

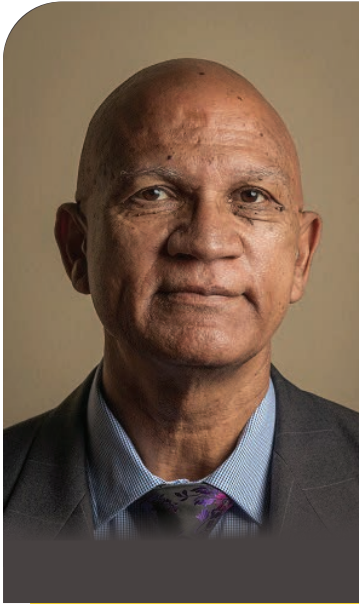
MUNICIPAL NEWS

ISSUE 3/2025 | MARCH 2025



GROW
STRATEGY





COLIN PUREN
Municipal Manager

From the Office of the Municipal Manager

I trust this message finds you well and thriving within our vibrant community. As a proud resident of Mossel Bay, you play a vital role in shaping the future of our town. Returning from vacation recently, I realised yet again that, despite where you go on holiday, there is no place like home and I will always remain grateful to call Mossel Bay mine!

I wish to highlight an essential opportunity for you to make a meaningful impact on the development of our municipality; the public participation process for the review of our Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the proposed budget for the 2025/26 financial year.

Twenty-three public consultations have been scheduled from 31 March to 16 April to engage with the residents of our 15 wards. The details of the various meetings scheduled follows later in this letter.

The IDP is more than just a planning document; it is our municipality's blueprint for growth, sustainability, and service delivery. It encompasses our collective aspirations, outlining the key projects and priorities that will drive socio-economic development while addressing the challenges we face as a coastal town. The proposed budget, on the other hand, determines how we allocate our resources to achieve these goals effectively.

Participating in this process ensures that decisions about our future are not made in isolation but are informed by the diverse views of those who call [Municipality Name] home. By engaging with us, you help to foster transparency, accountability, and inclusivity in local governance.

I encourage you to attend our scheduled public meetings, review the draft documents, and submit your comments or suggestions. Details of the meetings and access to relevant materials will be shared through our official website, social media platforms, and local media outlets.

To access the IDP – visit this link <https://www.mosselbay.gov.za/document-view/> or scan this [QR code](#).



Our municipality takes great pride in its financial management and remains committed to maintaining fiscal responsibility. Despite the challenges posed by the current economic downturn, we will continue to prioritise the service delivery needs of our ratepayers. Ensuring that resources are managed prudently, while meeting the needs of our community, is a cornerstone of our approach to governance.

As residents, you are at the heart of this process. Your insights, perspectives, and lived experiences are invaluable in ensuring that the IDP and budget reflect the true needs and aspirations of our community. Whether it is addressing infrastructure concerns, enhancing environmental sustainability, or improving service delivery, your voice matters.

We believe that fostering two-way communication between the municipality and the public is essential to building trust and ensuring that local governance is responsive to the community's needs. Open dialogue allows us to share important information, clarify processes, and gather valuable input from you, our residents. It also provides you with the opportunity to hold us accountable and to better

understand how your contributions influence the decisions we make together.

Furthermore, I urge you to ensure the accuracy and reliability of information regarding local government matters. In today's digital age, misinformation can spread quickly and may undermine the public's understanding of key issues. Please rely on official municipal communication channels, such as our website and verified social media accounts, for accurate updates. If you have any doubts or need clarification, do not hesitate to contact the municipality directly. Staying informed and sharing verified information plays a crucial role in strengthening our community.

The Mossel Bay Municipality sees enhanced community safety as one of its strategic goals. As part of the initiatives during the past three years to achieve this goal, the Joint Operations Centre non-profit company was established. This collaborative space provides a hub for integrated information sharing and service delivery.

In this regard, an annual report has been compiled, which is available for viewing on the Mossel Bay Municipality website at this link - <https://tinyurl.com/yzerb7ce> or scan this **QR code** to access the report online



We are deeply grateful for the trust you place in us to manage the affairs of our town. This trust motivates us to strive for excellence in serving you. Additionally, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to all residents who continue to maintain a positive payment rate. Your diligence in meeting your municipal obligations enables us to provide quality services and invest in projects that enhance the well-being of our community.

Together, we can continue to shape a prosperous, inclusive, and sustainable future for Mossel Bay. Let us seize this opportunity to collaborate and build a town that we can all be proud of.

Thank you for your commitment to our community. Remember – my door is always open to you!

Warm regards

Colin Puren
Municipal Manager – Mossel Bay



From left: Henry Laufs (Manager: Risk & Institutional Performance Management), Mirna Koen (Administrator (Internal Audit), Mr Puren and Awonke Ponoyi (Principal Clerk (Risk & Institutional Performance Management)).

It's time to give your input! Your voice matters.

The Mossel Bay Municipality is in the process of reviewing its Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Municipal Budget for the 2025/2026 financial year. Section 16(1) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, No 32 of 2000 makes provision for a municipality to create an opportunity to encourage the local community to participate in municipal matters.

The municipality invites all community structures, organisations, interest groups, and community members to participate and give inputs into the 2025/2026 Draft IDP and Budget Review.

FORMAT

Walk-ins are encouraged to visit venue listed on the next page any time between 17:00 and 19:00 where oral or written inputs can be submitted. Representatives from the municipality will be on site to provide support to members of the public where needed to make their submissions.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE

Community surveys will be made available which can be collected and submitted at all Municipal Offices and

Public Libraries including local spaza shops for convenient accessibility. With the assistance of municipal employees, individuals who cannot read or write will receive the necessary assistance.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Additional written comments and inputs can be forwarded as follows:

Email to:

- idp@mosselbay.gov.za (IDP related)
- admin@mosselbay.gov.za (Budget related),

Post to:

Private Bag X29, Mossel Bay, 6500, Hand delivered: 101 Marsh Street, Mossel Bay, 6500 (Security booth).

Closing date for comments or inputs 30 April 2025 at 4pm.

For any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact:

- IDP: Mr Z Mpumela at (044 606 5096/ email zmpumela@mosselbay.gov.za)
- Budget: Ms V Basson at (044) 606 5154/ email vbasson@mosselbay.gov.za



SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

DATES 2025	DAY	TIME	WARD	WARD COUNCILLOR	VENUE
31 Mar	Monday	17:00 - 19:00	11	CLlr N Le Roux	Boggoms Bay Community Hall
			4	CLlr A Janse Van Rensburg	Reebok Community Hall
01 Apr	Tuesday	17:00 - 19:00	1	CLlr S Dubula	KwaNonqaba Community Hall
			13	CLlr R Ruiters	Indoor Sport Centre
02 Apr	Wednesday	17:00 - 19:00	5	CLlr A Dellelijn	Great Brak River Council Chamber
			12	CLlr W Buda	Hillcrest Secondary School
03 Apr	Thursday	17:00 - 19:00	3	CLlr Z Matyesini	TBC
			6	CLlr M Furness	Voortrekker Hall
07 Apr	Monday	17:00 - 19:00	2	CLlr N Gwaza	TBC
			13	CLlr R Ruiters	Holy Nativity Church
08 Apr	Tuesday	17:00 - 19:00	14	CLlr D Claassen	Greenhaven Community Hall
			7	CLlr S Botha	Brandwag Community Hall
09 Apr	Wednesday	17:00 - 19:00	15	CLlr M Mkonto	Asla Community Hall
			7	CLlr S Botha	Denneprag School Hall
10 Apr	Thursday	17:00 - 19:00	12	CLlr W Buda	Joe Slovo Community Hall
			14	CLlr D Claasen	Friemersheim Community Hall
14 Apr	Monday	17:00 - 19:00	10	CLlr L Van Dyk	Hartenbos Municipal Offices
			11	CLlr N Le Roux	Dana Bay Community Hall
			8	CLlr L Coetzee	Mossel Bay Town Hall
15 Apr	Tuesday	17:00 - 19:00	7	CLlr S Botha	St Johns Anglican Church Hall - Herbertsdale
			9	CLlr E Meyer	D'Almeida Community Hall
16 Apr	Wednesday	17:00 - 19:00	7	CLlr S Botha	Sonskynvallei Community Hall
			9	CLlr E Meyer	Lutheran Church Hall

Disclaimer: Changes to the schedule may occur due to uncertainty of loadshedding and will be communicated in reasonable time. Changes will be communicated on the Mossel Bay Municipality's available social media platforms.

Ward committee members of Ward 1 to 7 visiting the Joint Operations Centre during capacity building in March.



LOUIS FOURIE CORRIDOR PROJECT

- An exciting new development chapter

The Louis Fourie Corridor Project, one of the most exciting and comprehensive development projects yet to come to fruition in Mossel Bay, is now in its final stages of public participation. The comprehensive public participation for this development is done in three stages. To this end, the Mossel Bay Municipality is sharing vital information about the project on local radio stations on. The scheduled times are as follows:

1 April – SFM (11:00-12:00)

1 April – Tambo FM (14:00-15:00)

2 April – HeartBeat FM (15:00-16:00)

3 April – Eden FM (17:00-18:00)

Jaco Roux – Manager Town Planning



If you are not able to tune in on the day, recordings of the interviews will be available on the **municipal YouTube channel** at this link - <https://www.youtube.com/@mosselbaymunicipality7796>



SUBSCRIBE to the Mossel Bay Municipality YouTube channel for informative and insightful content on local government affairs.

Here are a few interesting facts about the Louis Fourie Corridor project, presented in Q & A format.

Q: What is the Louis Fourie Corridor project and why is it important for Mossel Bay?

A: The Louis Fourie Corridor Project is a strategic initiative by the Mossel Bay Municipality for an integrated and mixed land use development situated between Heiderand, Pinnacle Point, Paradise Coast and KwaNonqaba. It's designed to transform a large, predominantly vacant area—spanning approximately 450 hectares—into a vibrant urban corridor that integrates residential, commercial, and community spaces.

This project is significant because it leverages the only remaining sizeable undeveloped land in the town's core, aiming to stimulate economic growth and enhance local infrastructure while addressing housing and community needs.

Q: How did the project come about?

A: Growth options study identified the area as the best place for Mossel Bay to expand. Furthermore, a property market study has shown that there is an undersupply of middle-income properties. It is also the last large open plot of land in the township owned by the municipality. The Louis Fourie Corridor Area Plan was then developed

and duly accepted by Council. The municipality is now in the process of obtaining permission to develop the area.

Q: What is the process that must be followed to obtain approval?

A: There are various pieces of legislation that you must comply with in the development process.

The 5 main application processes are as follows:

- Environmental application process
- Planning application process
- Heritage applications
- Water licenses
- Flora removal permits

Q: What does the Louis Fourie Corridor Development consist of?

- Approximately 7410 housing opportunities from low income to high income from apartments to
- detached houses; rental options or ownership options including retirement villages
- Commercial opportunities approximately 100 000 sq m of floor space
- Social facilities: 4 schools, 6 churches, 6 kindergartens, hospital, space for uses such as clinics etc.
- Municipal uses such as community halls, library, municipal offices, fire station etc.
- Open spaces: Large conservation area and a large

- community park and sports facilities
- Municipal infrastructure such as roads, stormwater, water, power and sewerage networks.

Q: Is there a layout plan where all the mentioned uses can be seen, and can you explain how the layout plan contributes to the overall vision of the project?

A: Yes, there is a layout plan that is essentially the blueprint for the entire development. It shows the spatial arrangement of residential areas; commercial zones; public open spaces; and infrastructure like roads and utility corridors. By visually demonstrating how these elements connect and interact, the plan ensures that the development is coherent and accessible. It also outlines phasing options for gradual implementation, which allows for flexibility as the project evolves and market conditions change. This meticulous planning is key to achieving a balanced and sustainable urban transformation.

Q: What needs to be considered throughout the application processes, since this is a major development that could have an impact on the greater Mossel Bay?

A: Several specialist studies are being conducted to ensure that independent specialists evaluate the impact of the development.

This includes:

- Site specialists: Physical terrain, floodplains and geology
- Environmental specialists: 1) Fauna: Birds, reptiles, mammals. 2) Flora: Veld types, Protected species and habitat.
- Socio-economic aspects: Community needs, employment opportunities, social facilities
- Municipal infrastructure: Bulk availability Roads, Stormwater, Sewerage, Water

Q: Were there any interesting findings derived from these studies?

A: There were several impacts from an environmental and municipal infrastructure perspective that necessitated amendments to the initial layout plan.

Several areas were identified where development could not take place due to environmental sensitivity. These areas will form part of an open space network that not only has ecological benefits but also tourism opportunities where an extended route linking to the St Blaize hiking trail can be formed in the future.

As a result of the infrastructure impact, the development also had to be scaled back due to limitations in the road networks in the area. The proposed road network is designed to facilitate mobility for the present and future traffic needs.

Q: This sounds like a very big development, where will the people who will live there come from?

A: Mossel Bay's population growth is currently 5% per year. The result of this is that 18 people move to Mossel Bay per day. There are also approximately 10 000 families on the waiting list for housing. Therefore, there is a high demand for housing, employment opportunities and social facilities in Mossel Bay and the development seeks to meet these needs. The development will also be phased over a long period and will therefore not be built all at once.

Q: What are the anticipated socio-economic benefits of the Louis Fourie Corridor Project?

A: The project is expected to have wide-ranging socio-economic benefits. It will provide new housing opportunities, stimulate local business through commercial zones, and create public spaces that foster community engagement. By transforming a large, underutilized area into a mixed-use urban centre, the project is poised to attract investment and generate employment. Moreover, its phased development approach will allow for gradual economic uplift, aligning with the municipality's broader goals of urban regeneration and improved quality of life for residents.

Q: How does the public participation process work and how can people get involved in the project?

A: The public participation is being done in 3 phases. The first phase was in November 2024 during which stakeholders were registered. The phase

currently being worked on is for land use application and environmental scoping which includes the water use licenses and heritage impact. The notices were sent to adjacent owners, placed in the local newspaper and on site on 28 March 2025. The municipality also intends to hold public meetings from 7 to 10 April 2025.

The schedule is as follows

Dana Bay Community Hall: 7 April 2025, 18:00

Asla Community Hall: 8 April 2025, 18:00

KwaNonqaba Community Hall: 9 April 2025, 18:00

Mossel Bay Town Hall: 10 April 2025, 18:00

The municipality encourages the public to attend the meetings and if there are any written comments, you are welcome to contact the municipality at admin@mosselbay.gov.za and ppp@ncc-group.co.za

There will also be one more opportunity where public participation opportunities will be facilitated for the environmental impact application. The applications will be digitally available at: <https://ncc-group.co.za/public-participation-overview> and www.mosselbay.gov.za.

Q: How long is the participation period?

A: Usually the process for the environmental and planning applications are 30 days, but because of the magnitude of the project and wanting to accommodate the public to provide as much time for comment as possible, the participation period will be for 60-days, from 28 March 2025 to 27 May 2025.

Q: Why conduct Public Participation?

A: Public participation in town planning applications and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), is crucial as it ensures that projects are sustainable, transparent, and accountable, by incorporating local knowledge, facilitating better decision-making, and fostering community ownership.

- Enhancing decision-making: Public participation provides access to valuable local and traditional knowledge that might otherwise be overlooked, helping to identify potential impacts and develop more effective mitigation measures.
- By engaging with the public, the processes can uncover potential environmental and social impacts that might not be apparent from technical assessments alone.
- Public involvement can help identify and evaluate a wider range of project alternatives, leading to more sustainable and acceptable solutions.
- Open and transparent processes build public trust and accountability, ensuring that decisions are made in a fair and equitable manner.
- Public participation helps ensure that projects are socially just and equitable, addressing the needs and concerns of all affected communities.
- By incorporating environmental concerns and local knowledge, public participation helps ensure that projects are environmentally sound and sustainable.
- Public participation allows for the early identification of potential conflicts and concerns, giving stakeholders the opportunity to address them before they escalate.
- Public participation can provide a platform for dialogue and negotiation, helping to resolve conflicts and find mutually acceptable solutions.

Q: What are the next steps for the project, and how do you see it evolving in the coming years?

