

Three years ago, Zule Ankamah found herself in a position that so many others did – on lay off. When Caesars Windsor closed due to provincial lockdowns, Zule's break from her job as a Manager in the Table Games department provided her with time to pursue other passions.

ZULE

Zule immigrated from Ghana and was well known in the Ghanaian community for her cooking. During lockdown in the Fall of 2020, she made an Instagram page for friends and family, selling Ghanaian meat, veggie and vegan pies. It started as a great way to relax and pass the time but before she knew it, her hobby started to take on a life of

"The initial intent was to sell to friends and family, so when we started hearing from people that we had no mutual connections with, it was definitely a moment of 'woah',"

With the encouragement of her children, Zule formalized a business plan for Zuleeats and began renting a commercial kitchen space to make things official in early 2021.

This exciting growth saw Zuleeats become a local favourite at markets, stocked at local grocery stores, catering corporate events and opening a storefront in February 20221

When asked for one word to describe the past three years, Zule picked "unexpected".

"Of course, because of the pandemic, but I also never imagined that I would leave my career to have my own family-run business. I've had unexpected learning opportunities, journeys, friendships and more. The best surprises are the unexpected ones!"

In addition to scaling her business, Zule is committed to remain part of the community that has been instrumental in the growth of Zuleeats.

"Our goal is to see our pies in grocery stores", Zule shared. "We are also focused on collaborating with our community this year and that has been really fun so far. We're enjoying popping up at new events and creating new recipes with some of our small business friends."

Zuleeats was named Best African Restaurant of Windsor in 2022 and Zule was named one of the Top 100 Black Women to Watch in Canada for 2022 as well. We know these awards are just the beginning!

Ready to take your taste buds on a trip to Ghana? The good news is, it's only a bite away!

Check out www.zuleeats.ca or visit the Zuleeats storefront at 2760 Howard Avenue.



Story by Rafal Ladysz | Photo by Pat Scandale