



# iNqolobane Yamagugu

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## **PREMIER ANNOUNCES ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW HERITAGE BODY.**

KwaZulu Natal is set to have a new heritage agency. This was announced by the Premier, Mr S. Mchunu at a heritage workshop held in Durban on 8 May 2015. Over 60 heritage stakeholders, including the Council of Amafa attended the workshop.

The Premier pointed out that he intended amalgamating Amafa and the Office of the Premier's Heritage Unit into a single entity that would have a greater focus on research. The existing functions of Amafa would not be changed.

All of the major stakeholders gave presentations, after which the delegates split into groups to formulate the founding principles that should be agreed upon.

It was pointed out at length that no staff member would be disadvantaged by the realignment, and that all legal processes would be followed diligently.

The name of the new entity has not been decided upon, although the term 'Amafa Heritage Institute' has been suggested

(JVV)

## **AMAFA TO HOST HERITAGE SYMPOSIUM**

As South Africa celebrates the coming of age of its democracy, those in the field of heritage have been forced to question whether the South African Heritage Industry has kept pace with the expectations of the public.

In terms of our constitution, heritage is a concurrent function, where Provinces may elect to administer their own heritage. Only three years after 1994, KwaZulu-Natal enacted what was at the time believed to be progressive legislation, to guide administration of heritage in that province. This legislation was used in part as the framework for the South Africa Heritage Resources Act that followed in 1999. The original KZN Act was replaced in 2008 by legislation that compliments the National legislation.

However, the fact that no other province has enacted such legislation, and fact that KZN is once more set to repeal its heritage legislation leads one to question whether provincial heritage legislation is simply a luxury for well-resourced provinces. Given too that the current legislation appears increasingly, to be ill equipped to address changing perceptions around heritage, it is essential that we not enact legislation that repeats the same mistakes.

Amafa is hosting a heritage symposium aimed at charting a way forward, out of the existing legislative framework, to one that is both relevant and workable into the future.

The date set for the symposium is 3-4 September 2015, coinciding with Heritage Month..

A number of high-profile speakers from within the heritage field have been invited, and have confirmed their attendance. Given the many debates currently in play within the heritage industry, attendance of the Symposium is a must for anyone interested in influencing the direction that new heritage legislation may take.

(JVV)



## KWAZULU CULTURAL MUSEUM CELEBRATES MUSEUMS DAY

International Museums Day is celebrated worldwide during May. This year, ICOM, The International Council of Museums designated the theme "Museums and a sustainable society"

Because there were diary clashes, it was decided to hold the event over two weeks in May and a final event on 12 June.

The activities during May centred around the idea that we should promote recycling of waste. Our facilitators under the leadership of Mrs E Ntuli, organised three stations, each with a waste recycling activity. Mr. C. Sibiyi demonstrated use of old tyres as containers for growing of vegetables. Mr T Hlope's group made stationary holders and jewelry stands out of plastic beverage bottles, while Mrs P. Zungu's group made purses from waste plastic. Other materials that were recycled included plastic bags, wrappers, wire and fabric.

On 12 June all the creations were exhibited at the museum. Learners from Gcokamandla High School as well as community members from Ezihlabeni and Makhosini attended. The success of the event was made possible by the assistance of all staff from Ondini.

(G.J. Mazibuko: Education Officer and Project facilitator)



Recycling kwaZulu Museum Crafters and their creations

### Memorial to Indian Stretcher bearers at Spioenkop Battlefield

Amafa in conjunction with the Indian Government (Indian Consul General: Durban) is erecting a memorial to Stretcher-bearers who participated in the Battle of Spioenkop and other conflicts during the Anglo- Boer War.

The contribution of non-combatants during the Anglo Boer War is not well recognised, and this memorial gives Amafa an opportunity to ensure that bias is reduced on this battlefield, making it relevant to a broader segment of the population.

The unveiling of the memorial, funded by Amafa and the Indian Consulate, is set to take place on 27 July 2015. This event is planned and funded by the Ladysmith Municipality.



Amafa has also just completed tarring the road at the summit of this battlefield,  
(JVV)

### SNIPPETS

#### Vandalism Continues:

Vandals have destroyed the memorial to Zulu dead at Nyezane, ironically inscribing anti-British graffiti on the stone marker at the site.

In another instance, the steel cross at the Clousten Garden of Remembrance has been removed.

#### Maluti Drakensberg Park Heritage Management Plan Completed.

Mrs Annie Radford and Ms Celeste Rossouw have completed the Heritage Management Plan for the Drakensberg World Heritage Site. In terms of the agreement Amafa has with Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, the management authority, Amafa will provide advice on the management of heritage in the MDP.

#### Excavations at Makheni.

The Council of Amafa has granted schedule 2 status to the Makheni Site. It also undertook test excavations at the site. The site has been marked

(JVV)

