

Professionalisation of the Heritage Sector

Presentation to APHP AGM

25 May 2023

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Professionalisation process prior to 2022 AGM

- ❖ In November 2021, APHP started the process of **applying to** the **South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA)** for the registration of the designation of **Professional Heritage Practitioner (PHP)**.
- ❖ Five ExCo members attended a SAQA 'Professional Body Information Session' on 30 November 2021.
- ❖ On 3 March 2022, **APHP sent letters to SAHRA, all PHRAs, and heritage-based University Departments.**
- ❖ The SAQA process requires **APHP to consult widely**, & comments received from a PHRA were addressed in a Zoom meeting.



Outcome of APHP AGM 25 May 2022

- ❖ Of the two routes to professionalisation, members adopted option 1:
 - 1) through EAPASA to SAQA
 - 2) APHP to SAQA direct.
- ❖ Members also adopted the SAQA application, and:
 - Annexure 1: Core Competencies
 - Annexure 2: Continuing Professional Development
 - Annexure 3: Recognition of Prior Learning(Annexures attached to this presentation).



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Update on Professionalisation Process

- ❖ The application was submitted to EAPASA on 1 July 2022, who then forwarded it to SAQA, to register PHP as a non-statutory designation. APHP is too small to be a stand-alone Professional Body.
- ❖ The SAQA Board has not reached a decision.
- ❖ ExCo has prepared a draft MoA to govern the future relationship with EAPASA acting as the professional body registering practitioners against the PHP designation.
- ❖ ExCo sees the future of APHP as a Voluntary Association representing PHPs, organising seminars, exhibitions and conferences, and playing some role in the developing heritage discourse.



Recent developments with EAPASA

- ❖ EAPASA has joined the Council for the Built Environment (CBE), the umbrella body hosting several built environment professional bodies.
- ❖ On 11 January 2023, APHP ExCo supported the Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment in her gazetted intention to extend the appointment of EAPASA from 7 February 2023 until 7 February 2024.
- ❖ Minister Creecy re-appointed EAPASA for just 1 year on 7 February 2023.



Recent developments with SAHRA

- ❖ EAPASA has drawn SAHRA into the heritage professionalisation process.
- ❖ On 17 March 2023, SAHRA informed APHP they are drafting the “*required legal framework with regards to registration [of heritage practitioners] in terms of section 38(2) of the NHRA*” – a statutory basis for PHP registration by SAQA.
- ❖ As the party that initiated the heritage professionalisation process, **APHP have welcomed SAHRA’s involvement** and expressed a willingness to engage with SAHRA in a co-operative spirit.
- ❖ **SAHRA have requested a future meeting with APHP** to discuss questions relating to some of the criteria in the PHP Core Competencies, CPD and RPL requirements (in Annexures overleaf) and the overall registration process.



Core Competencies (CCs)

- ❖ **Core Competency 1:** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of heritage practice.
- ❖ **Core Competency 2:** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the South African legal & administrative context to discern what is relevant to decision-making.
- ❖ **Core Competency 3:** Demonstrate knowledge of heritage informants and the ability to conduct/commission historical research and consult with heritage claimants/authorities.
- ❖ **Core Competency 4:** Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of heritage qualities and the ability to determine heritage significance.
- ❖ **Core Competency 5:** Demonstrate the ability to analyse and interpret site and context.
- ❖ **Core Competency 6:** Demonstrate understanding and application of ethics of practice and behaviour.



ANNEXURE 2

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CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

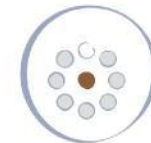
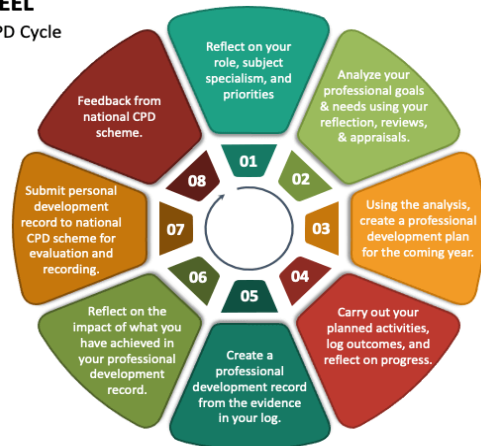
CATEGORIES AND RECORD SHEET

FOR THE DESIGNATION

PROFESSIONAL HERITAGE PRACTITIONER

CPD WHEEL

Personal CPD Cycle



APHP

Table 1: PHP Designation's CPD Requirements in 3 Categories

PHP Continuing Professional Development		
Categories	Activities and Credits	Minimum and Maximum Credits
		Compulsory: Minimum 25 credits in 5 years
Category 1	Heritage Professional Development	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities as per List 1 overleaf: 10 hrs = 1 credit 	Compulsory: At least 5 credits over 5 years, no annual minimum
Category 2	Work-Based Heritage Practice, including managerial activities and supervision of work-place Candidates	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 300 hours = 1 credit, or 600 hours = 2 credits 	Optional: Maximum 2 credits per year
Category 3	Growing the Heritage Profession	
	(a) Membership of an associated Professional Body or organisation such as the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists (ASAPA) <u>or</u> the Palaeontological Society of Southern Africa (PSSA) = 1 credit	Optional: Maximum 1 credit per year
	(b) Individual activities as per List 2 overleaf	Optional: Maximum 3 credits per year and 15 credits in 5 years
	(c) Career guidance for aspiring Professional Heritage Practitioners (PHPs) and mentorship of Candidate PHPs outside of one's organisation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10 hours = 1 credit 	Compulsory: Minimum 1 credit per year

ANNEXURE 3

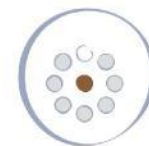
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POLICY ON

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

FOR THE DESIGNATION

PROFESSIONAL HERITAGE PRACTITIONER



APHP

Recognition of Prior Learning Policy (RPL)

The **absence** of either or both a formal academic qualification and formal specialist training may be **compensated by** application of the principles of Recognition of Prior Learning in the form of **at least seven (7) years of proven and relevant experience** that constitutes professional standing in the field of heritage conservation and heritage management in South Africa in the application of sections 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 48, 49 and 51 of the National Heritage Resources Act (NHRA), Act 25 of 1999, related to one or more of the activities listed below and overleaf:

- **Conservation** of the built environment
- Landscape and visual **analysis**
- **Historical research** including heritage related indigenous knowledge systems and archival research
- **Site research**, including measuring and excavating
- Heritage **surveying / conservation studies** of sites or regions



Recognition of Prior Learning Policy, Continued:

... at least seven (7) years of experience, related to one or more of the activities listed below:

- Assessment of cultural **significance** in terms of legal parameters
- Development of heritage-related **informants or design indicators**
- **Heritage impact assessment**
- **Construction and supervision of construction** as it relates to heritage resources
- **Design** in a heritage sensitive context
- **Regulating** and drafting heritage related legislation
- Heritage resource **management**
- **Other** appropriate heritage-related activities.

Such **relevant experience** in lieu of a qualification and specialist training shall be deemed a satisfactory basis for the **award of the PHP Designation.**

