

CBE BULLETIN

AUGUST 2019



for a better built environment

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 01 Editorial and Disclaimer
- 02 Parliamentary Portfolio Committee Visit
- 03 Women's Day in South Africa
- 04 Women in the Built Environment
- 05 Update: Identification of Work
- 06 Out-and-About

Publication Team

Evelyn Bramdeow (Editor):

evelyn@cbe.org.za

Lulu Dube (Photography & Design):

lulu@cbe.org.za

Disclaimer

We welcome your comments and contribution to this publication. Views expressed in this newsletter, specifically in articles that profile other built environment stakeholders, are not necessarily those of the CBE.

Email us on newsletter@cbe.org.za

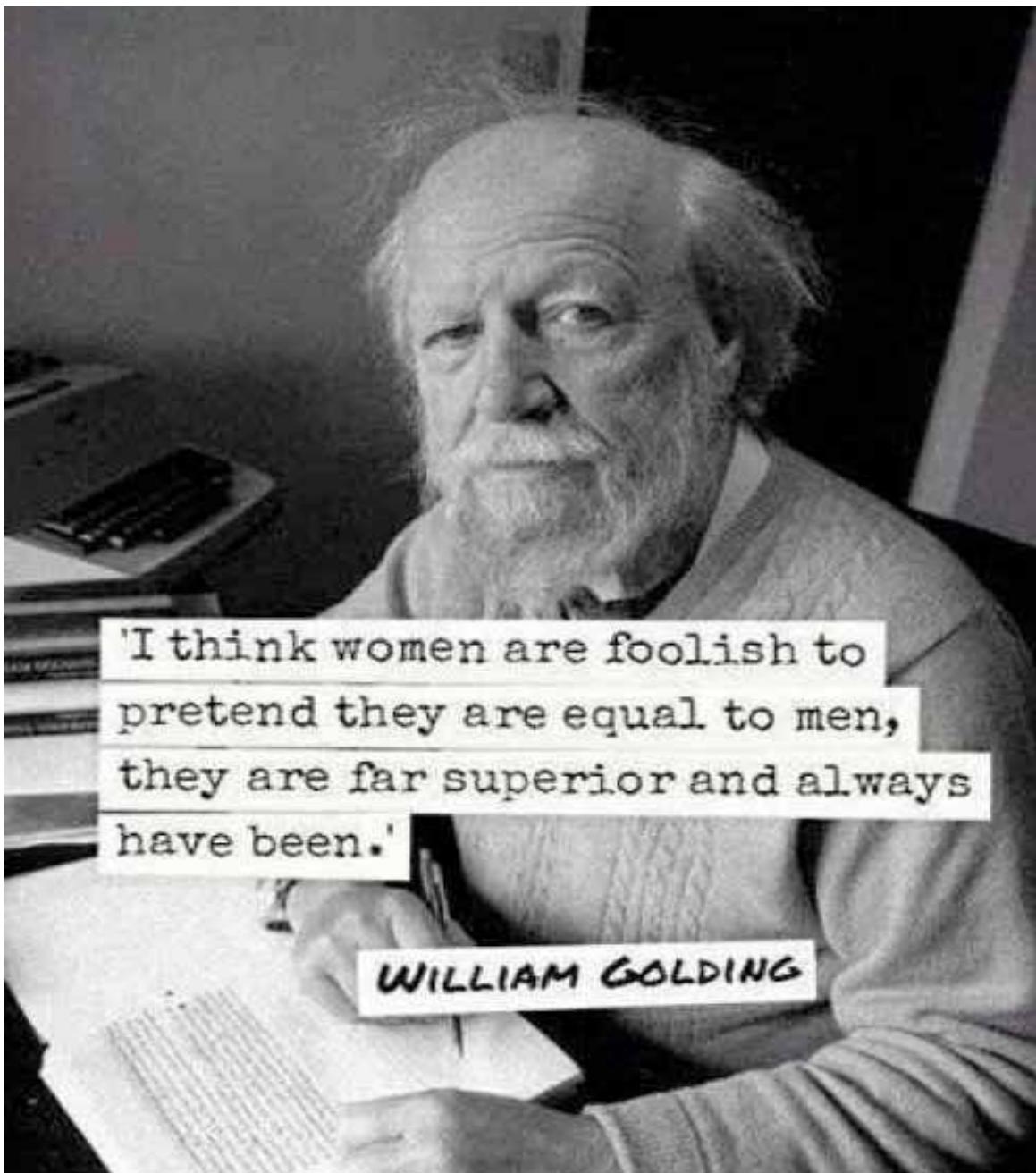
Dear Reader

Throughout history, there are women who changed the world in many ways. Fighting for justice, fighting for freedom and taking time to care for those in need are just some of the many examples. Women who each in their own way have made a difference, and with whom the world is a better place. This mind space shrouds August in South Africa, so much so that the commemoration of Women's Day on one day has escalated to August being Women's Month. It is no wonder then that the same spirit prevails in this issue - from broad strokes delving into the origins of Women's Day to celebrating our very own Council Member, Noluthando Molao. And just some inside information...the commemoration does not stop here. Creamer Media interviewed our very own CEO, Priscilla Mdlalose earlier this month for their Women's Day feature...so watch this space in the next issue.

Another August highlight was the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee's visit to CBE on 30 August 2019.

Enjoy your read,

Evelyn Bramdeow



Parliamentary Portfolio Committee Visit

The Portfolio Committee on Public Works and Infrastructure undertook an oversight visit to Gauteng on 25-31 August 2019. Headed by Chairperson Honourable N. Ntobongwana, the eleven-member delegation visited all entities of the Department of Public Works and Infrastructure in Gauteng with the objective of ascertaining the primary reach and role functions of each of them. Project site visits and face-to-face engagements with the key role players of the entities elevated the Committee's understanding from the regular reports and presentations delivered by the entities.

Saving the best for last, the Council for the Built Environment (CBE) was their final pit stop on Friday,

30 August 2019. The CBE host team comprised the Chairpersons of its Council and sub-committees, Executive Management, and the Registrars and Presidents of the six Councils for the Built Environment Professions (CBEP).

It was an intense day of discussions on a number of focus areas – from governance, reporting, professional registration, to transformation in the built environment. The ethos of the approach was to work collaboratively for a built environment that is relevant to our society.



Women in charge: Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Public Works and Infrastructure Honourable N Ntobongwana (left) chairs the deliberations as Committee Secretary Ms N Jobodwana (centre) and CBE Act Chairperson Ms Maphef Mogodi (right) listen in.

Women's Day in South Africa

