## **DIAMONDFACTS.ORG**

## **TESTIMONIAL**

## Dr Lesedinyana Odiseng Consultant in Occupational Medicine and Specialist Sports Physician

## I Can Remember

I was born in Botswana and I can remember Botswana in the pre-diamond days.

I can remember the dusty roads of that era.

I can remember traveling great distances in an ox-pulled wagon, spending several days to see a doctor.

I can remember walking bare foot for six miles to go to school.

I can remember standing in line to collect my portion of Malutu (food donated by the USA).

I can remember walking eight miles to collect water from a river for the family.

I can remember a dusty little town called Gaborone with very little amenities

I can also remember the time when diamonds were discovered.

I can remember the rapid development that followed.

I can remember the first time I had an exercise book and a pencil.

I can remember the eating ice cream and chocolate for the first time.

I can remember going to secondary school.

I can remember getting a scholarship from De Beers.

I can remember working as a doctor in a state-of-the-art De Beers hospital in Botswana.

I am now an accredited Special Physician.

I can see great cities and towns springing up all over Botswana.

I can see an efficient primary health system dedicated to the health of the nation.

I can see state of the art clinics and hospitals throughout the whole country.

I can see schools all over the country.

I can see a first class university and other institutions of higher learning.

I can see running water and electricity in villages.

I can see a modern road network traversing the country.

I can see a state of the art railway network.

I can see a state of the art airport network.

I can see war and chaos in the trail of diamonds in some countries.

I can only see peace and prosperity, in the footsteps of diamonds in Botswana.

I can see a thriving democracy.

I can see that Botswana has been lucky to have a partner like De Beers.