



SPEAKING NOTES BY KELLY BALOYI, NYD BOARD MEMBER, ON OCCASION OF INGWE TVET COLLEGE 2025 GRADUATION CEREMONY

18 September 2025

Traditional Leadership of the kwaBhaca Royal Homestead

The Executive Mayor

Members of the College Council

Principal and Management,

Academic Staff

Leaders of the community

Graduates

Stakeholders

Family members of Graduates

All protocol observed

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” – Nelson Mandela

Today we gather not only to honour the remarkable achievements of the graduates of Ingwe TVET College, but also to affirm our collective belief that the future of South Africa rests in the hands of its young people.

The vision of Ingwe TVET College—“*A world-class Institution of Learning, Training and Development*”—is deeply aligned with the mission of the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA): to unlock the full potential of our youth, and in doing so, unlock the full potential of our nation.

Graduates, your success today is proof that when young people are equipped with skills, opportunity, and confidence, they can overcome the toughest barriers and become engines of growth, innovation, and transformation.

At the NYDA, we believe South Africa is on the cusp of a skills revolution. With the Fourth Industrial Revolution, climate change adaptation, and a fast-evolving economy, traditional career paths are shifting rapidly. What this means is that the skills of tomorrow are being demanded today.

Our focus is clear:

Board Members:

Sunshine Myende - Chairperson • Bonga Makhanya – Deputy Chairperson • Busisiwe Nxumalo • Kelly Baloyi
Sibusiso Makhathini • Thembisile Mahuwa • Wiseman Mbatha • Ndumiso Kubheka (CEO)



Young people must have access to technical and vocational skills that empower young people to be work-ready. Further to that digital and green economy skills to ensure our youth are not left behind in global transformations must be accessible to young people from all walks of life. Moreover, that entrepreneurship and innovation are cornerstones of inclusive development.

This revolution is not just about training—it is about creating pathways to self sustenance, jobs, and enterprise. And graduates like you are at the heart of this transformation.

South Africa faces one of the highest youth unemployment rates in the world. We cannot rely only on formal jobs to solve this crisis. We need young people to also become creators of jobs, not just seekers of jobs.

That is why the NYDA invests heavily in entrepreneurship programmes—business pitching sessions, grant funding, mentorship, and incubation hubs. Through these platforms:

- Young entrepreneurs receive start-up capital to turn ideas into sustainable businesses.
- Youth are mentored and linked to markets, especially in sectors like tourism, agriculture, construction, ICT, and the creative economy.
- Enterprise development becomes a vehicle to rebuild local economies, particularly in communities such as kwaBhaca.
- For graduates, entrepreneurship is not just an option—it is an opportunity to apply your skills in ways that benefit both you and your community.

Graduates, I want to be clear: the NYDA is not a distant institution in Midrand. It is your partner in shaping your future. You can access:

- NYDA grants and loans to start or expand your businesses.
- Entrepreneurship Development Programmes that give you practical training on running a successful enterprise.
- Youth Skills Development and Jobs Programmes linked to initiatives like the Presidential Youth Employment Intervention.
- Partnership platforms with government and private sector that provide internships, learnerships, and digital training opportunities.

Your graduation today places you in a prime position to take full advantage of these initiatives.

As we celebrate Heritage Month, let us redefine heritage not only as what we inherit, but what we build for the generations that follow. The skills revolution and entrepreneurship drive are about ensuring that every young South African has a fair chance to succeed—whether in the job market, as an entrepreneur, or as a community leader.

Graduates, the NYDA believes in you. You are the innovators, the job creators, the leaders who will take South Africa forward. Let your qualifications not be the end of your learning, but the beginning of a lifelong journey of growth and impact.

Congratulations to the Class of 2025.

Board Members:



The NYDA stands with you. The future is in your hands—go forth, shape it with courage, and ensure that no young person in your community is left behind.

I thank you.

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