



EASTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

HON LEANDER KRUGER, MPL

BCom Law (Rhodes), LLB, LLM (Taxation)(NMU)



**Shadow MEC
Member** Sports, Recreation, Arts & Culture.
Standing Committee on Public Accounts.
Community Safety.

Provincial Legislature
Private Bag x0051
Bhisho, 5605

Cell: 083 380 9754
Email: 99leander@gmail.com

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Chairperson
South African Geographical Names Council
Sechaba House
Pretoria
0001

Dear Mr. J. Mohlala

RE: Meaningful consultation on Eastern Cape Name Changes

I am writing in connection to the recent geographical name changes of East London to KuGomo City, Graaff-Reinet to Robert Sobukwe Town, Aberdeen to Xamdeboo, Adendorp to KwaMseki Bishop Limba and Nieu-Bethesda to Kwa Noheleni in the Eastern Cape.

The Democratic Alliance acknowledges the importance of restoring historical dignity and acknowledging the contribution of liberation figures such as Robert Sobukwe. However, such decisions must be founded on lawful process, meaningful public consultation and transparent decision making.

These name changes carry significant operational and economic consequences. Affected stakeholders including small businesses required to rebrand; tourism operators needing to amend marketing material and essential services and systems such as emergency response, postal services, mapping platforms and property records which must be amended at considerable cost.

In this regard, I request clarity on the following:

- The consultation records and criteria that informed these decisions
- The projected costs and implementation timelines and;
- Measures being taken to reopen meaningful engagement with affected communities and business sectors

While communities deserve dignity, they are equally entitled to democratic processes. I look forward to your response within 7 days.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kruger".

Leander Kruger, MPL
Constituency Leader: Buffalo City Metro