

# Young entrepreneur proves that hard work and dedication pay off

**Thobile Mlangeni**

MBOMBELA - One of the province's young entrepreneurs says creativity,

innovation and passion allowed him to establish his own company which has touched many lives.  
Mr Thabo Ntuli, the director and founder

of Mpumelelo Artisan Training Centre, gained experience from his previous jobs where he worked as an artisan specialising in boiler making. "I was inspired to

take initiative and invest in my own company. I therefore ventured into business and opened a training centre for artisans.

In the beginning it was not easy because I started training people in my yard without any businesslike set-up. Ever since I took this risk, I have succeeded beyond my expectations, and my business is growing so fast," he said.

His greatest achievement was when he wrote a trade test and became a certified artisan in 2006 because what he is today is influenced by that. "Being my own boss, opening my company and its expansion has also been my greatest achievements. Most of it came about by providing a service and improving my targets lives through training. Being able to secure permanent jobs is also one of my greatest accomplishments," explained Ntuli.

His aim is to help young people who cannot afford to get bursaries to study at universities, by training them at an affordable price. He has two branches, one in KaMhushwa with an enrolment of 36 students and Evander with more than 52 students specialising in welding, boiler making and pipe fitting.

He is still in the process of including carpentry, plumbing, construction, electrician, bricklaying, plastering, tiling and painting courses before the end of the year. He has since created 11 job opportunities. He strongly believes in giving back to the community, part of his company's social responsibility is to offer bursaries to vulnerable youth by training them at no fee. "We are also in the pipeline of distributing school uniforms to vulnerable pupils around Nkomazi," he added.

## NTULI'S BUSINESS TIPS FOR UPCOMING ENTREPRENEURS

- Take initiative, set goals, take a risk and get started. Do not only put ideas together, but also get started
- Seize incredible opportunities that come your way. Invest in yourself by putting majority of the money you make back into your brand
- Seek learning opportunities in everything. Read more books and acquire information and advice from other entrepreneurs
- Try to uplift your career and have a number of professions
- Build a meaningful network, associate yourself with people in line with your business
- Know your customers inside out, know your targets and develop a strategic plan on how to reach them, and also know what they want or what is trending. Remember to promote your work.

He says upcoming entrepreneurs should believe in themselves, be their own brand, take initiative and put their plans into action. "Do not be afraid to take risks because in order to succeed you have to fail often and learn from your mistakes. Lastly, in everything you do seek His kingdom and He shall lead you," Ntuli concluded.



Mr Thabo Ntuli.

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## CITY OF MBOMBELA



## OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

This serves as a notice to all suppliers and service providers doing business or intending doing business with the former Mbombela and Umjindi Local Municipalities. The two municipalities have been disestablished to form one municipality called the CITY OF MBOMBELA.

You are therefore advised that all quotations and invoices for goods or services should be addressed to the City of Mbombela. Invoices and quotations addressed to either of the former municipalities will not be accepted.

All invoices must comply with the Value-added Tax Act no 89 of 1991 and the following information must be included on the invoice.

- The words "Tax Invoice", "VAT Invoice" or "Invoice"
- Name, address, VAT registration number and banking details of the supplier as registered on the Centralised Suppliers Database (CSD)
- Name, address and VAT number of the recipient:  
City of Mbombela  
PO Box 45  
Mbombela  
1200  
Vat number: 4880275286
- Serial / invoice number and date of issue of the invoice
- Accurate detail description of goods delivered and /or services rendered
- Quantity or volume of goods delivered or services rendered
- Value of the supply, the amount of tax charged and the total of the value and VAT
- The correct purchase order number as issued by the City of Mbombela
- Correct calculations of quantities and amount due

Invoices which do not conform to all of the above requirements will be returned to the supplier for rectification. All invoices should be delivered to office number G26, Civic Centre, Number 1 Nel Street, Mbombela, 1200 for recording and processing.

The City of Mbombela will ONLY conduct business with companies registered and active on the Centralised Suppliers Database (CSD), which includes but not limited to, tax matters being in order and banking details verified on the Centralised Suppliers Database (CSD).

No goods may be delivered or services rendered to the City of Mbombela without an official order which was issued to the company. The City of Mbombela will not be liable for payment of goods delivered and / or services rendered without an official purchase order issued.

Suppliers are once again cautioned to be vigilante of fraudsters pretending to be officials of the City of Mbombela, requesting quotations with the purpose of defrauding unsuspecting service providers.

This also serves as a reminder that all tenders and other business opportunities are advertised on the ePortal kept by the National Treasury, where tender documents can be downloaded using the following link <http://www.etenders.gov.za/content/advertised-tenders>.

**For enquiries please contact Mr EC Mgwanya, Senior Manager SCM on: 013-759-2163 or email at [eddiem@mbombela.gov.za](mailto:eddiem@mbombela.gov.za)**

**N M SEANEGO**  
**MUNICIPAL MANAGER**