



agriculture & rural development

Department:
agriculture
& rural development
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF HONOURED DURING THIS YEAR'S PREMIER'S SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Two KZN Department of Agriculture and Rural Development employees walked off with top honours at the Premier's Service Excellence Awards that were held on Thursday evening at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli Convention Centre on 16th July 2015.

Both Nelisiwe Mhlongo, who works as a Deputy Director: Operational Coordination in the Office of the Head of Department and Mduduzi Michael Mtshali, who works in Veterinary Services in eThekweni were presented with gold awards, honouring them as the Best Frontline Service Delivery Employees of the Year.

Ms Nelisiwe Mhlongo received the Director General's Special Gold award for coordinating, social facilitation and reporting on the Premier's Catalytic Projects whilst working in the Office of the DDG for Operations. She said she was happy to be honoured and dedicated her award to her colleagues who she said was always ready to assist whenever called upon.

Mr Mtshali at age 59, considers himself a veteran in the Department and was ecstatic over his award. "It has been a long journey on my part to arrive where I am today. I have always believed that cooperation between community members and Veterinary Services staff is the key in curbing animal diseases such as rabies. Winning this award is truly an amazing thing to have happened at my age," said Mtshali.

He added that in 1978, he enrolled at the Owen Sithole College of Agriculture for a two year Diploma in Animal Health. "I never looked back and now I hold a Masters in Agriculture from the University of KwaZulu-Natal" he said.

Mtshali worked in the Hlabisa office from 1980 and moved to the Department's Durban office in 1993. "I have contributed immensely in the fight against rabies. I also helped with the campaigns to empower ordinary people with information to assist curb the scourge of the rabies in eThekweni District. My approach in helping the people has always been informed by the principles of Batho Pele. I have made sure that people access information and knowledge about various animal diseases bothering poor communities," he said.



MEC for KZN Agriculture and Rural Development Mr Cyril Xaba, congratulating Mr Mduzuzi Mtshali on winning the best Frontline Service Delivery Employee of the Year



KZN Premier Mr Senzo Mchunu together with eThekwnini Municipality Deputy Mayor Cllr Nomvuso Shabalala and Acting Director-General Mr Frikkie Brooks congratulating Mr Mduzuzi Mtshali on winning the best Frontline Service Delivery Employee of the Year



MEC Cyril Xaba congratulating Miss Nelisiwe Mhlongo on receiving the Director General's Special Gold award for coordinating, social facilitation and reporting on the Premier's Catalytic Projects the Office of the DDG for Operations

For more information, contact Lelethu Manentsa (KZNDARD MLO) on 071 492 5716 or e-mail: