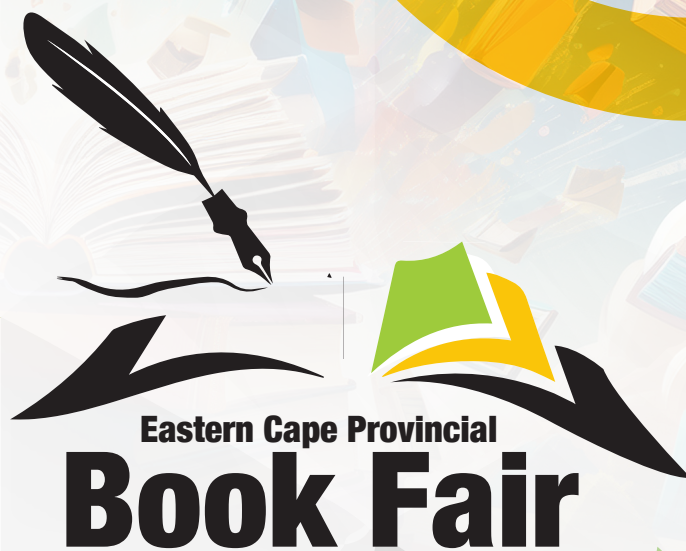




Hon MEC SIBULELE NGONGO
Dept of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture



A literary experience rooted in language,
identity, and imagination



3rd - 5th October 2025
Bush Christian Camp,
Cove Ridge, East London,

'A United, Active and Winning Province Through Sport, Recreation, Arts, Culture & Heritage'





Hon MEC SIBULELE NGONGO
Dept of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture

WORD FROM THE MEC

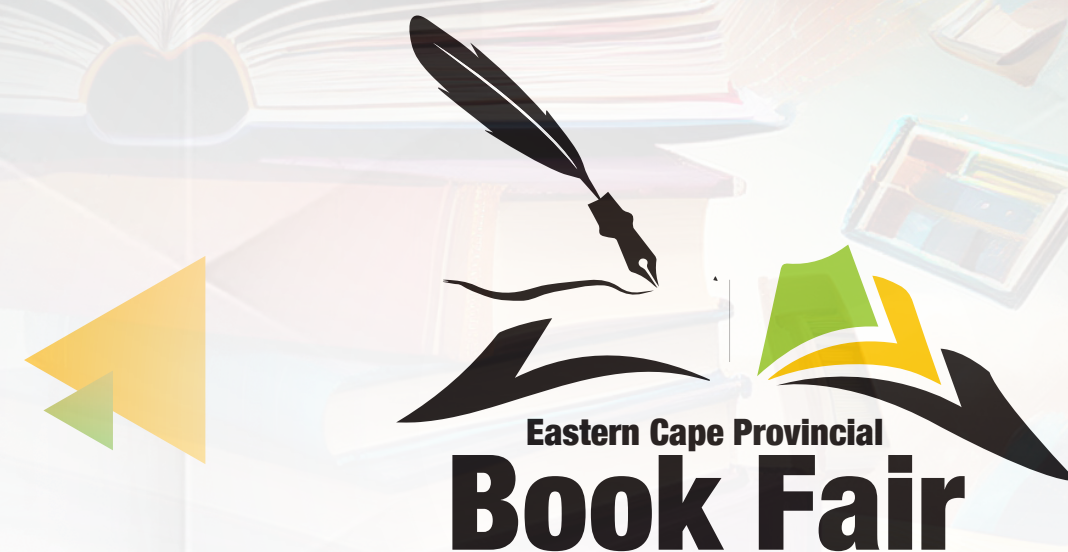
It is with great pleasure and excitement that I welcome you to the second edition of the Eastern Cape Provincial Book Fair. This event stands as a testament to our commitment to fostering a vibrant literary culture within our province. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all our sponsors whose generous support has made this book fair possible.

As a province, we are dedicated to nurturing the talent of our writer to their full potential. Over the years, we have embarked on initiatives aimed at supporting our authors comprehensively. This includes organising writing workshops, assisting in manuscript publishing, and providing platforms for book launches and sales including at the Literature Festival which forms part of the National Arts Festival in Makhanda. Our most recent workshop being the one we hosted in Hogsback

which was graced, by among other, Professor Zakes Mda...a literary legend yelikhaya leengqwele.

Notably, our library section plays a pivotal role by purchasing books directly from our local writers, thereby enabling them to generate sustainable income from their craft. Acknowledging past challenges, particularly in the quality of books published, we are steadfast in our efforts to raise standards. We are particularly excited about our partnership with the Fibre Processing and Manufacturing SETA, which is stepping in to work with us to support our authors and all things literature in the province.

We hope this partnership will be long-lasting, extending beyond this year, to ensure our writers continue to thrive. We also call upon



**A literary experience rooted in language,
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other private sector organisations to join us in this endeavor, as together, we can achieve far more for literature in the Eastern Cape. Silikhaya lababhali. OoNoni Jabavu, ooMqhayi, ooSaule nooKani baphuma apha kweliPhondo lethu and we owe it to them and the future generations to bring this province to its former glory.

