PRESS RELEASE

Western Cape Revival Sees Paragon Open Cape Town Office Next Year

18 October 2018: Demand from clients in the Western Cape, combined with an uptick in the region's building and construction industry, has resulted in architecture and interior architecture company Paragon finally opening a Cape Town office at the V&A Waterfront in January 2019.

The new office, the first branch that Paragon has established outside of its Johannesburg head office, will be headed up by up-and-coming architect **Jarred Pincus**, under the guidance of Director **Estelle Meiring**.

Pincus has extensive experience in warehousing, student housing, residential, and mixed-use typologies, which will equip the Cape Town office to respond to a broad range of client types and project requirements.

"We look forward to expanding our portfolio in these niche markets, as well as the general type of iconic full-service work that Paragon is renowned for," Founding Director **Henning Rasmuss** comments.

"We have confirmed sufficient work to service both existing and future clients in the Western Cape region, who have all expressed a desire for us to have a presence in the region," Founding Director **Anthony Orelowitz** adds.

Well-known for its work in the redevelopment of the Sandton business and financial precinct, Paragon won Architecture Firm of the Year and Best Overall Professional Services Firm of the Year, while Rasmuss was crowned Architecture Professional of the Year, at the South African Professional Services (SAPSA) Awards 2018.

Part of Paragon's diversification strategy has seen it recently complete its first project at Pran Boulevard in Umhlanga, KwaZulu-Natal. This strategy has since extended to setting up shop in Cape Town.

"While Johannesburg and Cape Town are essentially similar markets, our Western Cape clients have long been requesting for us to have a permanent presence in the region," Paragon Media Manager **Hugh Fraser** elaborates.

"The Cape Town office is a logical extension of our footprint, as many of our current Johannesburg clients have projects on the go in the Western Cape that we can piggyback on. All our clients, no matter where they are located, can rest assured of the same high level of service, innovation, and attention to detail," Fraser adds.

Paragon's diversification strategy includes Africa, where a flagship project is Habitat Apartments in Kilimani, a 24-storey, 160-unit mixed-use apartment tower, in conjunction with Design Source of Nairobi. Under development by Ekco Investments, the project is scheduled for completion by mid-2020.

Group company Paragon Interface, which oversees interior architecture services under Director **Claire D'Adorante**, was responsible for the fit-out of Discovery Campus and Sasol Place, two of the biggest projects of their kind ever undertaken in South Africa.

Group company Paragon Architects South Africa (PASA), under Director **Thulani Sibande**, was awarded a Level 1 Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) rating for 2018. Paragon is currently heavily involved with the University of Johannesburg's (UJ's) Graduate School of Architecture (GSA).

Here its architects deliver guest lectures, among other support activities. "Paragon looks forward to increasing its educational support in the Western Cape as part of its ongoing corporate social responsibility initiatives," Fraser concludes.

Ends

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Notes to the Editor

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About Paragon

Paragon, established in October 1997, is an internationally-active design business, based in Johannesburg. We deliver commercial architecture, masterplanning, interior design, and space planning to visionary clients in all property sectors, from retail to residential and education.

We are committed to global urban development. We are able and agile. Paragon is flexible and diverse in its approach to design. Each project is unique and not driven by style, but by lifestyle and a response to user needs. Elegant and efficient planning form the core of our designs. We understand the needs of our clients, and know how to generate ever new architectural forms in a competitive property market.

We are known for hands-on engagement with all opportunities present in the modern global building industry. The true measure of our skill is our ability to engage at all levels and with all players that make up the colourful world of construction and property development. Our buildings look forward. We embrace the future, because we will be a part of it – part of its problems and responsibilities, and part of its great freedoms and achievements.

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