

CBE Exhibits at Career Fair

Approximately 8000 Learners and 300 Educators from the Western Cape attended the 2008 SABC Education Career Fair Exhibition held at the Bellville Velodrome Stadium in Cape Town. The exhibition, organised by Orbes Media, has traditionally been held in various parts of Gauteng, but this year the Western Cape was the proud host of this exciting event.

Students with exceptional interest and capabilities in Mathematics and Science were encouraged by the Council for the Built Environment (CBE) to consider careers within the six arenas of the Built Environment. The skills shortage in the Built Environment Professions, and the CBE, through their participation at the Fair, therefore sought to share knowledge and information concerning the gap that exists within the South African economy.

The Director for Communications for Orbes Media, Mrs. Michelle Coetzee, said that learners in Grades 9 to 12 were on an empowerment journey. They received a life skills CD, for use at school or at home as well as copies of the well known CET24 Career magazine which were made available by different exhibitors. Teams from Love Life and Standard Bank opened the Fair with an Introductory Presentations that gave students a true visual perspective of career options. The presentation included information on skills shortages, careers in Government, obtaining study loans, and concluded with environmental and recycling issues.

The Career Development Expo allowed learners and school leavers alike to interact with potential employers from corporate and government sectors. They were offered the opportunity to discuss study options and entrance requirements for college and university; how to obtain study loans; more about the world of science as well as learn about environmental issues in South Africa. The CBE provided in-depth information about the skills shortage within the Built Environment Professions which include Engineering, Architecture, Landscaping Architecture, Project and Construction Management, Property Valuation and Quantity Surveying.

When asked about future plans for the fair, Mrs. Coetzee mentioned that: "The next chapter of the exciting learning curve will be held in August and the movie will be shown in an outreach programme," Mrs. Coetzee concluded. We look forward to reporting on the details of the movie and other exciting new additions to the fair in the future.

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