

Business Families Centre



The Business Families Centre (BFC) at the

UBC Sauder School of Business

provides internationally renowned education programs,
resources, and research to business families, professional advisors,
and academics in the field of family enterprise.



The Business Families Centre

Working at the intersection of family enterprise and business acumen, the BFC advocates education as the central path to success for all enterprising families. Delivered by world-class faculty in the field of family enterprise, the BFC's interactive and practical programs feature the latest findings in the fields of entrepreneurship, family enterprise, and family enterprise advising.

We have found that the Business Families Centre has consistently provided high quality programs and resources that have been very beneficial to various members of our family of different ages, interests and backgrounds.

Tom Foord,FOUNDER AND CHAIRMAN, KAL TIRE



Empowering success through education

Learning is a continuous process that takes place both within the family business and on one's own. The BFC offers a range of educational programs to meet every family's unique learning needs at all stages of the business. With full family, individual professional development, and custom program options, the BFC is an unrivaled resource on every issue relevant to the family firm.

- **Business Family Essentials** Define what a family business is, the different forms of family business ownership, and what makes it different from other forms of ownership
- Business Family Dynamics Identify the unique communication challenges facing family businesses. Uncover strategies and techniques for effective communication, including how to approach difficult conversations and conflict
- **Governance** Discover what governance structures make sense (and when), and how to leverage governance to make better decisions
- **Next Generation Development** Examine core business concepts through the unique lens of family enterprise to establish an appropriate framework for business and leadership growth
- **Transitions** Identify key transitions that family members go through in their lifetime.

 Understand the basics of succession, and each family member's role in the process
- Wealth Preservation Develop practices to preserve the family's human, intellectual, and financial capital as a strategy for long-term wealth preservation
- **Philanthropy** Entrench family values, create a new family purpose, and engage with the community



A legacy of expertise

Established in 2001 by more than 30 founding families, the BFC's initial mandate was simple: bridge leading family enterprise scholarship to meaningfully serve the broader business family community via outreach, access to resources, and delivery of cutting- edge programming.

Since developing its first family programs, the BFC has expanded in many directions, including generating family enterprise research, building national and international networks, and engaging the business community at large. In partnership with the Institute of Family Enterprise Advisors (IFEA), the BFC also successfully established the first and only family enterprise advisor designation in the world.

Housed within UBC Sauder School of Business, the BFC is uniquely situated to draw from leading family enterprise and business academics to meet the complex needs of today's enterprising families.







Vanessa oversees the strategic, research, and academic direction of the Business Families Centre. She received her PhD in Strategy and Entrepreneurship from the Richard Ivey School of Business, Western University. Vanessa previously served as the scientific director of the Erasmus Centre for Family Business at the Netherlands' Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University. Her research interests include Family Business, Governance, and CSR.



Wendy Sage-Hayward **ADJUNCT PROFESSOR**

Wendy has over 25 years of experience in working with business executives and family firms. A thought leader in creating educational experiences for business families, Wendy has worked with the Business Families Centre to develop and deliver programs for family firms and their professional advisors. In particular, she facilitates multi-generational conversations on firm continuity, next generation preparation, and governance.



David C. Bentall **ADJUNCT PROFESSOR**

David co-founded the Business Families Centre and served as Founding Chair from 2001-2006. He has taught undergraduate and graduate courses on family enterprise at the Sauder School of Business since 2007, as well as courses at the Business Families Centre for both business families and their professional advisors. David is a Certified Professional Coach, family business advisor, and fellow with the Family Firm Institute.



2016 Family Legacy Series celebrated the Harry Rosen Family

The Family Legacy Series

An iconic Vancouver business gala presented by the BFC since 2001, this annual event is an extraordinary opportunity to gain insight into the inner workings of some of Canada's most successful businesses and their founding families.

The Family Legacy Series has featured many notable enterprising families, including the Rosen, Lee, McLean, Beedie, Molson, Rogers, Shaw, and SC Johnson families.



UBC Sauder School of Business

A global leader in the creation of business knowledge and dedicated to relevant teaching, the UBC Sauder School of Business is consistently ranked among the top 100 business schools in the world.

Situated in Vancouver, UBC Sauder draws from the thriving internationalism and entrepreneurial spirit of its West Coast setting to provide a unique global business perspective.

Program support



Learn more

To find out more about the Business Families Centre at UBC Sauder School of Business please contact us at: 604-822-0102 | bfc@sauder.ubc.ca or visit www.sauder.ubc.ca/bfc

