

MEDIA STATEMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KZN DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS WELCOMES NEW INTERNS

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA) on Tuesday the 1st of April, officially welcomed a new cohort of 116 interns at an induction ceremony held in Pietermaritzburg.

The Internship Induction Programme marks the beginning of a transformative journey for young professionals who have joined the Department across various business units. This initiative reflects the Department's commitment to youth empowerment, skills development, and building a capable public service.

The interns will be placed within the Department for a 24-month period, during which they will receive a monthly stipend. The programme provides meaningful workplace experience aligned to their qualifications, supported by trained mentors and exposure to real work environments within the public sector.

In his address to the interns, MEC for Economic Development , Tourism and Environmental Affairs, Rev. Musa Zondi, reminded them of the weight of the opportunity they have been given.

"You are not here to make copies or serve coffee. You are here to observe, to question, to engage, to contribute, and most importantly - to learn," he said.

He further encouraged departmental officials to play an active and intentional role as mentors, instilling both skills and values that reflect a responsive, ethical, and service-driven public administration.

"This is a deliberate investment in the future of our province and our country," said MEC Zondi.

The Department sees this Internship Programme as part of its broader efforts to promote inclusive economic growth and youth development in KwaZulu-Natal.

Ends

Issued by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA)