

April 2018

# CBE Bulletin



C B E

COUNCIL  
FOR THE BUILT  
ENVIRONMENT

architecture  
engineering  
landscape architecture  
project & construction management  
property valuation  
quantity surveying





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## Dear Reader

The 1st of April not only marks April fool's Day but also heralds in the new financial year. So, in typical New Year fashion, let's hope your aims and goals for the new 2018/19 financial year are in place, together with plans to achieve them. An important South African milestone is the remembrance of our first democratic elections marked by Freedom Day on 27 April. Equally important in April is the observation of Earth Day on 22 April. CBE Council member, Dr Ida Breed's feature article in this issue makes for very good reading with practical tips for our built environment practitioners.

CBE's line department, the Department Public Works undertook a working visit to Cuba at the invitation from the Cuban Ministry of Construction. Our very own Nana Mhlongo was privileged to be in the Ministerial delegation and shares her perspective of the visit.

Time is running out for public nominations for CBE's fifth term Council. If you have a possible candidate in mind, please submit your nomination form by 07 May 2018.

In the out-and-about section, the Transformation Roadshow moved up a notch to the Eastern Cape Province; and CBE did a 'two-in-one' at Mamelodi High School - a furniture donation and career expo.

**Enjoy your read,**

**Evelyn Bramdeow**

***"Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted."***

*(Albert Einstein)*

# Earth day is every day



**Dr Ida Breed**  
**CBE Council Member**

**A**pril 22nd commemorates the day in 1970 when millions of people took to the streets to protest the negative impacts of industrial development. International Earth Day reminds each of us that the Earth provides us with life and sustenance. It also recognizes our collective responsibility, as per the 1992 Rio Declaration, to promote harmony with nature and ecosystems and achieve a just balance among the needs of present and future generations of all living creatures. The goal is to protect humans, biodiversity and the planet that we all live on.

Earth Day 2018 will focus on mobilizing the world to end plastic pollution. From poisoning and injuring marine life to the presence of plastics in our food to disrupting human hormones and causing major life-threatening diseases, the exponential production of plastics is threatening our survival. The goals include ending single-use plastics, promoting alternatives to fossil fuel-based materials, promoting 100 per cent recycling of plastics, corporate and government accountability and changing human behaviour concerning plastics (Earth Day Network, 2018).

The focus of Earth Day 2018 relates directly to initiatives to limit climate change. Plastic bags and climate change is linked through habitat destruction, fossil fuel emissions, and plastic pollution. Climate change is a direct threat to biodiversity, and that includes humans. The built environment can strongly contribute to actions that will help limit climate change and biodiversity destruction.

Climate change, formerly described as global warming, is primarily caused by greenhouse gas emissions that results in ozone depletion and in more UV radiation reaching the earth's surface. The radiation affects the environment and the health of all living things. The most significant (known) effects to humans are increased incidence of skin cancer, eye cataracts, and damage to the human immune system. A myriad of other side effects that has not yet been identified, are sure to exist.

Ozone depletion in the stratosphere is caused by ozone depleting chemicals (ODS). These chemicals are often used in refrigerants, aerosol sprays, blowing agents, cleaning solvents and fire extinguishing agents. While the vast majority of ODS usage is either industrial or commercial, all of these are often used during construction processes and as part of building operations. There has been considerable progress in finding non-ozone-depleting substitutes for ODS in air-conditioning and refrigeration applications.