In September 1955, the issue of passes burst into the public eye again when the government announced that it would start issuing reference books to black women from January 1956. Women, now politicised and well organised into a powerful resistance movement, immediately rose to the challenge. In October 1955 and August 1956, women marched to the Union Buildings carrying petitions to protest against the Urban Areas Act (commonly known as the pass laws*). Both marches were organised by FEDSAW (the Federation of South African Women) and led by four women who came from the Indian, white, coloured, and black communities - Rahima Moosa, Helen Joseph, Sophie Williams and Lilian Ngoyi. Other participants included Frances Baard, a statue of whom was unveiled on National Women's Day 2009.

On 9 August 1956, more than 20 000 women staged a march on the Union Buildings in Pretoria to protest against the proposed amendments to the pass laws of 1950. They left bundles of petitions containing more than 100 000 signatures at prime minister J.G. Strijdom's office doors.

Outside they stood silently for 30 minutes, many with their children on their backs. The women sang a protest song that was composed in honour of the occasion: Wathint' Abafazi Wathint' imbokodo! (Now

you have touched the women, you have struck a rock.). In the 54 years since, the phrase (or its latest incarnation: "you strike a woman, you strike a rock") has come to represent women's courage and strength in South Africa.

Since 9 August 1994, the day has been commemorated annually and is known as "Women's Day" in South Africa. In 2006, a re-enactment of the march was staged for its 50th anniversary, with many of the 1956 march veterans. The month of August is now dedicated to women and is marked by several government events that honours the contribution of women, and their foray into stereo typed male dominated spaces. National Women's Day draws attention to significant issues African women still face, such as parenting, gender violence, sexual harassment in the workplace, unequal pay, and schooling for all girls - illustrating the 2019 theme "#PressforProgress".

**Pass laws were designed to control the movement of Africans under apartheid. These laws evolved from regulations imposed by the Dutch and British in the 18th and 19th-century slave economy of the Cape Colony. The Pass Laws Act of 1952 made it compulsory for all black South Africans over the age of 16 to carry the "passbook" at all times within white areas.*



The leaders of the 1955 Women's March holding the petitions against passes, from left: Rahima Moosa, Lilian Ngoyi, Helen Joseph, and Sophie Williams. (Source: www.geni.com; wikipedia)

Women in the Built Environment



Ms Noluthando Molao
CBE Council Member

The Built Environment is traditionally male-dominated with the associated stereotypes that discourage maternity leave, long working hours and perpetuate the narrative that women cannot execute leadership roles. However, studies show an increase in the number of women involved in the Built Environment, partly due to career awareness, education and the promotion of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. The Built Environment is a key pillar for growth in the South African economy, so the inclusion of women is important and should be an imperative.

