



Professor Salim Abdool Karim

Prof Karim's work does Durban proud

AS A YOUNGSTER (not that I'm old), I recall attending a community meeting in Sheppie at the Taj Hotel with my dad where the main speaker was community leader, the late Mr Kisten Moodley of Port Shepstone.

As one of the tasks he promised the community land or a number of houses to be built and the audience was getting agitated. The one member was pounding Mr Kisten – “did you build 50 houses, did you”? and the crowd was cheering.

Mr Kisten quietly went up to the podium, looked at the speaker, then the audience and replied “and what if it was more?”.

This had the audience ripped.

The same with Professor Salim Abdool Karim and his association with the Bill Gates Foundation.

Bill and Melinda Gates have been doing various initiatives which include a toilet scheme in Cato Manor, a crèche in Khayelitsha and a sewer/sludge recycling plant in Africa where energy and drinking water are the by-products.

The Cato Manor clip where Mr Gates personally visited and speaks about “reinventing the toilet” is worth watching.

All these projects have seen Mr Gates personally involved.

Professor Karim and his wife have been in the media for ages, given their work.

This was widely publicised and is really an accomplishment for Durban as a city.

His taking the role of SA's Covid-19 team leader was due to years of involvement in various activities and with many leaders. His organisation is subject to various audits and accountable to many sources.

What Caprisa makes or does not make is really a private matter and that's it.

At no point do I recall ever seeing a request for funds or assistance.

As for his funding, I'm reminded of Mr Kisten's response, and the answer is what if the figure of R944 million was really double the amount or quarter? Does it still matter?

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