## Earth day is every day (continued)

Built environment professionals involved in the design, construction and operational phases as designers, project managers or quantity surveyors should be mindful of what they specify, how it is produced, and any waste that will remain after the product is used. Their specifications should include the following:

- Alternative insulating materials;
- Substitutes for hydrocarbon blown polystyrene, plastic film wrap and bags;
- Alternatives (or check the packaging materials of products that you specify) such as plastic film bubble wraps;
- Alternative cleaning solvents and processes procedures and maintenance;
- Air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment that do not use HCFC<sup>1</sup>s as refrigerant;
- Aerosol products that do not use HCFCs or CFC<sup>2</sup>s as propellants;
- Regular inspection and maintenance of air-conditioning and refrigeration appliances to prevent and minimize refrigerant leakage;
- Existing wrong appliances to be recovered or recycled replacing or retrofitting such equipment;
- When own or client fleet motor vehicle air-conditioners need servicing, make sure that the refrigerants are properly recovered and recycled; (Environmental Protection Department, 2005)

Engineers, architects and landscape architects form part of a design team, but along with them project and construction managers, quantity surveyors and property valuers must perform an educational role to their clients and insist on the correct product or design alternatives that do not hinge on profit and economy, but rather on science and technique. We must stop supporting companies and products (and even accepting any work) that intend to profit from destruction of our communal habitat and exploit our fellow beings. It is the poorest of the poor who will suffer first and foremost from the effects of climate change, but soon the rest will follow.

The CBE, as part of National Government, urges every built environment professional to acknowledge and actively put means in practice to fight climate change. Recruit your family, friends, colleagues and clients. Although many procedure manuals and rating systems already exist for environmentally conscious design and construction in South Africa, here are some basic principles that built environment professionals can start implementing today:

### Transportation during and as part of design, planning and practice:

- Good access to public transport, biking and walk lanes must form part of all development planning and design;
- Promote mix of uses instead of large areas of specific zoning that depends on commuting;
- Promote and purchase electric plug-in vehicles or hybrid or a highly efficient internal combustion engine vehicles;
- When going to meetings or site: ride share with others, fly less or buy carbon offsets for your air travel;

### Specifying products for construction:

- Specify and buy all items with awareness of the embodied energy of the product, the consequences to human and environmental health; thus, specify locally manufactured and ISO certified products, even if they “appear” more expensive, they do not profit from exploitation of people and the environment;
- Specify recycled or second use of material where possible and reduce waste. Donate what cannot be used on site to Non-Governmental Organizations; and
- The ultimate goal is to get to zero single use plastics. Recycling of plastic must form part of all construction and operational site procedures;

1 Hydrochlorofluorocarbons

2 Chlorofluorocarbons

## Earth day is every day (continued)

### Design considerations:

- Reduce energy consumption through design for construction and operation; e.g. design buildings to make use of natural light and ventilation;
- Incorporate green devices as intrinsic parts of architecture that reduce the use of air conditioning and mechanical systems;
- Promote renewable energy sources for the running of on-site systems;
- Reduce water usage through design and during construction and operation of what you design;
- Design to minimize impervious surfaces to infiltrate storm water;
- Design all surfaces with low albedo values (avoid dark colours that trap heat and contributes to city heat island effect);
- Avoid lawns that use up excessive amounts of water. This results in less maintenance and a lot less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from lawnmowers;
- Promote the use of native plants that attract butterflies and pollinators needed for food production worldwide;
- Only specify the use of organic pesticides and herbicides in landscape maintenance (to save those pollinators);
- Promote the maximum incorporation of trees in all design projects. Trees absorb CO<sub>2</sub> and help with heat island reduction;
- Suggest food gardens as part of all typologies of built environment design projects, to lower embodied energy of food;
- Specify composting of food and organic material as part of maintenance procedures; and
- Design green lounges and green links for healthy biodiversity and people (This Spaceship Earth, 2018).

### Own and staff eating practices:

- Reduce your meat consumption as much as possible. Agriculture, particularly raising cattle, creates more greenhouse emissions than all forms of transportation;
- Take a bag when you go shopping and do not buy overly wrapped products. Both paper and plastic are bad environmental choices; and
- Eat organic food and do not buy imported food (out of season) or grown with chemicals.

This advice gets into our comfort zones (and as the old adage goes: **Nothing grows in comfort zones**). However, the irreversible consequences of climate change will soon make us very uncomfortable, if it has not already done so in the form of drought, lack of water, temperature increase, flooding, disease etc. The illiterate of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot unlearn destructive habits. The CBE together with all the built environment professionals must lead the way in this necessary change.

References:

*Earth Day Network. 2018.* Found online at < <https://www.earthday.org/> > Accessed April, 2018.

*Environmental Protection Department. 2005.* Found online at <<http://www.epd.gov.hk>> Accessed April 2018.

*This Spaceship Earth. 2018.* Found online at <<https://thisspaceshipearth.org/>> Accessed April 2018.



# Strengthening our ties with Cuba



***The South African Delegation (from right to left): Honourable Minister TW Nxesi (DPW Ministry), Dr John Lewis (DPW Ministry), Mr Joe Odhiambo (Agrément SA), Ms Vangile Manzini (DPW Professional Services), Mr Wasnaar Hlabangwane (DPW Construction Management) and Ms Nana Mhlongo (CBE).***

**M**r TW Nxesi, Honourable Minister of Public Works received a congratulatory and invitation letter, upon his re-appointment into the Department of Public Works (DPW), from the Cuban Ministry of Construction. The invitation was to participate in the Cuban International Fair of Construction held in Havana during 02-06 April 2018. Upon the Minister's acceptance of the invitation, part of the trip was to explore extending the Memorandum of Understanding with the Cuban counterparts towards an exchange programme for students in construction and the built environment. This is linked to the current agreement on Cuban Technical Assistants (CTAs).

A framework for a student exchange programme will be developed, and piloted in Cuba before it is explored in other countries. Cuba has been selected on the basis of the current exchange of professionals (CTAs) recruited by DPW. The CBE, together with DPW will facilitate engagements with key role players to ensure the verification and alignment of Cuban and South African built environment qualifications. This will ensure that students sent to Cuba, will return to South Africa with recognised qualifications, and thus be considered for relevant professional registration in line with the country's standards.

The Public Works delegation was led and guided by the Minister. The Cuban International Fair of Construction was partially attended, to allow more time for the officials to engage with the key role players in education and training for the built environment. One of the days was dedicated to completing the recruitment of CTAs, outstanding from the 2015 recruitment exercise. This was done by the DPW and CBE officials.

## Strengthening our ties with Cuba (continued)

The Minister and the officials received a warm reception and immense support throughout the trip, both from the Union de Empresas Constructoras Caribe (UNECA S.A.) team as well as the staff at the Embassy of South Africa in Cuba. The main host of the delegation was UNECA S.A., an entity of the Ministry of Construction in Cuba who has, as part of its responsibility, to market the Cuban built environment and construction skills to the international community. UNECA S.A. facilitated all the meetings with the relevant stakeholders and the necessary logistics for the duration of the visit.

The exercise highlighted areas for learning on the Cuban built environment education and infrastructure delivery approaches. The lessons learnt from the trip were beyond the interests of skills exchange, and included

learnings from the Cuban approaches on the value-add of defined regulations that guide national interests from its education to implementation. One of the notable approaches is the extensive process followed in the accreditation of educational programmes. Another is the Cuban instillation of pride in the construction and built environment sector in the solutions implemented to contribute to the country's development. The key engagements were with the Department of Superior Education, CUJAE University and Ministry of Construction, and there was a positive expression to support any request from South African counterparts.

Detouring off the main agenda, some of the other activities that enhanced the Cuban experience were the tour of the Cuban Parliament (a renovation and refurbishment project undertaken by Cuban professionals and artisans), signing of the book of condolences marking the death of struggle stalwart Winnie Madikazela-Mandela at the South African Embassy and Minister Nxesi laying a wreath at the Oliver Tambo Memorial.



***Minister TW Nxesi signs the Book of Condolence at the SA Embassy in Cuba to mark the passing of Mama Winnie Madikazela-Mandela.***

# Final call for nominations for CBE's 5th term Council

## INVITATION FOR NOMINATIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO BE APPOINTED TO SERVE ON THE COUNCIL FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

**Closing Date: 7 May 2018**

The Council for the Built Environment (CBE) is a statutory body established under the Council for the Built Environment Act no. 43 of 2000. It is an overarching body that coordinates the six councils for the built environment professions (architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, project and construction management, property valuation and quantity surveying) for the purpose of promoting good conduct within the professions, transforming the professions and advising South African government on built environment related issues.

