

## PRESS STATEMENT



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **NOTICE OF RESIGNATION BY COUNCILLOR MARK WILLEMSE AS SPEAKER OF EDEN DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY**

This serves as official notification that Cllr Mark Willemse, on Monday, 11 June 2018, resigned from his position as Speaker of the Eden District Municipality, with immediate effect. Councillor Willemse retains his position of the Knysna Council representative at the Eden District Council, until further notice.

Section 39 of the Municipal Structures Act 1998, (Act 117 of 1998) states:

- The speaker of a municipal council vacates office during a term if that person-*
- (a) resigns as speaker;*
  - (b) is removed from office; or*
  - (c) ceases to be a councillor.*

In his letter, Councillor Willemse extended a word of gratitude to the Eden District Municipality for their leadership and support during the period which he served as Speaker and wished Council all the best for the future.

Given his resignation as Speaker, Council now has a vacancy of the position of Speaker. Section 41 of the Municipal Structures Act 1998, (Act 117 of 1998) further states that:

*If the speaker of a municipal council is absent or not available to perform the functions of speaker, or during a vacancy, the council must elect another councillor to act as speaker.*

A Special Council meeting, will be held on Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2018, to temporary fill this position of Speaker, to enable Council to continue with its operations and organisational activities as usual.

Eden District Municipality hereby extends a word of appreciation to Councillor Willemse for his leadership role during the years which he served as Speaker and wish him well in his political career.

**For more information, contact:**  
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