



# BOARD OF ARCHITECTS OF TASMANIA

## Newsletter – December 2021

### Board Members

The Board has recently welcomed two new Governor appointments to the Board – Dale Webster and Frank Ederle. Dale is a past Executive Director of Consumer Building and Occupational Services which included being a member of the Australian Building Codes Board and is currently Deputy Secretary Department of Health and Commander of Tasmanian COVID-19 vaccine operations. Frank is the Chief Executive Officer of the Legal Profession Board of Tasmania and is and has been on various health related Board, Committees and Tribunals.

### Architects Act 1929 - Amendment Bill 2020

The Bill received Royal Assent on 17 November 2020 however the Government is yet to finalise the amendments to the Regulations and thus the amendments to the Act have not yet become operational.

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 practising requirements which are likely to be Practising Architect, Non-practising Architect and registration of Architectural Firms.

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.

### Current Registrations

Currently there are 590 architects registered in Tasmania, with 287 having postal addresses in outside Tasmania.

This calendar year has seen 72 registrations processed.

### Continuing Professional Development for Practicing Architects

Practising architects 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.

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.

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

With the Amendments to the Act and Regulations not being operational yet and CBOS not providing funding to the Board to monitor and audit CPD on its behalf, the **Board will not be seeking CPD records** from architects as part of the 2022 renewal process. **CBOS may require architects to provide CPD information to it.**

## **Architectural Practice Exam – Next exam closing date for Parts 1 & 2 – 21 January 2022**

The closing date for [applications](#) for Session 1 of the Architectural Practice Examination is Friday 21 January 2022 with the Part 2 exam to be held on Tuesday 12 April 2022 via remote on-line proctoring. Please refer to the [AACA website](#) for more information.

The closing dates for Parts 1 & 2 applications for the second session is Friday 8 July 2022 with the Part 2 written paper to be held on 13 September 2022.

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

In 2021 there was a total of 15 applicants for Parts 1 & 2 of the exam with 13 being successful and 15 applicants for Part 3 with 12 being successful.

## **Keith Drew elect as President of Architects Accreditation Council of Australia**

Tasmanian architect Keith Drew was elected as President of the Architects Accreditation of Australia (AACA) for the next two years.

Keith is a former Tasmanian Board member and long term Architectural Practice Exam Convenor in Tasmania and became the National Convenor for the AP Exam and has been a AACA Director.

## **Accreditation of Master of Architecture Course at University of Tasmania**

Due to COVID and building works at the University the National Panel visit to the University for reviewing the accreditation of the Master of Architecture course had been deferred and will now occur in the Second Semester of 2022.

## **Introduction of New National Standard of Competency for Architects**

In July 2021, the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACA) released the revised and updated 2021 [National Standards of Competency for Architects](#) (NSCA). It places greater emphasis on engaging meaningfully with First Nations Peoples, and on sustainable practice.

In November 2021, AACA launched the [2021 NSCA Explanatory Notes](#). This is the first time a comprehensive practical guide to the NSCA has been produced.

The new and updated competencies result from extensive consultation and reflect the dynamism inherent in how architecture is practiced. They respond to a planet under threat from a changing climate. Crucially, they also recognise the need to engage more meaningfully with First Nations Peoples, especially when it comes to caring for Country.

The 2021 NSCA will be phased in over 2022 and 2023.

## **Automatic Mutual Recognition (AMR)**

Both the Tasmanian and Commonwealth legislation to facilitate Automatic Mutual Recognition has now been passed. It is likely to become operational for architects in Tasmania from 1 July 2022. AMR will 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 finalised.

***The Board wishes all architects, staff and family a very happy and safe festive season and a prosperous new year***