I wish to extend a special thanks to Metropolitan for their sponsorship of laptops, which will be handed over to our writers. This contribution will significantly alleviate the challenges faced by many writers, particularly those from disadvantaged rural backgrounds, ensuring they have the necessary tools to excel in their craft. I encourage Metropolitan to consider integrating this initiative into their annual plans and expanding their support to benefit more Eastern Cape writers.

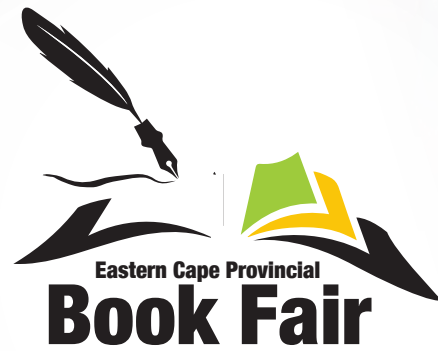
The collaboration with the Nelson Mandela Museum, has been a steadfast partner in this journey. Their support is invaluable, and we look forward to deepening our collaboration in areas of mutual interest, whether through

promoting literary heritage or creating spaces for creative expression. This partnership stands as a shining example of what can be achieved when institutions of government work together for the greater good.

As we celebrate the diversity and richness of Eastern Cape literature at this fair, I call upon other private sector organisations to join us in this noble endeavor and work together in growing the Eastern Cape Provincial Book Fair until it is featured in the calendar events nationally. Together, we can create enduring opportunities for our writers, ensuring their voices resonate far and wide through major bookstores, online platforms, and accessible formats like Braille and audio.

Let us continue to champion literature in our province, nurturing a community where creativity thrives and stories inspire. Thank you once again to all who have contributed to making this event a resounding success. And thank you to all those abayeke izinto zabo to come and be with us today. Siyabulela kakhulu. Sithi kuni nangomso.

Camagu!



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identity, and imagination

Bush
Christian
Camp,
Cove Ridge,
East London,



DAY 1 - 03RD OCTOBER 2025

Programme Director: Siyabulela Makwetu

- 17h00 - Political Briefing
- 18h00 – 18h05 National Anthem
- 18h05 - 18h10 Opening & Welcoming: **Executive Mayor Princess Faku**
- 18h15 – 18h20 Purpose of the Day & Introduction of the premier:
MEC Sibulele Ngongo
- 18h25 – 18h45 Official Opening of the Eastern Cape Provincial Book Fair:
Premier Oscar Mabuyane
- 18h50 – 19h00 Entertainment
- 19h00 – 20h30 Join **Zama Ntshona** as he converses with
MEC Zolile Williams, Siphokazi Mpofu, Jeffrey Rakabe
and Dr Jerry Mofokeng wa Makthetha on,
Becoming a man: Honoring Tradition, Confronting harm
- 20h35 – 20h40 Announcements and Closing
Book Signing and Sale !!!!

DAY 2 - 04TH OCTOBER 2025

- 10h00 – 15h00 **Children's Corner Activities**
- 11h00 – 12h00 Writers Workshop by **Harry's Printers**
- 13h00 – 14h00 **Ronnie Kasrils, Prof Eddie Maloka** will be in conversation
with **Oliver Dickson** on the Power, Politics, Policy and
the Pen, let's unpack South Africa's shifting Political
landscape
- 15h00 – 16h00 **Khaya Dlanga, Michelle Kekana and Nomzekelo Siko** with
Pemelo Motene will be unpacking stories of strength:
Navigating Love, Loss and Mental Healthy.
- 16h15 – 17h20 Performance by **Skwarra on Sax**

DAY 3 - 05TH OCTOBER 2025

- 10h00 – 15h00 – **Children's Corner Activities**
- 11h00 – 12h00 - Writers Workshop by **Harry's Printers**
- 12h30 – 13h30 – **"Sundays are for Lovers"**
with **Dudu Madonsela** on her book: How to win on Umjolo
- 14h00 – 15h00 – Performance by **Skwarra on Sax**

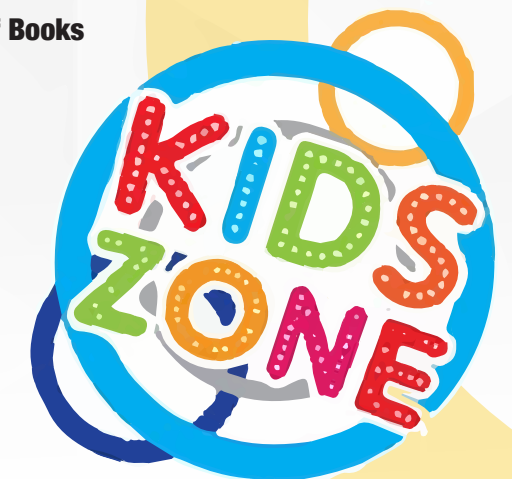
CHILDREN'S CORNER PROGRAM

DAY 2 – 04TH OCTOBER 2025

- 09h00 – 10h00 **REGISTRATION**
- 10h00 – 10h30 Ice break games and Facepainting – by **Nozipho Mbembe**
- 10h35 – 11h00 Interactive book reading with **Nali'bali Mascot**
- 11h05 – 12h00 Presentation by **SAPS**
- 12h05 – 12h15 **BREAK**
- 12h20 – 12h50 Storytelling Performance by **Dr Gcina Mhlope**
- 13h00 – 14h00 Demonstration by **Fire Fighters**
- 14h05 – 15h00 **"Peter Pan's Adventures to Neverland"** - by **Joy of Books**
- 15h05 – 15h30 Indigenous games by **Nozipho Mbembe**

