



**ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY THE NEW MAYOR OF ELIAS MOTSOALEDI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY CLLR MAGETLE DAVID TLADI ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup> OF NOVEMBER 2021 AT MUNICIPAL CHAMBER, GROBLERSDAL**

The Speaker;

Honourable Councillors;

Leaders of various political parties present;

Magoshi a rena (Ma-apara-Nkwe);

Municipal administration under Mr MM Kgware;

Representative from SALGA;

Representative from Coghsta;

Representative from IEC;

Members of the Community;

Members of the Media; and

Distinguished Guests.

**The Speaker**, let me first start by congratulating you on your election to this important position as the Chair and Speaker of our Council. Your election is a proof of the confidence this Council has in your abilities and leadership. The Office of the Speaker is an essential component of our

democratic local governance system. It provides a continuous link between the Council and the electorate.

**The Speaker,**

Let me also take this opportunity and congratulate each and every Councillor who has been elected as either a Ward or PR Councillor from all political parties represented in this Council. Similar words of congratulations go to the members of the Executive Committee and every Honourable Councillor entrusted with any of the Council responsibilities through Council Committees.

In particular, I wish to thank the residents from the thirty one (31) wards of Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality for participating in the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 Local Government Elections. You have spoken through your votes. We appreciate your support and surely we are not going to take your vote for granted. We will not disappoint you, the electorate. The confidence you have placed upon us did not go unnoticed.

I also want to thank and congratulate the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) for its sterling work in organising and running the 2021 Local Government Elections in an effective and professional manner. I trust that all councillors will join me in thanking the IEC and its staff members for the dignified manner in which elections were conducted. We were appeased by the declaration of 2021 Local Government Elections free and fair despite the praxis of COVID-19. The elections were successful under very difficult circumstances due to

COVID-19. We believe that this is a demonstration of the deepening of our democracy.

**Honourable Councillors,**

Now the votes have been cast and counted. It is time for us to put our differences aside and unite in the service of our people. Our people deserve only the best efforts from us, whether they are in the political leadership, in Management, in all positions within our administration and across the spectrum of our partners in business, labour, faith-based, community and civil society. They all deserve the best from all of us.

With these few words, allow me to thank you once more for the confidence expressed in us as a collective by electing me as the Mayor of this Municipality, Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, named after the late Mr Elias Motsoaledi who was and sent to Robben Island by the apartheid regime. We owe it to Mr Elias Motsoaledi in the betterment of the lives of our people.

**Honourable Councillors,** I want to commit that we as leadership of this Council will be guided by the plight of the poor to bring about a better life for all. We will commit to implement the promises we have communicated during the 2021 Elections Campaigns.

***The Speaker, for, I accept my election as the Mayor of the Elias Motsoaledi Local Municipality, with humility and commitment to serve the entire community of Elias Motsoaledi with dedication and respect to the best of my ability.***

I thank you The Speaker and this Honourable Council!