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To Whom It May Concern

WHISPER BOAT BUILDING ACADEMY

The Whisper Boat Building Academy is a very important initiative to ensure the participation of the previously disadvantaged in the growing boat building industry in Cape Town. This industry suffers from a severe lack of skilled workers and a very low participation from the black community. Whisper is the only existing training institution specifically providing skills to the boat building industry.

What makes the Whisper Boat Building Academy all the more important is that it focuses on providing these skills to young deaf people, ensuring that the hearing impaired can also participate in this growing industry. In doing this the initiative empowers disabled people to give them long term employment opportunities.

The partnership that is being built between Whisper and Noluthando School in Khayelitsha is practical expression of the call by our government for civil society to work together with state institutions for the betterment of our people.

I commend the founders of the Whisper Boat Building Academy and call on all government departments and state institutions, as well as companies and individuals, to contribute to making it a success. This will go a long way to creating an enlarged skills base for the boat building industry whilst at the same time empowering young deaf learners in Khayelitsha and the Western Cape.

Kind Regards

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Max Ozlinsky
Chief Whip

