**Attention: News Editors, Assignment Editors & Journalists**

**Date: 01 April 2014**

MBOMBELA – Culture, Sport and Recreation MEC, Ms Sibongile Manana has expressed her excitement about the results of Miss South Africa 2014, which was held in Sun City over the weekend.

“We are very proud of the two participants from Mpumalanga – Rolene Strauss and Abigail de Jager - who represented us well in the pageant, “ said Manana.

 Strauss, who hails from Volksrust, walked away with coveted Miss South Africa title while de Jager, who is from Mbombela, took the Ms Congeniality title. Miss Congeniality is the title given to the contestant who has the most likeable personality and is voted for by the other contestants.

“We are also quite excited at the acheivements of our young people in the entertainment and arts industry who have gone into competitions and came up tops, it gives an indication that the province has talent and ability to compete at national and even international stages. We believe that these acheivements will inspire and encourage other young people to focus on their talents and chasing their dreams instead of falling into traps of drug abuse and crime,” concluded Manana.

**For more information, contact Ms Sibongile Nkosi on (013) 766 5372/ 082 492 4886**