CE Inligtingsnota – 25 Junie 2026

- **MONC teen onderburgemeester Ruben Richards misluk**
- **Berei voor vir meer vloede**
- **DA-raadslid skuldig aan wangedrag**
- **Raadsake duur voort ten spyte van teenkanting**

Geagte CE-ondersteuners

# KOALISIE ONDER LEIDING VAN DIE CE STAAN STERK TEN SPYTE VAN AANVALLE DEUR DIE OPPOSISIE

## 6de MOSIE VAN WANVERTROUE (MONC) TEEN RUBEN RICHARDS MISLUK

Gister, 24 Junie 2026, het die Munisipale Raad 'n 6-uur lange Spesiale Raadsvergadering gehou om meer as 30 sakepunte wat die munisipaliteit raak, te hanteer. Een so 'n punt was 'n mosie van wantroue teen CE-raadslid dr. Ruben Richards wie die onderburgemeester is. Die mosie is deur die DA en PA ter tafel gelê wat aangevoer het dat raadslid Richards onbevoeg is as onderburgesmeester en verwyder moet word. Raadslid Richards het sy omvattende reaksie in die openbare rekord voorgelees wat die prestasies van 'n CE-geleide koalisie onder sy leiderskap uiteensit, insluitend die bereiking van 'n skoon oudit en die opgradering van infrastruktuuragterstande. Die mosie is tot stemming gebring. Die meerderheid het ten gunste van raadslid Richards gestem, wie  die onderburgemeesterskap van die Cederberg Munisipaliteit behou. Dit was die 6de keer gedurende hierdie ampstermyn dat die opposisie probeer het om CE leierskap en dr. Ruben Richards deur middel van 'n mosie van wantroue te vernietig.

## CEDERBERG BEREI VOOR VIR TOEKOMSTIGE VLOEDE

Weerkundiges het gewaarsku dat Cederberg weens klimaatsverandering meer vloede moet verwag. Die swaar reën van vroeg in Mei 2026 het enorme wateruitdagings vir die Cederberg en baie ander munisipaliteite in die Wes-Kaap veroorsaak. Die hoofslagoffer van die storms was die Clanwilliamdam, wat besoedel geraak het en die water grootliks ondrinkbaar maak. Die Clanwilliamdam is die hoofbron van water vir die dorp. Intussen werk die munisipaliteit hard om drinkwater aan die inwoners van Clanwilliam te verskaf terwyl dit die installering van nuwe waterpype finaliseer en medium- tot langtermyn-filtrasieoplossings ondersoek. Ongelukkig gaan die gehalte van die water uit die Clanwilliamdam nie oornag verbeter nie.

Gister het die raad die MM en die administrasie opdrag gegee om medium- tot langtermyn-oplossings te verkry, wat 'n groter filtreeraanleg insluit.

## DA-RAADSLID JOHN HAYES SKULDIG AAN VERDERE WANGEDRAG

Na maande van vertraging en regsgedinge sedert November 2025, het die Dissiplinêre Komitee van die Raad, wat aangestel is om die wangedrag van Raadslid Dr. John Hayes te ondersoek, sy ondersoek 5 Junie 2026 afgesluit. Hulle verslag is gister aan die raad voorgelê. Die Raad het Raadslid Hayes skuldig bevind aan die oortreding van die Gedragskode vir Raadslede met betrekking tot sy gedrag op sosiale media. Hy het vertroulike raadsinligting op sosiale media geplaas – iets wat geen raadslid mag doen nie. Die Raad het aanbeveel dat Raadslid Dr. John Hayes tot 31 Oktober 2026 geskors word. In ooreenstemming met die Wet op Munisipale Strukture sal die besluit na die LUR vir Plaaslike Regering, mnr. Anton Bredell, verwys word vir finale goedkeuring, want slegs die LUR kan 'n raadslid skors. Dit is die tweede oortreding deur Raadslid John Hayes wat onlangs skuldig bevind is aan die oneer wat hy oor die raad gebring het deur swart mense met bobbejane te assosieer.

## CE/ANC/VF PLUS KEUR AANPASSINGSBEGROTING GOED EN ANDER SAKE

Die raad se agenda is oorheers deur finansiële sake. Die oorlog in die Midde-Ooste het byvoorbeeld die werk van die munisipaliteit beïnvloed in die vorm van brandstofpryse en vertragings deur diensverskaffers wat nie onderdele en voorrade betyds kon invoer om werk/tenders wat deur die munisipaliteit goedgekeur is, te voltooi nie. Hierdie en ander redes het die munisipaliteit gedwing om sy begroting aan te pas en sekere beleide te wysig. Die CE-geleide koalisie het die begrotingsaanpassings goedgekeur terwyl die opposisiepartye teen die aanpassings gestem het.

