

30 May 2023

Dear Potato Industry community,

## **ON THE PASSING OF MS NOMVULA XABA, POTATOES SA'S TRANSFORMATION MANAGER**



It is with deep regret that we inform you of the passing of Ms Nomvula Xaba, Transformation Manager at Potatoes SA on Monday, 29 May 2023.

Her untimely death is a great loss not only to her family and loved ones but also to us as her colleagues. In our team, Nomvula was a pillar of strength, a leader who was both respected, admired and much loved.

We would like to pay homage to Nomvula in the following Ode:

*Dearest Nomvula,*

*We are deeply saddened to bid you farewell.*

*Your passing has left a void in our hearts that*

*can never be filled. You were not just an excellent professional, but also a wonderful human being. Your smile, laughter and sense of humour were infectious and always lifted our spirits.*

*You were a mentor in your own right, always willing to share your knowledge and uplift those around you. Your encouragement and support inspired us to achieve more and unlock our potential.*

*Your faith was unwavering, and your humility before God was a shining example for us all.*

*Your deep bond with your family was always evident, and we know how much they meant to you. You will be deeply missed by all who knew you, but we take comfort in knowing that you have left a lasting legacy in the potato industry and in the hearts of your colleagues and friends.*

*Rest in God's peace, Nomvula. We miss you. You will always be remembered and cherished.*

*With all our love,*

*The Potato Team*

Our condolences to friends, family, loved ones and the Potato Industry community.

Kind regards,

*Willie Jacobs*

**Willie Jacobs**

**Chief Executive Officer**

(Note: Condolences can be sent to: [billy@potatoes.co.za](mailto:billy@potatoes.co.za))

### **ACCOLADES ON SOME OF NOMVULA'S CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS**

Nomvula joined Potatoes SA on 01 June 2011 to give structure to the Transformation Unit. During her almost 12 years with the organisation, she accomplished the establishment and phenomenal expansion of the Transformation Programmes. Under her leadership the key deliverables of Enterprise Development, Farm Based Training, Small Grower Development and the Tertiary Skills Development Pipeline flourished.

One of her major achievements was in changing the model of the Enterprise Development Programme in changing the focus to expanding hectares of viable potato producers who have the potential of growing into commercial farmers. Through partnerships and mentorships, farmers in the programme achieved astonishing yields of up to 65 tons per hectare.

Some of her transformation involvement in the industry includes the Commodity Projects Allocation Committee (CPAC) in the Western Cape and the Potato Industry Development Trust Transformation Advisory Committee (PTAC). Through her unique networking skills, Nomvula build industry relationships through her engagements with industry role-players, such as VKB/NTK; Various Departments of Agriculture; Department of Rural Development; McCain; Simba; Land Bank; IDC; Agri Enterprises; Leda and AGDA/Vanencia Mine.

In presenting the Transformation Symposiums, Nomvula brought this prestigious industry event to new heights with the introduction of the first Enterprise Development Farmer of the Year awards in 2018.

Nomvula will be honoured and remembered for her magnificent contributions made to the Transformation environment in the potato industry. She made a significant contribution to the growth of the industry, and her legacy will continue to inspire and guide others in the field.

END