Long gone are the days of the hunters and gatherers, and women have broken some of the barriers that exist to exclude them in the Built Environment space. The Honourable Public Works and Infrastructure Minister, Patricia de Lille MP, is an example of how women have been included in our current government, arising from that fateful day in 1956. Back at the ranch at CBE, Council Member Noluthando Molao is an example of a woman making strides towards breaking the proverbial glass ceiling in the Built Environment.

Armed with a BSc Quantity Surveying (Honours) degree, her track record spans over 15 years in the Built Environment. Apart from serving actively on a number of boards, she is an Associate Director at Turner & Townsend, responsible for Business Development in the Public Sector Real Estate and Social Infrastructure. She is passionate about education and skills development in STEM disciplines.

She has successfully planned and delivered projects, leading complex teams and implemented high value capital infrastructure and real estate projects. Noluthando has had the privilege to work on some of South Africa's iconic projects such as the construction of the New Orlando Stadium and more recently, the Gautrain Station Platform Extensions at OR Tambo International Airport.

In 2016, Noluthando received the *Women in Construction Pioneer of Innovation Award 2016*, *Women in Property Network Professional of the Year (Private Sector)*, and the *South African Construction Awards Women in Construction 2016*. She cut the nod as one of five finalists for the '*South African Professional Services Awards Professional of the Year in the Construction Sector of the Built Environment*' category, and one of six finalists for '*Woman Professional of the Year*'. A judge at one of the awards ceremonies stated that "*Noluthando's position as an Associate Director in the Public Sector space positions her to assist her company to make inroads into the sector, while participating in the country's growth story by working with government to achieve its public service goals. Beyond the awards she has won, the judges were further impressed that she is assisting other women to pull through a male dominated profession by acting as a professional mentor and facilitator...*"

It is important that technical competence, professional registration and involvement in the built environment is required for it to be sustainable and for transformation. Women need to be part of the transitional nature of the environment, and can make a difference in the sector. Let's build our women to be the difference.

Update: Identification of Work

The Council for the Built Environment, in consultation with the Councils for the Built Environment Professions, decided to approach the identification of work process in accordance with its enabling legislation i.e. the Council for the Built Environment Act, 43 of 2000 (the CBE Act), instead of submitting an application to be exempted from the provisions of the Competition Act, 89 of 1998 with the Competition Commission (CC). This entails the identification of the scope of work for each category of registration, as prescribed by section 20 (2) of the CBE Act, after consultation with the Competition Commission.

The CBE identified the scope of work for the categories of registration regulated by the South African Council for the Quantity Surveying Profession (SACQSP), the South African Council for the Architectural Profession (SACAP), the South African Council for the Project and Construction Management Professions (SACPMP), the South African Council for the Landscape Architectural Profession (SACLAP) and the South Africa Council for the Property Valuers Profession (SACPVP), and

submitted same to the CC with an invitation to consult with the CBE. The CC is yet to respond to the invitation. The CBE will continue to seek constructive engagement with the CC on the process going forward.

The CBE is in the process of publishing the identified scopes of work on its website and in the *Gazette* for information. It is envisaged that the said publication will be to the benefit of end users of built environment professional services.

The identification of work, being the identified scope of work for each category of registration, is deemed an important component in the regulation of the built environment professions by the six CBEP. It will, with other measures such as codes of conduct and practice, advisory notes and an advocacy process form a regulatory framework. The development of a policy framework to inform a regulatory framework is also underway, and consultation with the six CBEP on the content thereof will commence soon.

Out-and-About



Learners visiting the South African Council for Project and Construction Management Professions (SACPCMP) stand at the recent SABC Career Expo were clearly having fun donning their "Construction is Cool" stickers.



Built environment stalwart Dr Thandi Cynthia Ndlovu was tragically killed in a car crash. CBE Acting Chairperson, Ms Maphefo Mogodi, addressed the memorial hosted by the Black Business Council for the Built Environment (BBCBE) for the business fraternity in Kempton Park. RIP Dr T.