

# Business Fighting Crime

In partnership with the Pietermaritzburg & Midlands Chamber of Business

Liberty Midlands Mall, Lifestyle Centre, Shop 6A

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## CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2020 -2021

Dear members my heart is heavy writing this report, knowing so much has happened, hence even necessitating that I am unable to deliver this report personally.

We have tried to ride the wave of Covid-19 as a BFC team, however this has been challenging as our SAPS team, cannot do virtual meetings and to have them at physical meetings has also been challenging, considering their busy schedules. We have therefore resorted to meetings during the day, however with the recent changes in the lockdown regulations, even that could not materialise, I am afraid.

My report below is therefore very limited.

I advise that a collaboration with BFC and NGO's, in PMB namely but not limited to Project Gateway, One Life foundation, Youth for Christ, PAFTA, BESG((Built Environment Support Group) etc. met on 10/05/2021, where we agreed to form one organisation that would approach Msunduzi via the IDP (Integrated Development Plan), to give our submission, requesting a building to set up an overnight shelter to house the homeless and in the long term to hopefully rehabilitate them. We are currently working on getting this heard again, as the IDP has already been published.

BFC have also been approached by the Radio Control Unit (10111) requesting assistance with replacement of cameras for the Control room that services the entire Msunduzi and surrounds. We have not yet sought requests for sponsorship towards this, and for now only have quotes in this regard.

We have had the following brought to our attention, which we addressed accordingly. With respect to point 2, this is an ongoing issue that we keep addressing with the relevant authorities.

1. A taxi rank seemed to have been forming in Manor-near East and Mason Road.
2. The Park outside the Premier's office is not being maintained and is now turning into a crime hotspot.

*Registered Nonprofit Organisation: Number 049 709-NPO  
Association Incorporated under Company Number NPC 2002/026810/08  
Management: Ms K.Naidoo (Chair), Ms G Botha, Ms G Adie, L du Preez; Mrs M Naidoo,  
Mrs M. Veness*



3. Alexander Road Park has been having issues, in that it is being booked for functions, but under different pretence, resulting in SAPS having crime issues.
4. Capital Centre restricted SAPS to do crime awareness on their site.

The recent riots and looting has left a lot of us discouraged and resentful. I personally am overwhelmed with the extent of the damages caused and the consequential effect thereto. I can assure you that as your Chair I personally along with Melanie, liaised with senior provincial members of SAPS etc. and tried behind the scenes to get us help, but as you have all seen, by that time, many of us suffered severely. My prayers and support goes out to all that have been affected and I hope that we are able to rise above all of this and get a thriving economy going.

BFC's current financial position sees us with a deficit of R42, 735-00, which is significantly (approximately R17000 difference) more of a deficit than 2019.

The reason for this is because we now only have one monthly sponsor, "Nuvo Rubber", which reduces our donations by almost 50% than the year before. We have for the year ending 2020, received donations totalling R7500-00, as compared to the R14000 from the year before. I take this opportunity to thank "Nuvo Rubber" for continuing to give us donations. Without your support we will not be able to do what we do. To the Companies that have sponsored based on specific projects we wish to thank you profusely for helping us to turn those projects into a reality.

We have come to see that sponsorship does come through if they are project related, however we must ensure that our operating expenses are paid for, and these donations therefore also contribute to the payment of same. An appeal is made to our members to assist in this regard, in respect of monthly donations. BFC banking details is available on the website.

The other reason is that our investment income dropped, this is because it is market related and in addition we are drawing constantly, thereby reducing our capital, which is not a favourable thing to be doing. The other reason is that we placed an advert in the PMCB Wall calendar, which ordinarily costs approximately R4000, but being their partner, we received a 50% discount, and therefore paid approximately R2000-00.

We request that you refer to our financials, for a more detailed account of BFC's financial position.

I thank Moore Stephens RB Incorporated, for preparing the annual financials and for ensuring that BFC is always transparent in respect of same.

To the staff of PMCB and the BFC committee I wish to say thank you for your continued support. Times have been tough for us all over the past few months and especially the past 2 weeks but we have stood united as a team and have continued to move forward in fulfilling our duty to our members.

May the days ahead be better than the ones that have past.

Nkosi Sekelel iAfrika!!!



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Kantha Naidoo  
BFC Chairperson