach front, the shopping malls and heritage sites," Faku said.

The event will take place at the Regent Hotel.

Visit www.salga.org.za for more info.