In terms of section 6(2)(b) of the Council for the Built Environment Act, 2000 (Act 43 of 2000), the CBE hereby *invites nominations from members of the public within the period specified in the notice* from the date of the notice, for its fifth term of office. The term of office of members will be four (4) years. The Council meets at least four times per annum and the appointed person may be required to serve in the sub-committees of the Council.

Nominees must be persons with leadership qualities; an understanding of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) and management of public budget and expenditure; and an understanding of the government priorities and developmental agenda. Preference would be given to persons with either legal; finance; corporate governance or human resource experience to contribute to the strategic direction of the Council for the Built Environment in the interest of the built environment and the public whom they represent.

The Minister of Public Works would take into account representation in terms of race, gender, geographical location and disability when appointing the Council. Nominators and nominees should ensure that they are conversant with the Council for the Built Environment Act (Act No 43 of 2000) especially Section 8(1)–(4) defining the disqualification requirements.

Nominations should be made on the Nomination Form provided for on the CBE website or on request from the e-mail address here below. Please note that failure to comply with the above requirements may result in the disqualification of the nomination.

### Nominations must be sent for the attention of:

Chief Executive Officer  
Council for the Built Environment

Postal Address:	Hand-delivered to:	E-mail:	Website:
PO Box 915	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Corobay Corner 169 Corobay Avenue	council@cbe.org.za	www.cbe.org.za
Groenkloof	(Cnr Dallas & Aramist Ave)		
0027	MENLYN		

**For enquiries please contact: Tel: (012) 346-3985**



# OFFICIAL NOMINATION FORM

## 2018 – 2022

### FOR REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PUBLIC TO SERVE ON THE COUNCIL FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

<b>SECTION A: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE NOMINATOR</b>				
(Note: Only one nomination per Nomination Form)				
<b>PARTICULARS OF NOMINATOR</b>				
Full Names				
Identity No				
Capacity & Institution				
Postal Address				
Tel No		Fax No		
Mobile				
E-mail				
<b>DECLARATION BY NOMINATOR</b>				
I, the undersigned (full names)				
hereby nominate (full names)				
a South African citizen, and resident in South Africa, to be considered for possible appointment by the Minister of Public Works as a member of the Council for the Built Environment for the period 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2022.				
Signed on this		day of		20
Signature			Date	
<b>MOTIVATION BY NOMINATOR (not exceeding one page)</b>				

**SECTION B: ACCEPTANCE DECLARATION BY THE NOMINEE**

I, the undersigned (full names)			
Identity number (of nominee)			
<p>hereby accept my nomination for appointment to the Council for the Built Environment for the period 1 August 2018 to 31 July 2022. I declare that I am a South African citizen, and resident in South Africa and I am not disqualified in terms of Section 8 of the Council for the Built Environment Act (Act No 43 of 2000) to serve on the Council for the Built Environment. I authorize the Council for the Built Environment to investigate any record in relation to such disqualification or requirement.</p>			
Signed on this		day of	20
Signature		Date	

**SECTION C: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE NOMINEE**

<b>Title</b>	Prof	Dr	Mr	Mrs	Ms	Miss
<b>Surname</b>						
<b>First Names</b>						
<b>Gender</b>	Male	Female	<b>Race</b>			
<b>Disability</b>	Yes	No	<b>Nature of Disability</b>			
<b>Date of Birth</b>			<b>ID No</b>			
<b>Postal Address</b>						
<b>Residential Address</b>						
<b>Mobile No</b>						
<b>Work Tel No</b>						
<b>Home Tel No</b>						
<b>Fax No</b>						
<b>E-mail Address</b>						

