

# Province retains award

## PROVINCIAL HUMAN SETTLEMENTS DEPARTMENT TOP OF THE PILE

NOKUTHULA NTULI

THE KwaZulu-Natal department of human settlements and public works has again scooped the coveted best provincial department award in the performance delivery category at the annual Govan Mbeki Awards at the Durban ICC last night.

The awards, which are hosted by Human Settlements Minister Lindiwe Sisulu, honour men and women in the construction sector and the provinces who continue to excel in the delivery of housing.

This is the third time the KZN human settlements department has won this national award for its commitment in providing innovative and sustainable houses.

In the 2013-14 financial year, 29 151 houses were built with 29 312 the following year and in the past year at least 27 115 were built and 3 404 units were rectified or refurbished. During his budget speech in April, human settlements MEC Ravi Pillay said the delivery target for 2016-17 is 21 063 units and 8 829 sites.

To the surprise of some, among the other top performers last night was

Glebelands Hostel which has been notorious for violence and crime. The hostel scooped the best community residential units project award following its recent revamp to include more than 100 two-bedroom family units.

The KZN Rental Housing Tribunal beat the Eastern Cape and North West provinces who were runners up for the best rental housing tribunal award.



**Dumnisani Makhaye**

KZN's first housing MEC Dumnisani Makhaye was posthumously honoured with a lifetime achievement 12 years after he died following a long battle with lung cancer in 2004.

"The news that he would be acknowledged for his contribution to the South Africa we have today came as a surprise but it was a welcome one indeed because we thought the people he struggled and served with had forgotten about him," Makhaye's brother Mandla Makhaye said.

"I think my brother would be happy about receiving this award and I believe he would be most proud of how the ANC-led government has changed the lives of people for the better. However, he would mostly likely say more still needs to be done."