

# Copesville residents celebrate Human Rights month with title deeds

For 158 residents of Copesville, March 22 will live long in their memory as they were finally handed title deeds that confirmed their ownership of houses they had occupied since 1994.

KwaZulu-Natal Human Settlements MEC Ravi Pillay expressed his delight at presenting title deeds to residents.

"Even though there is a backlog of title deeds we are working on handing them out. There is a new mood of hope and optimism, the future is bright. There are three things that must happen - we must grow the economy, we must fight corruption, and there must be economic transformation," said the MEC.

He said the handover of the title deeds was part of government's affirmation of human rights.

"You must be brave and forceful.

Fight, stand up for your rights, always be respectful. Never be insulting when you



**KwaZulu-Natal Human Settlements MEC Ravi Pillay, Msunduzi Mayor Themba Njilo, Ward 29 councillor Spha Madlala with some of the residents of Copesville who received title deeds on March 22.**

stand up for your rights. That is the culture we are trying to instill. As we celebrate the centenary of Nelson Mandela it is

meaningless if we do not practice the values that he lived and died for", the MEC stressed.

He also made an impassioned plea against the selling of homes, stressing that they must keep their title deeds safe.

Msunduzi Mayor Themba Njilo also joined in on congratulating new home owners

"I would like to congratulate the 158 beneficiaries who have occupied the houses post 1994 and have waited a long time for this day and will now receive their title deeds."

Ward 29 councillor Spha Sydney Madlala said he was pleased and thankful for the success in the handing out of the title deeds that was in line with radical development.

"We have given 158 title deeds out today. It is a historical day. You now have a property and a piece of land. We do not encourage you to sell the property you have received today. I would like to thank the ANC and municipality for such a development in our community," said Madlala."



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