



LEARNING THROUGH NATURE

10 Saddlers Park, 32A Umgeni Avenue, Howick 3290
Tel: 033 330 5980 • Mobile: 079 184 5011 • E-mail: enviro.education@telkomsa.net

NEWSLETTER - December 2015

Greetings,

Over the past six months **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** has worked with a diversity of clients. The work has been exciting and challenging and we look forward to 2016 with anticipation.

LISAKHANYA – The Midlands Meander Education Project, funded by Rotary International, school-leaver's internship programme in Mpophmeni has seen the successful graduation of 4 students. All four students have either been employed on a full time basis or will be entering into studies in 2016. Being the pilot programme there was much to learn along the way. All concerned are pleased with how the programme has been run. Over the past few months my role in the programme has reduce to a few administration duties and I will no longer play a role in this programme in 2016. The programme is awaiting confirmation of future funding and will be taken forward in the capable hands of Gael Taylor and Joanna Ngwenya.



Nkululeko Mdladla and Amanda Ntombela presenting at the Award Ceremony with Jessica Dreamtime (manager of the MMEP) looking on.

UNISA – During the second semester **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE's** role with UNISA trimmed down to marking assignments and exam papers. Although face-to-face tutoring was offered at the Pietermaritzburg campus no students arrived to the Saturday morning classes and after two weeks these tutorials were cancelled. Tutorials are to resume in the first semester of 2016 with three modules being offered to first year Nature Conservation students. These modules being Animal Studies, Plant Studies and Fundamentals of Conservation.

LEARNING THROUGH NATURE has entered into a further 3 year contract for tutoring and marking with UNISA.

JEANNINE TOPPING and ASSOCIATES – Over time a relationship has been built with this company, especially with Lindsay and Nomplo. This has resulted in **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** being approached to enter into contracts with various training providers that they are linked to. Jeanette's qualifications as facilitator, assessor and moderator in specific fields have been requested. Getting all "your ducks in a row" with various SETA's can take a while and work with the training providers that have requested a Service Level Agreement is still to bear fruit. I am looking forward to dealing with these training providers in 2016.

Jeanette Stewart
Environmental Education Specialist



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WESSA – The DEA / YES programme (2015) run in the Western Cape ended successfully with a Graduation Ceremony held in Caledon. Groups from Grabouw, Knysna and Cape Town completed the Environmental Practices (Level 2) programme. Three of the five modules were assessed by **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE**. Best wishes to all the students as future environmentalists in their communities.



KZN Rhino and Community Ambassadors on their last day of training Photo; Chris Galliers



DEA/YES Environmental Practices 2015 Eden (Knsyna) group. Photo: Lorraine McGibbon

WESSA have also run a number of **Environmental Educators** courses over the past six months with groups attending at the Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens, Midmar Dam (Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife – Rhino and Community Ambassadors), Kloof en Dal Nature Reserve, Treasure Beach Environmental Education Centre and Timbavati Bush School (Kruger to Canyons - Rhino and Community Ambassadors) All Portfolios of Evidence were assessed by **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE**.



Participants who attended the Treasure Beach Environmental Educators Course Photo: Sudira Haripersadh

Further assessments were done on portfolios of the **Environmental Education Training and Development Programme (EETDP)** run by WESSA SustainEd during 2015. This course consists of four modules although Modules 3 and 4 may be stand-alone modules with a number of learners opting for one or the other and a small group doing all four modules.



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MAHAYI HRD SERVICES CC ran a number of Environmental Practices (Level 2) courses in for the Expanded Public Works Programme in Limpopo. **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** was assigned to moderate Portfolios of Evidence from groups in Makhado, Polokwane, Elias Motsoaledi and Fetakgomo.



Practical experience during one of the modules being taught in Limpopo Photo: Siphoh Mahayí

TERRA FIRMA ACADEMY appointed **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** to assess Portfolios of Evidence of learners who completed Unit standard 119909 – Explain the implications of climate change for the economic sector.

THE HUMANE EDUCATION TRUST – a newly accredited training provider submitted a Portfolio of Evidence to be assessed. This was for Unit standard - 13649 – Apply fundamental knowledge of environmental ethics to the field of work or study.

NEW CLIENT:

Mazasa Management Consulting – as an assessor in Environmental Practices - Waste Management – Skills Programme – Level 2

BUSINESS PROFILE – attached you may find comprehensive information on the qualifications **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** is accredited to assess and moderate.

LEARNING THROUGH NATURE wishes all clients and friends a successful 2016.

Kind regards,
Jeanette

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