A: The next steps involve finalising the land use application and securing all necessary permits, including environmental and heritage authorisations. With the detailed layout plan in place, the project is set to move into its implementation phase, which will be conducted in stages. As construction begins, ongoing consultations and phased development will ensure that infrastructure upgrades and urban services are delivered in tandem with construction. Ultimately, the project is envisioned to serve as a catalyst for sustainable urban development in Mossel Bay, delivering long-term socio-economic benefits and setting a benchmark for integrated, mixed-use developments in the region. The development is envisaged to be implemented over a 10–20-year period.



Building plan submission goes **DIGITAL**

From July 2025 all building plan submission will be done through the on-line portal. For the past 2 to 3 years, the Mossel Bay Municipality have been using a dual system (on-line and by hand). However, for more efficiency and record keeping purposes, it has been decided to limit submission to on-line only. This innovation is in line with trends in other and neighbouring municipalities.

Dir Carel Venter - Planning & Economic Development

Effective 1 July 2025, the Mossel Bay Municipality will require all building plan applications to be submitted electronically. As of this date, hardcopy submissions will no longer be accepted.

This transition is part of our ongoing efforts to streamline processes, improve efficiency, and implement a more sustainable approach to document management. All applications must be submitted electronically through the Western Cape Collaborator Portal at westerncapecollab.collaboratoronline.com

HOW TO USE THE ONLINE PORTAL

For copy of the guidelines for using the online portal, use any of these communication channels:

- Call the building control department - 044 606 5075/ 5247
- Send an email to admin@mosselbay.gov.za
- Submit a request through the Collab Citizen municipal smartphone app

BUILDING PLAN APPLICATION PROCESS:

In accordance with Section 7 of the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act 103 of 1977 (as amended), please take note of the following processing timeframes for building plan applications:

- Applications with an architectural area of less than 500m² should expect an outcome within 30 days from the date of submission.
- Applications with an architectural area of 500m² or more should expect an outcome within 60 days from the date of submission.

If a building plan application is refused, the applicant may resubmit an amended application addressing the reasons for refusal. This resubmission must occur within 12 months from the date of refusal and will be accepted at no additional cost.

However, if a refused application is not resubmitted within 12 months, a new application will be required, which must comply with the latest regulations and by-laws. Full plan fees will apply as per the approved tariffs at the time of submission.

UNRESOLVED BUILDING PLAN APPLICATIONS

In line with the above information, any building plan application submitted to the Mossel Bay Municipality, for which a request for additional information has been previously issued but remains unaddressed for over a period of 12-months, will be considered lapsed. To proceed, a new application must be submitted for consideration.

For more information, contact the Building Control Department:

| **Building Development Manager:** Shaun Westerberg
044 606 5246 / swesterberg@mosselbay.gov.za

| **Building Control Officer:** Zimkitha Williams-Lolo
044 606 5230 / zwilliams-lolo@mosselbay.gov.za

| **Senior Plans Examiner:** Thorpe Larné
044 606 5249 / lthorpe@mosselbay.gov.za



From Left: Alderman Cliffie Bayman (Executive Deputy Mayor), Minister Tertuis Simmers, Anita Arendse (Chairperson RHT) and Advocate Chantal Smith (Head of Infrastructure)

Municipality launches free service to assist *landlords and tenants*

Minister Tertuis Simmers, Western Cape Minister of Infrastructure expressed his excitement about the newly established Rental Housing Tribunal Information Office which was official launched in Mossel Bay on 25 March 2025. With this launch, Mossel Bay becomes the first local B municipality outside of the City of Cape Town to have such a facility.

Minister Simmers said that it has been of great importance to him since 2019 to see to the establishment of a RHT

Information Office which will be able to serve members of the public in rural areas.

“This is part of enlarging our footprint as a government who cares, who is responsive, accountable and accessible,” Minister Simmers said.

Minister Simmers proudly introduced Anita Arendse, the first ever female Chairperson of the RHT in the Western Cape. She referred to Mossel Bay as the “Genesis municipality” for this initiative and expressed the hope that Mossel Bay will be able to set a trend for other municipalities to follow with this newly established information office.

