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Led by award-winning business strategist, Lana Potgieter, Lighthouse Leadership Coaching & Development (LLCD) has successfully helped countless business owners and mid-sized executives reach leadership excellence, align their teams, and drive sustainable growth to thrive in today's competitive landscape. Call 484-347-0515 today for a private consultation.



LEARN MORE ABOUT *lighthouse* LEADERSHIP.

WHAT DO COACHES AND ROBOTIC VACUUMS HAVE IN COMMON?



By Lana Potgieter,
Lighthouse Leadership

One of my favorite gadgets at home is my new robotic vacuum cleaner. There's something oddly satisfying about watching it navigate my home

— bumping gently into obstacles, pausing, turning slightly left or right, and moving forward again to reassess its path. Then it spins around, recalibrates, and keeps going.

It struck me recently: sometimes, that's exactly what life feels like — maybe yours too?

As humans, we value our autonomy. And like those vacuums, we often “learn by doing,” adjusting our course as we go. It's a trial-and-error process — one we embraced fearlessly as kids. But do we maintain that same level of resilience as adults? Do we still have the grit, or as I call it, the “stick-to-it-ness,” to keep moving and pivot when needed?

Since relocating to the USA last year, I've found myself in a constant state of recalibration. The learning curve has been steep — challenging, frustrating, and at times disheartening. I took advice from well-meaning sources, only to realize that some of it didn't serve me. Why? Because it overlooked my unique strengths, past accomplishments, and personal vision for success.

So, I adjusted. Pivoted. Re-mapped my route. Like my robotic vacuum, I had to rely on my own internal sensors and algorithms to keep going.

These clever machines use technology — sensors, algorithms, sometimes even cameras — to clean with minimal intervention. But even they get stuck sometimes.

Yesterday, mine needed rescuing after 90 minutes of aimless spinning. That, in coaching, is what we call “clarity of distance” — the value of perspective, the ability to see the bigger picture.

So here are a few questions I had to ask myself — and maybe you should, too:

- What *algorithms* do I need to update to grow into the leader I want to be?
- What *sensors* do I need to turn on — or sharpen — to better lead the unique individuals around me?
- If I keep bumping into the same challenges or results, is it time to pivot a few degrees?

That's where coaching comes in.

When you work with me, *you* stay in the driver's seat. I simply walk alongside you as we:

- Clarify the outcome you truly want. Are we “cleaning one room,” or the whole house? Just vacuuming, or mopping too?
- Identify the obstacles in your path (because yes, even a smart mop will fail miserably over a shag rug).
- Create a timeline that works for your goals.
- Stay accountable — because that's the real fuel for momentum.

The truth is, today's leaders operate in unfamiliar environments — new teams, evolving economies, shifting priorities. That means our internal maps need regular updating. And sometimes, even the smartest systems need a little human intervention.

As your coach, I bring my full commitment to your success — leveraging my strengths to help you achieve your goals in a way that aligns with your purpose and potential.

Ready to test-drive what this could look like for you?

Give me a call, and we can discuss developing empowerment skills for yourself and your executive team. Book a meeting here: lane@lighthouseleadership.today

Lana Potgieter is an internationally acclaimed leadership coach and business strategist who specializes in empowering business owners and executive teams within small to mid-sized organizations.



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