

The Making of Milton Keynes

DIVERSITY AND ACHIEVEMENT

Lincoln Bedeau – Managing Director – askMK.tv

‘The internet television station for Milton Keynes’

Lincoln was born in Grenada in the West Indies and came to this country with his parents and younger brother in 1973. His family lived in a rented flat in London for a year until his father found work as a labourer building the shopping centre, now known as the centre:mk, whilst re-training to be a teacher. The family were offered a council house in Bradville, Milton Keynes and moved to the new city in 1974 when Lincoln was only six years old. Back then there were only a few black families in the area and Lincoln was one of only two black children throughout his school life.

During sixth form at Stantonbury Campus Lincoln's first enterprise was to sell sandwiches to his friends. His little business was so successful that after completing only a year of sixth form Lincoln decided he wanted to explore his entrepreneurial talents. He left the school and went to Milton Keynes College to do a Diploma in Business Studies, whilst working part time at John Lewis in their Radio and Television department.

After passing his Diploma he went to work for Connells Estate Agents and in his first year became the top salesperson for the region. By the age of 23 he had his own estate agency based in Newport Pagnell. Several business ventures later, Lincoln joined askMK.com in 2004, a fledgling internet directory for Milton Keynes. After transforming the company into a video on demand website, Lincoln bought the company in 2006, re branded it, re located it into the Open University Business School and quadrupled its staff within one year.

askMK.tv was invited to film the visit of Her Majesty the Queen in November 2007 and has interviewed guests such as Sir Richard Attenborough, Amir Khan and Lewis Hamilton.

Lincoln says he owes a lot of his success to the local environment and the people of Milton Keynes. People that have helped, mentored and inspired him such as Charles Buckman, John Cove, Pete Winkelman, Lee Scriven, Grant Seeley, the Enterprise Hub at the Open University and of course his close friends and family.

Lincoln is a Governor at Milton Keynes College, and askMK hold the position of “entrepreneur in residence” at the University Centre for Milton Keynes.

