

ABOUT KLAAS VANTOOREN

Born in The Hague, The Netherlands a few years after the war was ended.

After going through High School with a major in Mathematics decided, against the will of my parents, to get in the Hospitality business. After several years of Chef's school and my mandatory Military time, I was hired as the Sous-Chef in a small high class hotel close to the German border. After a Car accident at age of 22 I was declared 35 % invalid and unable to return to the Kitchen. I didn't want to leave the Hospitality Industry, so applied my knowledge to become a Manager in a well-known Restaurant in the Centre of the country.

A few years later I was hired by Golden Tulip Hotels, managed by KLM, to manage Hotel FIGI in Zeist, the Netherlands. This was my first stint as a Hotel Manager. Hotels in The Netherlands were very dependent on their Catering of large functions. Hotel FIGI had a Catering department in a Castle a mile from the Hotel and because of its location there were a lot of functions where members of the Royal Family were attending. I must have made a name for myself, because I was recognized by the management of KLM to help at different locations to streamline management.

In 1982, my wife and I decided to move to Canada. There were too many reasons to mention why Canada. Due to the downfall of the economy in Canada it took me till spring of 1983 to get a job as Night Manager at the Blackfoot Inn. Within a few months I was promoted to the F&B Manager and then to the acting General Manager of the Hotel.

In 1984 I was asked to join Westwater Industries from Vancouver. I became the assistant of the Vice President. My main responsibilities were take- over of Hotels (Sheraton Regina), Westwater Hotel Kamloops and the Kitchen development of a new hotel in construction (New Westminster Quay in Vancouver)

I managed the Regina Inn from 1985 till late 1987 and increased the rating of that hotel from 3 stars to the first 4 star Hotel in Saskatchewan.

I needed to leave the Hotel business. The long hours and involvement in the community didn't help my private life. I was hired in sales with a radio station in Regina in their sales department, but never really enjoyed advertisement sales.

In 1989 I had the chance to move back to Calgary as the Hotel manager for Sandman Hotels where I stayed till 1992. My family life was getting the best of me and after a few odd jobs I got into the Insurance Business and in 2000 started The Premier Financial Group. With contracts with most Insurance Companies we slowly moved into the Exempt markets, dealing with Walton International, Mineral Fields and a few other Companies. It became more and more important to do due diligence background checks on the Companies coming out of the woodwork since 2007 when the economy went into a recession.

My motto for the exempt markets is and always will be that you can never do enough investigations on the Management of a Company, their leverage, when and how the principles take their share and how they treat the investors. We have a variety of investments in our portfolio to diversify and minimize the risk for the investors.