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## **SUBMISSION TO THE SAHRA ARCHAEOLOGY, PALAEOLOGY, METEORITES, AND HERITAGE OBJECTS AND BURIALS UNITS PERMIT COMMITTEE:**

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SUBMITTED BY: Nolitha Ngcai

DATE: 1 October 2013

RE: Broster Beadwork Collection – Walter Sisulu University (WSU)

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### **PURPOSE:**

To update the Permit Committee on the progress made so far regarding the Broster Beadwork project.

### **BACKGROUND:**

HOU has conducted two meetings after the nomination was submitted to SAHRA. The first meeting held at the beginning of the year was with WSU Director of Infrastructure, officials responsible for the Collection, MDA Architects appointed by WSU to do renovations on the building intended to house the collection, Conservator appointed by SAHRA and an official from SAHRA. The meeting was called by SAHRA with the request from the conservator after receiving project plans and designs for the building. SAHRA conservator felt it would be ideal to make recommendations before the construction work could resume. The meeting was a success as lines of communication were thus improved between the Architects, SAHRA – conservator and WSU.

Officials from SAHRA and WSU went to the Chief of Qebe to invite him with the community to an information session meeting led by SAHRA HOU and Grading and Declaration Unit. The information meeting also was honored by other stakeholders from Mthatha Museum and Nelson Mandela Museum through invitation by SAHRA. Presentations were thus made by units, HOU and G&D unit. It was a success. There was a follow up information session meeting with the Chairperson of Eastern cape House of Traditional leaders as custodians of heritage to inform him of the intended declaration of Broster Beadwork Collection.

Internal processes are thus going ahead at SAHRA, with the help from Supply Chain Management (SCM), HOU advertised for a service provider on SAHRIS who will develop a Conservation Management Plan (CMP). A challenge occurred as there was only one response (applicant). SCM informed HOU that they will re-advertise in the two newspapers (National and Eastern Cape Provincial Paper). After the closing date there was still no

response at all. Finally, SCM recommended that HOU uses the service provider that has responded. The service provider will work on the CMP, extended statement of significance and advise on the intended storage building that will house the collection when declared as a Specifically Declared Collection.

Draft MOU between WSU, East London Museum (ELM) was reviewed by SAHRA-HOU and was taken to the legal advisor for inputs. An agreement was reached that the signing of the MOU by the three institutions will be in October when the next information session meeting is conducted with various stakeholders. Consent will be sent to WSU and Qebe by Grading and Declaration Unit.

Through research conducted, it transpired that there are other Broster Beadwork Collection from other institutions like, Bloemfontein National Museum and in Ditsong although in Ditsong Museum they could not state in which museum is the collection housed. Other collections are out of the country.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is requested that the Permit Committee approves all the processes that has been followed so far. Furthermore, to give advices on issues they feel are critically for the project before a submission is done to SAHRA Council.



