



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

DATE: 14 March 2023

A RAY OF LIGHT FOR THE COMMUNITY OF ENQOLENI AS MEC SUPER ZUMA LEADS A SUCCESSFUL RABIES VACCINATION DRIVE

In a quest to eradicate the scourge of rabies in KwaZulu-Natal, MEC Super Zuma led a successful Rabies Awareness Campaign and a vaccination drive for dogs and cats at eNqoleni Village in King Cetshwayo District.

"Pet owners showed up as the Department conducted free rabies vaccinations for dogs and cats. Speaking during the vaccination drive at eNqoleni Village, Mr Super Zuma said "I am delighted to see pet owners cooperating with the Department as they bring in their pets for vaccination. Moving forward, I hope to see everyone in a community working together with government to combat the scourge of rabies in the Province.

MEC Zuma further said "I am concerned about the rising number of Rabies cases in the province. As a Department, we have begun with the vaccination campaigns throughout the Province with specific focus on the hotspots. Vaccination campaigns will be stepped up through community visits by our Veterinary Services to the most affected areas."

"What breaks my heart is that when government officials are deployed to bring about service delivery to communities, they stand a chance of being victims of crime through illicit acts like stealing and high-jacking of state vehicles. As a matter of fact, just about a week ago one of our officials sustained gunshot injuries through an attempted hijacking while they were on their way back home from a vaccination drive" said Zuma.

Culminating from these reported criminal acts, the Department has since reached out to law enforcement authorities to participate in vaccination drives in order to curb these unsavoury acts in our communities.

The MEC proceeded to visit a home of 5-year-old boy who recently succumbed to Rabies in the area. This was to pay his respect and share words of comfort to the family of the deceased.

MEC Super Zuma urged pet owners in the Province to vaccinate their pets regularly through their nearest State Veterinary offices. He further pleaded with everyone to report any criminal activities taking place within their communities as this hinders effective service delivery that seeks to better the lives of our people in the province.

Ends

For more enquiries, kindly contact: Mr Vusi Zuma on 082 419 2887

#Phez'komkhono