DAY 3 - 05TH OCTOBER 2025

- 09h00 – 10h00 **REGISTRATION**
- 10h00 – 10h30 Facepainting by **Elise Davis & Buntu**
- 10h30 – 11h00 **"Every Book is a Doorway"** – storytelling by
Nozipho Mbembe
- 11h00- 11h30 Presentation by **Department of Health**
- 11h30 – 12h30 The Power of Reading Aloud and Celebrating
One's Mother Tongue: **Dr Gcina Mhlope**
- 12h30 – 13h00 **BREAK**
- 13h05 – 13h45 Cove Rock School – **"Dance Dialogue"**
- 13h45 – 14h30 Demonstrations by **Fire Fighters**
- 14h30 – 15h00 Presentation by **SAPS**
- 15h00 - **CLOSURE**





Dudu Madonsela

The Dating Playbook:
How to Win at Mjolo

ABOUT THE BOOK

The Dating Playbook: How to Win at Mjolo and Love is a sobering, matter-of-fact guide to navigating the dating scene, or mjolo as it is colloquially called. Whether you are dating or in a relationship, Dudu's considered advice will show you the way.



Prof Eddy Maloka

SOUTH AFRICA'S SECOND CHANCE:
the case for a second republic

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Renowned diplomat, academic, author, and poet with over three decades of experience across Africa and beyond. A trusted advisor to South Africa on major global milestones, he has also led key research institutions and lectured at leading universities. He currently serves as Visiting Professor at the University of Johannesburg's Institute for Pan-African Thought and Conversation.



Nomzekelo Siko

Resilient Hearts:
Navigating a Childless Marriage

ABOUT THE BOOK

Resilient Hearts: Navigating a Childless Marriage is an inspiring memoir about love, perseverance, and hope. Sharing her personal journey, Siko encourages couples facing life without children to find healing, purpose, and joy beyond life's challenges.



Siphokazi Vanessa Mpofu

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Author of **Zajik'izinto** and cultural activist uses storytelling, heritage, and activism to spark dialogue, remembrance, and healing in South African communities.



Gcina Mhlophe

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Mhlophe weaves magic with words, bringing African tales to life on stages big and small. Her stories travel the world, in every South African language (and even Braille!), inviting children everywhere to dream, laugh, and discover the joy of books.



Zama Ntshona

FACILITATOR



Oliver Dickson

FACILITATOR

Award-winning broadcaster, writer, and political analyst. Anchors SABC News, hosts on SAfm, and is a sought-after moderator on major conference stages across Africa and beyond.



Phemelo Motene

FACILITATOR

Acclaimed broadcaster, actor, and current affairs host at Kaya 959, celebrated for her insightful, engaging interviews across politics, arts, and culture.



Jerry Mofokeng wa Makhetha

I Am a Man

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

At 58, Dr Jerry Mofokeng wa Makhetha discovered the truth about his father, reshaping his quest for identity. **I Am a Man** is both a moving memoir and a call for South African men to embrace manhood with honesty, accountability, and purpose.



Jeffrey Rakabe

Led by Shepherds:
An Initiate's Memoir

ABOUT THE BOOK

A courageous memoir that exposes the hidden harms of tradition and calls for a new, accountable masculinity. Jeffery talks explicitly about his initiation journey at the age of 12.



Skwara on Sax

Performing
**Saturday & Sunday,
4th - 5th October 2025**



Khaya Dlanga

Life Is Like
That Sometimes

ABOUT THE BOOK

"I hope this book reminds you that you are not alone in your joys or your sorrows. Life, as messy and unpredictable as it is, has a way of weaving beauty and meaning into even the hardest moments."



Michelle Kekana

The Fragile Mental Health of
Strong Women

ABOUT THE BOOK

Discover the untold struggles of women who seem unshakable. A bold and intimate journey into mental health, identity, and the pressures society never sees



MEC Zolile Williams

ABOUT THE PANELIST

A pragmatic and results-driven leader, MEC Williams has dedicated his career to bridging the gap between governance and tradition. His unique perspective on ulwaluko brings valuable insight into how government and traditional leaders can work together to uphold this sacred rite while ensuring the safety and well-being of young



Ronnie Kasrils

Armed and Dangerous:
From Undercover Struggle
to Freedom


ABOUT THE BOOK

The book reveals secret missions, exile, and the fight against apartheid's brutality.

It offers a rare insider's view of South Africa's liberation struggle and its defining moments.

A literary
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Eastern Cape Provincial Book Fair

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Without you, the Book Fair would not have been possible.

Sithi nangamso!

 www.ecsrac.gov.za  Department of Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture EC

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