

1. MVUMA

Mvuma is one of the most peaceful places where one can get refreshed at any time in Zimbabwe .It is a small town but with great opportunities.

Let us delve into the cracks and crevices of Mvuma. Let us take a deeper look into Mvuma and unfold every corner of this area. The dominant occupation in Mvuma is mining. Most people are surviving on gold panning because the town is rich in gold deposits. Actually, a small part of the Great Dyke passes through Mvuma. The Great Dyke is a belt which stretches from the South of Zimbabwe up to the North. It is from South Africa. This belt is a rock which is responsible for the occurrence of many minerals in our country like gold, diamonds and asbestos. Legally, mining is undertaken by the Duration Gold Mine in Mvuma. Let us bear in mind that Mvuma being rich in the mineral Gold also has other minerals like chrome though these are not mined.

Let us also look at other professions like teaching. Quite a notable number of the people in Mvuma are in the education sector. We have three government schools; Njerere Primary School, Mvuma Primary and Leopold Takawira High School. We then have one Catholic primary school known as St Theresa. Our school is the only Secondary School in Mvuma. Most children of this town attend secondary school at Leopold Takawira High School. Other people work at the Mvuma hospital. We have a resident doctor who works at the hospital. A few other people work at the council offices in Mvuma which is the responsible authority.

SCHOOLS IN MVUMA IN PICTURES





Mvuma town is one of the most accessible places in Zimbabwe. As one moves from the capital city, Harare, it is only 190km away. When one is coming from Gweru, it is only 80km. From Masvingo, one travels 100km. Mvuma is between the busiest business centers of Zimbabwe. The tarred roads linking it with the other places mentioned earlier are very busy roads. A resurgence of some food outlets like Slice Inn has led to this small town becoming a place of interest for many people from within and outside Mvuma.



Mvuma is a place which has produced a leading population of enterprising youth in Zimbabwe. A good example is that of the soccer player Roderick Mutumwa who plays for one of the country's biggest teams Dynamos. Mvuma is surrounded by different business centers like the Slice Complex. This is a roadside food outlet mainly travelers on the Harare- Masvingo Highway. This food outlet also has given rise to employment in Mvuma. We have got other sites with development in progress like the lodges which are still under construction. Mvuma also holds some government offices like the council, health and educational offices.

Mvuma town has its residential areas divided into the high density and low density areas. There is a service station in the town and also another one at the Slice Complex

THE SLICE COMPLEX



Mvuma is a small community with peaceful people. However, in this year 2012, we have and are still experiencing some sort of a drought. The scarcity of rain is causing a massive crop loss to those who rely on farming to earn a living. We do have some subsistence farmers in Mvuma. Mainly crops like maize, beans and tomatoes among others are grown on a small piece of land to improve variety in people's diets.

We are also experiencing new developments like construction of new houses. The Council sold some stands to the locals and many beautiful houses are being built. This has created employment opportunities for many people. Construction of houses has also reduced overcrowding and has also reduced the increase in the number of household tenants.



(A LODGE STILL IN CONSTRUCTION)

In Mvuma, we get fresh water from a nearby dam called the Nyamafufu. This dam does not only provide water to the community, it also provides fish. Only small scale fishing is practiced as the authorities are trying to conserve the fish.

In my view and given the time, Mvuma is set to grow from a small mining settlement into a big town.

2 . LEOPOLD TAKAWIRA HIGH SCHOOL

I usually say that one has to pursue excellence and success will follow you. Striving for excellence is the motto at our school, Leopold Takawira.

One might wonder with the appearance of the school, how old it is. The school is 31years old. It was built in 1981 and was named after the great national hero, Leopold Takawira. This man was one of the freedom fighters who liberated our country, Zimbabwe. The building of this school was made possible by the tireless efforts of the community at that time



Leopold Takawira is 2km away from the town of Mvuma and is next to Njerere Primary School. It is along the main road from the hospital. It has two gates; the main gate and the one used by the teachers. All the buildings were built using face-brick. We have two Science labs and one computer lab. Students are benefiting from this in computer literacy. We also have a Home Economics block. Teachers have their own special room called the staff room. This is also close to the administrative offices.



(Students sitting in front of the administrative offices)

We have two football pitches, two volley ball pitches and one handball not forgetting the netball pitch. We have a garden where students who do agriculture as a practical subject undertake their projects. The school benefits from this as it obtains agricultural outputs like peas and maize. There is also a practice of animal husbandry. This involves a piggery and a poultry run.



(Football pitch)

We are doing 9 subjects which are; Mathematics, Accounts, Physical Science, Biology, Geography, English, Inter- grated Science, History and Shona. We have 745 students. Our staff consists of teachers, general workers and the staff at the reception. Out of the parents' contributions, we managed to get a school bus which can accommodate up to 35 passengers.



(Students at assembly point and our school bus)