She explained the steps in the process as laying a complaint, whereafter an investigation follows. Hereafter the process is either mediation or adjudication through the tribunal. The RHT information office is situated at the municipal buildings in KwaNonqaba on Mayixhale Street. For more information, contact Melanie Pienaar (044 606 5237 or mpienaar@mosselbay.gov.za)

ABOUT THE RENTAL HOUSING TRIBUNAL

The Rental Housing Tribunal seeks to settle disputes between tenants and landlords. Established in 2001, the RHT provides a free service on residential rental matters between landowners or their agents and tenants. The RHT is appointed by the Western Cape Provincial

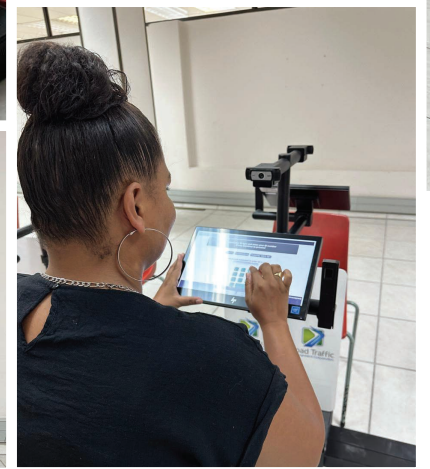
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**This is part of
enlarging our
footprint as a
government
who cares."**

Minister of Human Settlements, comprising of five members with expertise in property management, housing, development and consumers matters pertaining to rental housing. The RHT implements the Rental Housing Act 50 of 1999.

The RHT, which provides a free service to landlords and tenants is assisted by the support component within the Department of Human Settlements.

The RHT seeks to:

- Harmonise relationships between landlords and tenants in the rental housing sector
- Resolve disputes that arise due to unfair practices
- Inform landlords and tenants about their rights and obligations in terms of the Rental Housing Act
- Make recommendations to relevant stakeholders



Nicky Jacobs and Vivi-Lee Cupido from the Drivers Licence Testing Centre.

Learner driver licence test computerised

The Mossel Bay Municipality implemented its eNatis Computerised Learners Licence Testing (CLLT) from mid-March 2025. Officials received rigorous training on the use of the system a week prior to the launch date. The benefits of this news system are as follows

- It's electronic.
- It's fast.
- It rules out any corruption.
- It saves manpower.

Fifteen candidates can be accommodated at a time.

For more information, call 044 606 5000 and ask to be connected with the Driver's Licence Testing Centre.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE TEST

Candidates can prepare for their learner license test by visiting the website www.natis.gov.za where the training manual can be found. Click on DOWNLOADS and find the Learner Driver Manual here: <https://www.natis.gov.za/index.php/downloads/learner-driver-manual>



PUT US TO THE TEST



GROW GOVERNANCE

WE ARE AT YOUR SERVICE

7507 | 98.5%

During the past 6 months we have received **7507** service delivery requests from residents across our 15 wards. Our average completion rate is **98.5%**.

Call us: 044 606 5000 | **email us:** admin@mosselbay.gov.za or get the Collab Citizen municipal app



For the past 6 months, we have been making a concerted effort to convey our service delivery completion rate from across all 15 wards in infographics.

Looking back on this 6-month streak, our average completion rate is 98,5%.



Get into contact through these official channels

- For formal, written correspondence to the municipality, use admin@mosselbay.gov.za
- To reach any of our directorates / departments telephonically, the municipal main switchboard can be contacted, 044 606 5000 during office hours.
- To report emergency services interruptions, such as pipe bursts, unplanned electricity or water interruptions or faulty streetlights, please report to the 24-7 Call Centre, 044 606 5000.
- Download the Collab Citizen for iOS (App Store), Android (Google Play Store) and Huawei (AppGallery)
- Send an SMS to 44 802 (normal tariffs apply)
- For general information about the municipality, visit the website at www.mosselbay.gov.za/

ETHICS & ANTI-FRAUD HOTLINE

- Call - 0800 333 466 (24h)
- Email - mbm@behonest.co.za
- SMS - 49 017 (normal tariffs apply)
- Website / "chat" – www.behonest.co.za

JOIN OUR BROADCAST PLATFORMS

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/mosselbaymun/>
- WhatsApp Channel - <https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaObfDbBadmjxmERb0d>
- Municipal YouTube Channel - www.youtube.com/@mosselbaymunicipality7796

Don't want to miss a thing?

Join the Mossel Bay
Municipality **WhatsApp**
channel today.



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