Die ander sake wat deur die raad goedgekeur is, het betrekking op tegniese sake soos die installering van elektrisiteits-slimmeters, 'n terugvoer verslag van die Finansiële Wangedragskomitee, en die aanvaarding van verskeie beleide en handveste met betrekking tot omgewings- en kusbestuursake, rekordhouding en die interne ouditfunksie van die munisipaliteit, asook die kennisneming van die Distriksontwikkelingsmodel en die goedkeuring van die SDBIP (Diensleweringsbegroting-implementeringsplan 2025/2026).

Die sake van die raad het voort gegaan ten spyte van robuuste debat en argumente tussen die regerende koalisie en die opposisie. Dit is immers demokrasie – solank die debatte lei tot beter besluite om Cederberg te verbeter.

## WATERSITUASIE IN CLANWILLIAM

Soos per agendapunt, het die Raad 'n uitgebreide en vrugbare bespreking gehou oor oplossings vir die wateruitdagings wat Clanwilliam in die gesig staar. Die tegniese

departement het 'n gedetailleerde verslag verskaf oor al die pogings wat aan die gang is om die wateruitdaging wat veroorsaak is deur die swaar reën van middel Mei 2026, op te los, insluitend die installering van aparte waterpype om te verhoed dat die water van die Jan Disselsrivier met die water van die dam meng asook die voorsiening van drinkwater aan inwoners deur middel van mobiele watertenkwaens.

Die tegniese direkteur, Riaan De Ridder, het daarop gewys dat die gehalte van die Clanwilliamdamwater dramaties versleg het as gevolg van die onlangse oorstromings en die dreinering van puin van verder op in die Olifantsriviervallei. Die waterfilters wat onlangs in Clanwilliam geïnstalleer is, is nou te klein om die onverwagte vlakke van besoedeling en troebelheid van die damwater te hanteer. Ten tyde van installasie was die NTU-vlakke van die damwater 17. Dit is nou meer as 100. Die Raad het die MM gemagtig om dringend die toepaslike tenderprosesse te aktiveer om 'n groter waterfiltrasiestelsel vir Clanwilliam aan te skaf.

## DANKIE – Die pad na November 2026 verkiesing

Onder CE-leierskap het die munisipaliteit dramaties verbeter en dit was slegs moontlik danksy julle gebede en ondersteuning.

CE is soos die lug wat ons inasem – ons kan dit nie sien nie – maar daarsonder gaan julle nie oorleef nie. CE is baie besig om die munisipaliteit te herstel en stabiliseer ten spyte van sterk teenkanting. Die politieke opposisie sal van nou af tot die November 2026 verkiesing met erens en deur “vuil politiek” probeer om almal te oortuig dat CE nutteloos is. Hulle sal inligting verdraai en halwe waarhede versprei, alles in 'n poging om CE te vernietig. Die werklikheid is dat 'n CE-geleide koalisie die munisipaliteit van ondergang gered het. Ons sal nou ons eie suksesverhaal begin vertel, want ons het 'n goeie boodskap om aan die inwoners van Cederberg te vertel.

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CE Information Note – 25 June 2026

- **MONC against Deputy Mayor Ruben Richards fails**
- **Prepare for more floods**
- **DA councillor guilty of misconduct**
- **Council business continues despite opposition**

Dear CE supporters

# CE-led coalition stands strong despite being attacked by the Opposition

## 6th MOTION OF NO CONFIDENCE (MONC) AGAINST RUBEN RICHARDS FAILS

Yesterday, 24 June 2026, the Municipal Council held a 7-hour Special Council meeting to deal with more than 30 items of business affecting the municipality. One such item was a motion of no confidence against CE Councillor Dr Ruben Richards who is the Deputy Mayor. The motion was tabled by the Democratic Alliance and Patriotic Alliance who argued that Cllr Richards is an incompetent deputy mayor and must be removed. Cllr Richards read into the public record his comprehensive response outlining the achievements of a CE-led coalition under this leadership including achieving a clean audit and the upgrading infrastructure backlogs. The motion was then put to a vote. The majority voted in favour of Cllr Richards who retains his position as the Deputy Mayor of the Cederberg Municipality. This was the 6th time during this term of office that the opposition has tried to destroy CE leadership and Ruben Richards by way of a motion of no confidence.

