



# BOARD OF ARCHITECTS OF TASMANIA

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## Newsletter – May 2021

### Board Members

The Board has recently welcomed the new President of the Tasmanian Chapter of the Institute, Craig Rosevear to replace Shamus Mulcahy as a member. The Government is in the process of seeking expressions of interest for a vacant position.

### Architects Act 1929 - Amendment Bill 2020

The Bill has received Royal Assent and will come into effect once the Regulations and associated documentation is finalised.

The main changes contained in the amendment Bill included the introduction of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) and allowing the Board to create Classes for registration with different practicing requirements.

The likely Class will be:

- **Practicing Architect** - required to be covered by Professional Indemnity Insurance, and  
- comply with the Board's CPD requirements
- **Non- practicing Architect** – no CPD or PII requirements
- **Architectural Firm** - required to have at least one Practicing architect nominated as a responsible architect

With CPD & PII requirements in the Architects Act, this will help overcome the confusion relating to these requirements for architects with architects needing to comply with the Board's requirements, refer below\*, and the CBOS rules will no longer applying. For example, simply being a member of an association or subscribing to a journal will not be considered CPD.

The Board is having discussions with CBOS to overcome the duplication of needing to be registered with the Board and also being licensed with CBOS.

### Code of Practice – Comments invited by 15 June 2021

An updated Code of Practice will be introduced with the amended Act and Regulation. Included with this Newsletter is a draft of the Code of Practice. The Board welcomes comments from architects by 15 June 2021.

### Automatic Mutual Recognition

The Commonwealth Government, with the support State & Territory Governments, is in the process of updating the Mutual Recognition Act to enable an individual who is registered in an occupation in their home state to carry on those activities in other states and territories without the need to register (or pay additional fees) in the second state or territory. The person will have to meet requirements relating to insurance and other requirements designed to protect the public and consumers. States may also require notification of intent to work in their jurisdiction. Requirements for registration of architectural firms are not addressed in the legislation. Full impacts of the changes are not yet clear.

There are currently 546 architects registered in Tasmania, with 260 having postal addresses in outside Tasmania.

This calendar year has seen 27 registrations processed.

## Architectural Practice Exam – Next exam closing date for Parts 1 & 2 - 28 May 2021

Session 1 of the Architectural Practice Examination is currently in progress with the Part 2 exam being conducted via remote on-line proctoring due to Covid-19.

There were six applicants for Parts 1 & 2 of the exam with 4 being successful.

The closing dates for Parts 1 & 2 applications for the second session is Friday 28 May 2021 with the Part 2 written paper to be held on 17 August 2021. The Part 2 Written Paper will be again via remote on-line proctoring format. Please refer to the [AACA website](#) for more information.

Candidates are required to record a minimum of 3,300 hours of practical experience in their logbooks ranging over all 15 Performance Criteria.

## Board of Architects of Tasmania - University of Tasmania Prize for Professional Studies

The Board of Architects Prize for Professional Studies recognises excellent achievement in Professional Studies in the Master in Architecture by a student at the University of Tasmania. The Prize is based on meritorious achievement in aspects of architectural education related to readiness for professional practice based on selected performance criteria in the National Standard of Competency for Architects (NSCA). These criteria include parts of the Elements in NSCA which are defined in relation to architectural education by the curriculum of Architecture Program at the University of Tasmania.

The Board's University prize valued at \$ 1,500 was awarded to **Emily Hunt for 2020**.

## \*Continuing Professional Development for Practicing Architects

Under the amended Act and Regulation, it will be a condition for **practicing architects** to renew their registration to meet the Board's CPD requirements and to submit to the Board a signed record of their CPD activities undertaken in the past twelve months, no later than 31 January each year.

**Practicing architects**, to renew their registration, are required to comply with the Board's CPD requirements by undertaking at least twenty (20) hours of acceptable CPD per year with **at least 10 hours of CPD required to be Formal CPD. Formal CPD hours must relate to a minimum of 2 units (with a maximum of 5 hours in any one unit)**, of the National Architecture Competency Standards – Design, Documentation, Practice Management and Project Management. The Board's Guidelines relating to acceptable CPD and Formal CPD requirements are included with this email.

Following the review of 2020 CPD records submitted to the Board, the Board expressed concerned relating the lack of diversity of CPD undertaken by some architects and also the types of activities claimed. As a result the Board has resolved to introduce **a limit whereby no more than 5 hours Formal CPD can be claimed for most types of activities unless** the architect applies to the Board and is granted permission to claim in excess of the 5 hours. For example, being a member of a committee of professional bodies, undertaking a research project not part of normal work duties, undertaking a course of study, acting as an AP Examiner, tutoring, mentoring, in-house presentations or discussion groups. Attending or participating in appropriate individual industry events or conferences are not limited provided they are across a range of the Competencies.

**A significant level of auditing** will be undertaken of the 2021 CPD records as an education process to help architects understand the Board's expectations. It is important architects keep good records of CPD activities including how the activity meets the requirement to be a Formal CPD activity. Included with this newsletter is a word version of the 2021 CPD Record Form. Architects need to record the number of hours against each activity and whether they are Formal or Informal against each competency.

A record submitted to another Architects Board in Australia for renewal of registration in the last 7 months will be acceptable, provided it meets the Tasmanian Board's requirements.

Practicing architects must retain their CPD records for a period of 5 years.