



MANDATE



A reminder of our main mandate:

As the official representative body of business and tourism in the Kruger Lowveld (Ehlanzeni District), our main mandates are

1. to promote the region as a tourism and investment destination,
2. to provide a diverse suite of networking and marketing opportunities for our members,
and
3. to represent and speak on behalf of the business and tourism community of our area.

We do this by building and maintaining meaningful relationships with all spheres of government as well as likeminded organisations, and by acting as liaison between these entities and the business community.



ADVOCACIES



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it's in our nature

9 Key Advocacies:

1. Relationship with government / service delivery
2. Regional water supply
3. Safety and security
4. State of our public attractions
5. A permanent solution for Pilgrim's Rest
6. Roads
7. Buy Local
8. Integrity and Anti-Corruption

And recently added by the new board:

9. Anti-Poaching



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1. Relationship with government / service delivery

An advocacy of KLCBT and the Alliance of Chambers

The last year saw improved engagements with governments of all levels

- Mbombela City GM's forum
- Mbombela Economic Development Partnership
- Input into the 5-year Integrated Development Plan
- Ehlanzeni Economic Forum
- Mpumalanga Economic Development Cluster

2. Regional Water Supply

An advocacy of KLCBT and the Alliance of Chambers

Collaboration with all the Catchment Forums and Agricultural Unions in the region

Lobbying for another major dam in the De Kaap River North East of Barberton

Protecting existing fresh water resources and minimizing losses of supplied water



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3. Safety and Security

Started with the Road Side Anti-Corruption Initiative that led to the arrest of 11 Traffic Cops
Case is not concluded but we are following it closely
Collecting data on other similar cases and following up on those
Working together with Business Against Crime and Community Police Forums
Many projects are envisioned – hampered by changes in SAPS
Business was invited to have a seat on the Provincial CPF board

4. State of Public Attractions

Budget constraints and rapidly changing management led to the poor state of our public attractions
This is one of a few critical factors why we are losing tourists at the moment
We are hopeful that new management at MTPA will solve budget constraints and necessary repairs and upgrade to make our attractions “world class”



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5. A permanent solution for Pilgrim's Rest

The Pilgrim's Rest Integrated Development Partnership (PRIDE) was formed under the leadership of the KLCBT.

Tireless work and endless meetings further and resulted in very little else than empty talk. During the last few days, the Pilgrim's Rest "project" was handed to the Dept of Economic Development and Tourism to be assisted by MTPA.

We are hopeful that under the custodianship of one entity (and not 3 or even 4 as before), we will see progress for Pilgrim's Rest

6. Roads

Another reason why tourists are not coming back to the region – our roads are really bad!!! I was tasked to survey all the major tourism routes in the area and collected video footage of the road conditions.

We are compiling a report to be presented to the responsible entities



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7. Buy Local

Encouraging government and business to procure local as far as possible

Projects to empower small companies to become compliant to tender

Pilot project together with University of Mpumalanga

Assistance to government and large businesses on data of local suppliers

BEE education to qualifying micro enterprises on the benefits of black & white partnerships

Branded Kruger Lowveld products in the pipeline

Brand ambassadors of Kruger Lowveld to be targeted and tell their local success stories

8. Anti-Poaching

One very fruitful meeting was held. KLCBT undertook to publish stories on all the good work done by the rangers and honorary rangers and to make the public aware of the amazing projects undertaken in this regard by SANParks and Honorary Rangers.



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9. Integrity and Anti-Corruption

Maintain the Integrity page on the KLCBT website – www.klcbt.co.za/integrity/

Regular articles in the KLCBT newsletter on the corruption, fraud and integrity

Encourage our partners in government and large businesses to take the pledge of integrity

Publish this on social media

Why not join me and take the pledge right now, right here!

Put your hand on your heart and repeat after me...

I, Hereby pledge that I will uphold and promote good integrity in all my dealings, actions and attitude and that I will not ignore or allow any action that will harm or tarnish my integrity:

I pledge to be honest,

To be respectful,

To empower others and myself,

To be fair,

And to live with the spirit of Ubuntu...

