



SOUTH AFRICAN CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025, 25-27 AUGUST

Brixton Multipurpose Centre, 78 Foyle Ave, Mayfair West, Johannesburg



14 July 2025

PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SACA ANNOUNCES NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2025 IN JOHANNESBURG

The South African Cemeteries Association (SACA), is proud to announce the SACA National Conference 2025 hosted by Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo (JCPZ). Set to take place from 25 to 27 August 2025 in the vibrant City of Johannesburg under the theme “Eternal Evolution – Transforming for Sustainability”.

The conference aims to bring together stakeholders from across the country and across the borders, including government officials, cemetery and crematoria professionals, researchers, and urban planners for critical discussions around the future of cemetery management and sustainability practices.

Chairperson of SACA, Mr Pepe Dass, explained, “The theme speaks to the ongoing journey of adapting burial practices to modern realities, urbanisation, climate change, and societal expectations. We hope this conference sparks collaboration, knowledge sharing, and real change in how we manage and plan cemeteries for future generations.”

The Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg, Councillor Dada Morero, expressed his pride in the City’s role as host city.

“Johannesburg is honoured to host this important gathering. Cemeteries are sacred and essential parts of our urban and cultural landscape. This conference is a platform for transformation, ensuring that even in rest, our people are cared for in ways that are dignified, sustainable, and forward-thinking.”

SACA is also grateful to AVBOB for their continued support and generous sponsorship, which plays a vital role in the success of the conference and in advancing sustainable cemetery practices throughout the country. The theme “Eternal Evolution – Transforming for Sustainability” was deliberately chosen by SACA to reflect the urgent need for innovation, environmental responsibility, and policy reform within the cemetery and crematoria sector.

Highlights Include:

- Keynote Address on sustainability and transformation in the sector
- Expert Presentations on research, policy, and case studies



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- Panel Discussions covering:
 - oGreen burials and eco-friendly alternatives
 - oThe role of cemeteries in urban development
 - oPolicy development and digital transformation
- Networking Opportunities and trade engagement
- Special Mayoral Address by Executive Mayor Cllr Dada Morero
- Guided Tour of Johannesburg places of interest on Day 3

Conference Objectives:

- To reimagine cemeteries in the context of urban sustainability
- To encourage collaboration and policy alignment among stakeholders
- To showcase innovation in memorialisation and cemetery design
- To ensure inclusivity, dignity, and long-term sustainability in the sector

This is a call to action for all government bodies, municipal leaders, environmental planners, and sector professionals to participate in shaping a sustainable future for cemetery and crematoria management in South Africa.

For registration and more information:

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE

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South African Cemeteries Association (SACA)

Boilerplate

About the South African Cemeteries Association (SACA)

The South African Cemeteries Association (SACA) is a registered non-profit organisation under the Department of Social Development. Led by municipal cemetery and crematoria officials, SACA pioneers efforts toward a world-class, sustainable, and development-focused cemetery service across South Africa. With a mission to promote continuous professional improvement, SACA guides municipalities and stakeholders in implementing best practices, policy frameworks, training, and advocacy. The Association champions accessibility, integrity, education, and environmental stewardship, all aimed at transforming cemetery and crematoria services for present and future generations.

