

SPEECH BY THE SPEAKER OF THE NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL
LEGISLATURE
HONOURABLE NTSETSAO VIOLA MOTSUMI
ON THE OCCASION OF THE PROVINCIAL ROAD SAFETY SCHOOLS
DEBATE
NORTH WEST PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE CHAMBER - 28 AUGUST 2026

Programme Director,
Deputy Speaker Honourable Mokone Collen Maine,
Members of the North West Provincial Legislature,
Management and Staff of the Legislature,
Representatives from the Department of Community Safety and Transport
Management,
Educators, Principals and Learners from our schools,
Members of the Media,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning!

It is my great honour to welcome you all to the People's Parliament, the North West Provincial Legislature, for this very important Provincial Road Safety Schools Debate.

Programme Director, today we are not only hosting a debate, we are hosting the future leaders of this province. We are hosting voices that must be heard on one of the most painful challenges facing our country – the carnage on our roads.

Every day, South Africa loses lives on our roads. Many of them are young people, learners, pedestrians, passengers. Many accidents are caused by behaviour that can be prevented – drunk driving, speeding, reckless overtaking, unroadworthy vehicles, and failure to use seatbelts.

As the Legislature, our mandate is oversight, law-making and public participation. But oversight means nothing if we cannot protect the lives of our people. That is why we have identified Security and Public Participation as critical units that must play their role. This debate is Public Participation in action.

To our learners, I want to say: This Chamber is yours today. Debate freely, debate boldly, debate with facts. Tell us, is South Africa doing enough to curb road carnage? What must government do? What must parents do? What must you as learners do?

We have also been strengthening our organizational structures, including the PLOs Forum, precisely because we want a Legislature that is organized, effective and responsive to the needs of our people. Road safety is one such need.

This programme also links directly to the work of the NCOP and our constituency work. When we visit constituencies, communities always raise issues of roads, scholar

transport, speed humps near schools, and traffic law enforcement. Your resolutions today will help us in our oversight work.

Let me thank the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management for partnering with us, and thank all educators who prepared the learners.

To all participants – there are no losers today. Every school that participated is a winner because you have chosen to be ambassadors of road safety in your schools and communities.

I now declare the 2026 Provincial Road Safety Schools Debate officially open.

I thank you!