Former Ingwe TVET College student takes his business to new heights

Tshidisehang Kebe, commonly known as Tshidi, was born 25 years ago in Setabataba, a small village in Mount Fletcher in the Eastern Cape.

The second child of the family, Kebe went to Mount Fletcher Village Primary School then Lehana Senior Secondary School. His parents were unemployed during his high school years and therefore struggled to make ends meet. Being ambitious and entrepreneurial, Kebe opened a tuck shop to help pay for his and a sibling’s studies. “After completing matric, I was employed as a sales representative in a local furniture shop. It was after this encounter that I took a decision to further my studies because I realised that without a proper education one cannot go far in life”, said Kebe.

At first, he enrolled at Ingwe TVET College’s Mount Fletcher campus in the Management Assistant course in order to obtain administrative skills to start his own business. “I have always had the dream of being a businessman and therefore I needed a qualification which would allow me to capacitate myself. I later enrolled for a National Diploma in Business Management at the same campus in order to gain extensive knowledge about running my business effectively”, said Kebe. His passion for pursuing a tertiary education in Business Management was sparked when he identified the need for young entrepreneurs in the country to learn and hone their skills.

His Ingwe TVET College education helped him become start Tshidi’s Traditional Restaurant Company which caters for all types of events from meetings to weddings. The young, budding entrepreneur also owns Tshidi’s Trading Enterprise and the services offered include supply and delivery of a variety of goods, tent hire, and cleaning services.
Kebe also strives to ensure that he builds both his businesses into preferred brands, given the competitiveness of the industry.

“I am very proud of my company and can't wait to grow even further. The fact that we are hiring local employees who are also supporting families makes me very proud”, he said with a big smile.

For Kebe, the experience in business has been a lesson in perseverance. He is grateful for the skills he learned at Ingwe TVET College, which have helped him bridge the gap between study and practice, to real-world application of business techniques. He added, “I mostly enjoyed Accounting and Entrepreneurship at College. Accounting has empowered me to manage my own books instead of outsourcing the service. Guidance from my lecturers at Ingwe TVET College has also helped me gain more knowledge and experience in the business field”.

“Hard work and determination are vital elements in building one’s future. We need to refrain from undermining TVET colleges. I am a proud product of Ingwe TVET College and I do not consider myself different from those who have studied at other institutions”, he said proudly.

There are fifty registered and accredited public TVET Colleges in South Africa which operate on approximately 364 campuses spread across the rural and urban areas of the country. To enrol at your nearest TVET College or find more information, kindly visit:

www.tvetcolleges.co.za