

## **WELCOMING ADDRESS DELIVERED BY HER WORSHIP CLLR ZUKISWA NDEVU DURING THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN KWABHACA ON THE 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022.**

Programme Director

Speaker of Council

Chief Whip and Whippers

Executive Committee Members

MPAC Chair

Municipal Manager and Senior Managers

Officials present

**Ladies and Gentlemen;** allow me to greet you all this morning in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

As we conclude this years Human Rights Month, we are reminded that our constitution requires us to advance our efforts in protecting the basic rights of our communities. This is not a goal but a constitutional obligation that will see more of our communities enjoy the fruits of democracy.

I speak of a democracy that requires all of us to play our part and ensure that we do not tolerate the culture of violence against women and children in our communities. Let us also redouble our efforts to create a just and fair place for everyone especially women in our society.

**Speaker;** in our plight towards the fight of gender-based-violence, we recently hosted a Human Rights Panel Discussion at the Sugarbush community hall, EmaXesibeni. The session harped on ways of alleviating the scourge of societal ills in our area. Much was left to be desired, when our panellists furthered the discussion on Human Trafficking.

**This is real,** and we ought to reflect on ways of protecting our children when they depart for tertiary institutions. This should not go unwarranted



because this young generation is all we have to develop a new narrative in the space of community development.

**Fellow Councillors;** The mission behind Government Communication is to: provide professional services; set and influence adherence to standards for an effective government communication system; drive coherent government messaging; and proactively communicate with the public about government policies, plans, programmes and basic services.

From the 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> March 2022, we held a communication strategy workshop that equipped us better on media engagement skills. The programme was also met with a 5-year term strategy review that will resonate with our stance for the current term of office.

Today, we are also expected to adopt the strategy that was developed in that workshop, so that we can effectively start communicating to our communities. I've taken note of the few Councillors that have already began their Talk To Your Councillor radio programme and I'm advised that you are performing well on that platform.

**Speaker;** As we continue to engage our communities, we were fortunate enough to visit traditional councils across Umzimvubu Local Municipality together with the Speakers Office from the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022 to the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022. The Traditional Councils that we visited are as follows: Ncwela Traditional Council; Emazizini Traditional Council, KwaBhaca Traditional Council, Fikeni Traditional Council and Umzimvubu Traditional Council.

We conducted these visits so that we can maintain our relations and better understand the challenges in their respective areas. This is just one of many stakeholders in our locality that we ought to engage on a quarterly basis.

**Ladies and Gentlemen;** as part of our commitment towards education and uniformity across all schools, we recently handed over new school uniform at Sandlulube Senior Primary School in Ward 22 and Govalele



Primary School in ward 01. These are fundamental programmes that we drive as a Municipality to really emulate our PACD values.

**Speaker;** as I sum up my welcoming addressing, allow me to thank all Councillors that participated during the Policy Conference. Your inputs during that process were noted and have been included for final consolidation. Policies and procedures are an essential component of any organization. These are important because they address pertinent issues, such as what constitutes acceptable behaviour by employees.

**[Council Items]**

Thank you

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Delivered by the Honourable Mayor,  
Cllr Zukiswa Ndevu

