



MEDIA RELEASE

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Mayor hands over key of the town to Miss Universe

Local golden girl and Miss Universe, Demi-Leigh Peters received a warm welcome from Greater Knysna residents and visitors during her homecoming parade in Sedgefield on Sunday, 28 January.

Knysna Executive Mayor, Eleanore Bouw-Spies bestowed the freedom of the town on Peters and handed over a symbolic key to her in front of the excited crowd in the Sedgefield Primary Sport Field. "Congratulations Demi-Leigh we are all so proud of you. Becoming Miss Universe is a big achievement. Thanks you for putting the Greater Knysna on the map, and making Sedgefield a priority in your busy schedule.

"You have shown the youth in our town that, yes it can be done, it is possible and dreams do come true. Thank you for teaching the young ones and the older generation that hard work pays off. Sometimes all we see is the glitz and glam but never really take note of all the hard work behind the scene. You have worked hard and are now reaping the benefits."

Bouw-Spies thanked Peters parents for raising such a gracious, kind and humble lady. "You have shown us that your parents have raised such a gracious, kind and humble lady. Thank you to your parents."

The Mayor expressed her appreciation to Peters for putting Greater Knysna on the world map. "No other title is as unique as this, and no other accolade provides the platform for such a broad scope of influence. After the hardship and trying times we went through during the fires, the Miss Universe title is such a significant part of Knysna's phoenix rising from the ashes. We wish you all the best for your journey. May it be filled with prosperity. Thank you for bringing the crown home."

The freedom of the town/city is an honour bestowed by a municipality upon a valued member of the community, or upon a visiting celebrity or dignitary. This allows them the freedom to parade through the city, and is an affirmation of the bond between the regiment and the citizenry.

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Knysna Municipality Communications Department

P O Box 21, Knysna. 6570. Western Cape. South Africa

Tel +27 (0)44 302 6300 (switchboard) or 302 6471 (direct)

Fax +27 (0)86 215 4818 e-mail communications@knysna.gov.za