



Karen Munting

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CORE INFORMATION **Current employment:** Munting Rechholtz Architects. Partner.
Established: 2016. **VAT registration no:** 7205443-01-5
Profession: Registered Architect. (Pr Arch)
Nationality: South African. Resident in Namibia since 2003. Application for permanent residence in Namibia has been submitted to Ministry of Home Affairs.
Marital status: Married to Paul Munting.

WORK EXPERIENCE **Bob Mould Architects, Windhoek** **1995**
Employed as an Architect in training. Introduced to all aspects of an architects practice. Involved in drawings and site inspections for various buildings under supervision of Mr Bob Mould.

Ministry of Education, Pretoria, South Africa **1996**
Employed as an architect in Training. Mainly involved in the checking of invoice of other consultants

Munting Architectural CC, Pretoria **1997-2003**
Partner with Paul Munting at Munting Architectural CC, Pretoria, South Africa. The firm was involved in general residential housing, various Social Housing projects, and also, as sub-consultants to Holm Jordaan Architects, assisted in the design and documentation of a new Intensive care unit for the Platinum mine hospital for Rustenburg, South Africa.

Karen Munting Architect, Windhoek, Namibia **2003-2016**
Upon relocation to Windhoek, Namibia, Karen Munting started the practice Karen Munting Architect. Since then we have been involved in a wide variety of projects, both for private clients, Department of Works and Transport, Namibia, and Para-Statal companies such as the Social Security Commission of Namibia. Projects we have been involved in: Health Centers, Clinics, Manufacturing factory design and warehousing, Hospitality facilities. (Lodge and bed and breakfast facilities), Schools, Residential and institutional housing (old age homes included).

Munting Rechholtz Architects, Windhoek, Namibia **2016-present**
Karen Munting Architect Sole Proprietor joined in partnership with Mark Rechholtz in March 2016. The company now practices as a partnership. Our experience and future interests build son what was already started at Karen Munting Architect, and we believe the addition of a new partner will only strengthen and enhance the expertise already inherent in the firm.



EDUCATION Higher education

1994

BArch (Pret) University of Pretoria. (Theme of Thesis: Urban Architecture: A move towards sustainability.)

SKILLS Continued Professional Development

2002:

- 14 day Permaculture design course as presented by Food and Trees for Africa.
- Sustainable buildings and integrated design academy presented by SESSA and ISES. This week long course ran concurrent with the World Conference on Sustainability in Johannesburg, South Africa.

2003-9:

- Attendance of regular short seminars as presented by the NIA.

2010:

- Spanish luminaries Design master class. Week long design master class. SACAP accredited course in Johannesburg, RSA

2011:

- Naturals cool: 5 days Co-Operative design course presented in Windhoek.

2012:

- SANS 10-400 Webinar. Presented by KZN Institute.

2013:

- LED lighting and design course, Windhoek. CPD accredited.
- GBCSA Accredited professionals course. Day workshop presented in Windhoek

2014:

- SmartBuild Sustainable Building and Construction technologies Conference, Cape town.
- FIDIC Two day Contract law course. SAICE Accredited.
- Effective Construction and Contract Administration course. Two days. SAICE Accredited.
- Green Building Conference, Cape Town RSA. Presented by the GBCSA.
- GBCSA Accredited Professionals workshops for the following Green Building Tools:
 - New Buildings. Online course also complete.
 - Interiors of buildings. Online course scheduled Jan 2015
 - The Economics of Green Buildings workshop

2016:

- Urban design masterclass: Effective City design for Namibia: Theory and practice. Windhoek, Namibia.

OTHER INFORMATION Work ethos

Architecture school does not only teach us the basics of design and construction of buildings, but immerses its students in a broad based education that touches on all aspects of life, including philosophy, the arts and the joys of rational thinking. We architects emerge from our education with a wide range of interests in all aspects of life, and eagerness to explore new boundaries and make a difference to the living environment of all that come to utilise our built creations. We are essentially all idealists at heart as we start our professional careers. To remain passionate about what one does in the face of the realities of the economy that one operates in, it is important to focus on that which makes the practice of architecture worthwhile. For me that means to make a difference to the lives of the people and broader community that occupy the buildings I design. Our company's work is an expression of this principle.

My passion for things "green" had already started at university, with my design thesis focusing on an integrated approach to design and energy use, based on the principles of permaculture. Throughout my career I have expanded my education by regular attendance of courses and seminars on the subjects of sustainability. I very much enjoy the "softer" green aspects of landscaping and the design and integration of nature into my buildings and site design is as important as the building itself. I am a member of the Namibia Botanical Society and remain committed to increasing my knowledge of our local indigenous plants by regular attendance of botanical walks and seminars. This helps a lot when one is deciding on how to landscape, especially in the more remote areas of our country. Namibia has a very diverse and varied floristic landscape, which lends itself to interesting landscaping solutions in the different regions of the country.



Other Interests

I enjoy spending my free time with my husband and two children. We are a lively, active family who enjoy a wide variety of sports activities, outdoor adventure, and travelling. We have explored many of the remote parts of Namibia and also travel abroad to Europe and beyond to broaden our horizons. I enjoy participating in endurance sports, such as off road Ultra running events and mountain-biking. When at home relaxing, I enjoy reading and gardening, especially bonsai trees. I am passionate about indigenous plants and gardening and continue to expand my knowledge in this field by attending regular lectures and short courses.