



FNB KWAZULU-NATAL TOP BUSINESS PORTFOLIO AWARDS 2011



Province's potential and business success stories take centre stage at high-profile awards

THE annual FNB KwaZulu-Natal Top Business Portfolio Awards ceremony was held on Thursday, July 14 at an extravagant gala dinner at Durban's iconic Moses Mabhida Stadium.

Now in its fifth year, the FNB KwaZulu-Natal Top Business Awards has firmly established itself as a highlight on the KZN business calendar. Guests included the chief executive officers and other representatives of a number of companies in KwaZulu-Natal, municipal mayors and managers, and government officials.

Strategic partnerships

"First National Bank has been supporting the FNB KZN Top Business Portfolio Awards for five years and we are proud of the footprint FNB has in KwaZulu-Natal," said Pearl Bengu, Regional Director KZN, FNB Public Sector Banking. "We believe that through strategic partnerships we can stimulate economic growth in the province. We are equally thrilled that this initiative aligns to the strategic imperatives of government, which is evidenced by our partnership with the provincial government."

"At FNB we pride ourselves on being an innovative bank with products that make it easier for businesses to do their work well," added Sabatha Mbalekwa, FNB CEO Provincial and Local Government Banking. "We believe in helping businesses grow and want to make a difference in the way



Nomvuzo Shabalala, eThekweni Deputy Mayor



Sabatha Mbalekwa, FNB CEO of Provincial and Local Government Banking



Sandile Cele, CEO of the KwaZulu-Natal Local Government Association (KWANALOGA)



Alan Khan, Programme Director of the Top Business Portfolio Awards

business is run in the province. We do this because we believe help is the seed of opportunity – where there is help, there is a way."

Keynote speaker for the evening, KZN Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDT) Head of Department, Carol Coetzee, also highlighted the role of partnerships in fully developing the KZN's economic development potential. "We feel that at this moment, more than at any other time, we are well positioned as a province to take advantage of opportunities – some created by ourselves and others resulting from the global economic developments, to grow our economy and ensure its global competitiveness," said Coetzee.

Celebrating excellence

The FNB KZN Top Business

Portfolio Awards celebrate those companies and organisations making a contribution to the economy of KwaZulu-Natal. This year, 14 awards were on offer – each focusing on a specific sector, recognising business and organisational success in both the private and public arenas. Factors such as brand and reputation, stakeholder relations and goodwill, environmental sustainability, social responsibility, and quality of governance are all taken into account in the adjudication process.

Winners

The businesses and organisations that went home with KZN Top Business Portfolio Awards on the night were:

- Agriculture: Sappi Forests
- Mining and Quarrying: Corobrik
- Manufacturing: Fry Group Foods

- Utilities: Umgeni Water
- Construction: Wiehahn Formwork & Scaffolding
- Trade: Magnet Electrical Supplies
- Transport, Storage & Communication: King Shaka International Airport
- Financial & Business Services: Metrofile
- Social & Community Services: PC Training and Business School
- Tourism: SUNCOAST Casino and Entertainment World
- Municipal Award for Investment Attraction: iLembe District Municipality
- Government sector, promoting socio-economic growth: KZN Department of Transport
- Partnership Award: DEDT and Tongaat Hulett – Operation Vuselela
- KZN Top Brand: UKZN Graduate

School of Business

"The FNB KZN Top Business Awards is an excellent opportunity for all business sectors to meet, be inspired and showcase their achievements to their peers," said Grant Adlam, co-publisher of the KZN Top Business Portfolio.

"Being selected as a winner or finalist in this competition is a great achievement," added Lalita Dhasiar-Ventura, co-publisher of the KwaZulu-Natal Top Business Portfolio. "We had a high standard of entries this year, which made the selection process very difficult."

"The KZN Top Business Portfolio congratulates all nominees, finalists and winners on their participation in the awards and wish them well in their future endeavours."

KwaZulu-Natal Top Business Portfolio 2011 edition launched



Carol Coetzee, KZN Department of Economic Development and Tourism Head of Department, unveils the 2011 edition of the KZN Top Business Portfolio with co-publishers Lalita Dhasiar-Ventura (left) and Grant Adlam.

THIS year's much anticipated edition of the KwaZulu-Natal Top Business Portfolio was officially unveiled on Thursday, July 14 as part of the annual FNB KZN Top Business Portfolio Awards.

The KwaZulu-Natal Top Business Portfolio has established itself as a leading business and investment document in KwaZulu-Natal, and the 2011 launch marks the 13th edition of this annual publication which is used to raise the profile of the province as a first class business destination.

Established in 1999, the publication has grown from strength to strength and enjoys the support of the provincial government, municipalities, and top businesses around the province.

"We are passionate about promoting the region, as through the Portfolio a positive contribution is made to the socio economic development of the people of the province," says co-publisher, Lalita Ventura.

The Portfolio is not only a business networking tool and a marketing resource, but includes a profile of the province, an insight into successful governance and the economy as well as a guide to doing business in the region.

The media used are a printed format, a multimedia interactive CD or e-book, and a website (www.topbusiness.co.za). In addition to the basic information, the website provides current news and highlights success stories around the province, which are updated regularly.

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