**PLEASE ATTACH A SHORT CURRICULUM VITAE**

Please list the following in the CV (not exceeding two pages)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Tertiary Education  | 6. Professional Councils / Institutions you serve on |
| 2. Work Experience   | 7. Conflicts of Interest                             |
| 3. List of Competencies  | 8. References  |
| 4. Professional Qualifications and Registration (where applicable) | 9. Certified Copy of Your Qualifications             |
| 5. Directorships   | 10. Certified Copy of Your ID                        |

# Making the circle bigger



**From left to right: Chief Operations Officer, Mokgema Mongane and Chief Executive Officer, Priscilla Mdlalose look on as the Senior Manager, Luvuyo Cweya (on behalf of the Acting HOD), endorses the CBE Transformation Document of Intent.**

CBE's Transformation Indaba on 29 August 2017 was the proverbial pebble in the transformation pond, and the subsequent road shows to stakeholder departments around the country to spread the gospel of the Indaba's Document of Intent are the concentric ripples which are making the transformation circle bigger with each provincial stop.

The latest one was CBE's Transformation Stakeholder Roadshow at Eastern Cape's Provincial Department of Roads and Public Works (DRPW) offices at Bisho on 23 March 2018. The CBE delegation presented on all of its initiatives that address transformation. Hosted by Acting Head of Department, Malikhanye Farrel Mduba, the discussion was rooted in the CBE/DRPW Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2016. The unique feature of this road show was the holistic approach to analyzing the status quo of transformation. Aspects such as candidacy, identification of work (IDoW), professional registration and membership, and skills development were benchmarked against CBE's Transformation Strategy, especially the 'push' and 'pull' initiatives. From here, areas of collaboration were identified to take forward such as Work Integrated Learning (WIL), Maths and Science bursaries, and adopting rural schools. During this engagement CBE found itself in the right place at the right time - a PUBLIC WORKS INFRASTRUCTURE WORKING SESSION was in progress, whose attendance is deemed the "engine of the department" comprising regional heads, candidates and registered professionals. Here a presentation on the high level overview of CBE, transformation within the built environment, professional registration requirements and benefits, and skills development was delivered. Addressing this audience was 'preaching to the converted' - a very interactive engagement followed regarding areas such as the skills pipeline, transformation statistics as well as CBE's mandate and the contentious IDoW.

**The Western Cape is the next port of call, watch this space.**



# Caring is sharing, CBE brings joy to schools

A wise man once said “What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead.” One of the Council for the Built Environment’s (CBE’s) objectives is to make a difference to young lives in the communities it operates in. In a first for CBE, a donation of office furniture was handed to two high schools in Mamelodi, Gauteng and one nursery school in Secunda, Mpumalanga.



**Deputy Chairperson of the CBE Council, Ms Niniza Sithole and Teacher Ledwaba of Mamelodi High School confirm the handover of the donated furniture to the school.**

Mamelodi High School was one of the schools that received the furniture to the value of R237 639, 20. The handover event took place on 26 March 2018 at the school. Deputy Chairperson of the CBE Council, Ms Niniza Sithole addressed the learners. Her advice motivated them to complete their schooling and stay away from criminal activities and drugs as education is the only key to success. The furniture was received with ecstasy by the school. The school choir graced the event with musical items to show their humble gratitude.

Mamelodi High School is one of the schools adopted by the National Department of Public Works (NDPW) with an aim of increasing the throughput of learners with university entrance passes in Mathematics and Physical Science to pursue built environment careers. The school made news headlines early this year after two of their Grade 12 learners (twin sisters) both achieved seven distinctions each, and were awarded full bursaries by the NDPW during the Minister’s Bursary Award Ceremony.

The handover of the furniture was not the only item on the agenda. The NDPW also organised a career expo for the day where learners were exposed to different careers and offered an opportunity to engage with various institutions, including the six Councils for the Built Environment Professions (CBEP), department of higher education, tertiary institutions, etc.

The other schools that received their share of the pie are Lethlabile Secondary School in Mamelodi and the Agape Nursery School in Secunda, Mpumalanga.

#### Council for the Built Environment (CBE)

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