

Tintswalo Property Group executives recognised as inspiring SA businesswomen

It is known that the South Africa business scene is largely receptive to the career advancement of women, with the 2012 Grant Thornton International Business Report revealing that females occupy 28% of senior management positions in the country, substantially higher than the global average of 21%.

Tintswalo Property Group founder and chief financial officer, Gaye Corbett and her daughter, Tintswalo's CEO Lisa Goosen, are prime examples of how women are making a considerable impact on the local business landscape, having recently been featured in the second volume of *SA's Most Inspirational Women*, written by Lonwabo Jabavu.

This coffee table book features photographs and biographies of some of the country's foremost female captains of industry within the media, business and NGO sector. The women that appear in this book are recognised to inspire and motivate today's and tomorrow's leaders in South Africa, and to have made a meaningful contribution to society.

Corbett and Goosen's inclusion in this publication can be attributed to the substantial role they have played in making Tintswalo Property Group one of the most successful retail property and boutique lodge development and management companies in South Africa.

Testament to this assertion is the fact that the group has three five-star lodge destination, one four-star family lodge, as well as five retail centres included in their portfolio, with future expansion developments on the cards.

The company's achievements have been inspired by its unique value offering, which includes developing valuable assets of enduring quality and integrity that enhance the areas in which they are located. This approach also results in adjoining communities benefiting from projects that aid their development.

Corbett says that she and her husband founded the company with the vision of creating a business that they could pass on to their children and grandchildren. Further, they also wanted to provide their children with a platform for growth and development, and challenge them to better the lives of others.

Goosen attributes much of her success to the values that her parents instilled, both in life and business.

"My parents did not believe in simply handing out an opportunity unless it was warranted, and I therefore started out my career in the property industry as a receptionist, and slowly moved up the ranks over the

years. This experience not only allowed me to learn sound business principles and slowly develop my knowledge and management skills, but also taught me the value and importance of giving back to communities.”

Goosen has firmly utilised this grounding, as she is not only a highly accomplished businesswomen, but a noted philanthropist as well. She has implemented numerous initiatives that have benefitted communities in which Tintswalo operates, ranging from drug-awareness campaigns to programmes that highlight the importance of education and a moral foundation.

Corbett founded Tintswalo Property Group with her husband Ernest in 1975, as Century Retail Developments. The company has since grown substantially, employing 265 staff.

For more information, visit www.tintswalo.com.

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