## CEDERBERG PREPARES FOR FUTURE FLOODS

Weather experts have warned that because of climate change, Cederberg must expect more floods. The heavy rains of early May 2026 have caused enormous water challenges for the Cederberg and many other municipalities in the Western Cape. The main victim of the storms was the Clanwilliam Dam which has become polluted making its water largely undrinkable. The Clanwilliam Dam is the main source of water for the town. In the meantime, the municipality is hard at work to provide drinking water to the residents of Clanwilliam while it finalises the installation of new water pipes and explores medium to long term filtration solutions. Unfortunately, the quality of the water from the Clanwilliam Dam is not going to improve overnight.

Yesterday, council mandated the MM and the administration to procure medium to long term solutions which include a bigger filtration plant.

# CE Information Note – 25 June 2026

## DA COUNCILLOR JOHN HAYES GUILTY OF MORE MISCONDUCT

After many months of delay and legal argument since November 2025, the Disciplinary Committee of Council which was appointed to investigate the misconduct by Councillor Dr John Hayes, concluded its investigation on 5 June 2026. Their report was tabled to council yesterday. Council resolved that Cllr Hayes was guilty of breaching the Code of Conduct for Councillors in respect of his conduct on social media. He was charged for posting confidential council information on social media – something no councillor may do. Council recommended that Councillor Dr John Hayes be suspended until 31 October 2026. In line with the Municipal Structures Act, the decision will be referred to the MEC for Local Government, Mr Anton Bredell for final approval because only the MEC can suspend a councillor. This is the second offence by Councillor John Hayes who has recently been found guilty of bringing disgrace upon the council by associating black people with baboons.

## CE/ANC/VF PLUS APPROVE ADJUSTMENT BUDGET AND OTHER MATTERS OF BUSINESS

The council agenda was dominated by financial matters. The war in the Middle East, for example, has affected the work of the municipality in the form of fuel prices and delays by service providers who could not import parts and supplies in time to complete work/tenders approved by the municipality. This and other reasons has forced the municipality to adjust its budget and amend certain policies. The CE-led coalition approved the budget adjustments while the opposition political parties voted against the adjustments.

The other matters of business approved by council related to technical matters such as the installation of Electrical Smart Meters, a report back from the Financial Misconduct Committee, and the adoption of various policies and charters related to environmental and coastal management matters, record keeping and the internal audit function of the municipality as well as taking note of the District Development Model and approving the SDBIP (Service Delivery Budget Implementation Plan 2025/2026).

The business of council proceeded despite robust debate and arguments between the ruling coalition and the opposition. That is democracy after all – as long as the debates lead to better decisions to improve Cederberg.

## WATER SITUATION IN CLANWILLIAM

As per an agenda item, Council held an extensive and fruitful discussion regarding solutions to the water challenges facing Clanwilliam. The technical department provided a detailed report on all the efforts underway to fix the water challenge caused by the heavy rains of mid-May 2026 including the installation of separate water pipes to prevent the water from the Jan Dissels River from mixing with the water from the dam as well as the provision of drinkable water to residents via mobile water tankers.

The technical director, Riaan De Ridder pointed out that the quality of the Clanwilliam Dam water deteriorated dramatically as a result of the recent flooding and the drainage of debris from further up the Olifants River Valley. The water filters which were recently installed in Clanwilliam are now too small to cope with the unexpected levels of pollution and turbidity of the dam water. At the time of installation, the NTU levels of the dam water was 17. It is now over 100. Council mandated the MM to urgently activate the appropriate tender processes to procure a bigger water filtration system for Clanwilliam.

## THANK YOU – The road to November 2026 elections

Under CE-leadership the municipality has improved dramatically and this was only possible because of your prayers and support.

CE is like the air we breathe – we cannot see it – but without it you are not going to survive. CE is very busy restoring and stabilising the municipality despite strong political opposition. The political opposition will as of now until the November 2026 elections try using "dirty politics" to convince everybody that CE is useless. They will twist information and spread half-truths all in an effort to destroy CE. The reality is that a CE-led coalition has rescued the municipality from ruin. We will begin to tell our own success story now, because we have a good news story to tell the residents of Cederberg.

*Issued by Cederberg Eerste* Contact: info@cederbergeerste.co.za