

SFU engages with the business community

Beedie School of Business values partnership with the Leaders of Tomorrow program

For many students at **Simon Fraser University's** Beedie School of Business, the chance to learn from experienced industry professionals is an invaluable opportunity. Such mentorship can often make a significant difference to a fledgling career.

One program that has made a positive impact on the careers of many SFU graduates is **The Vancouver Board of Trade's** Leaders of Tomorrow (LOT) program, a mentorship program that connects top post-secondary students with leading industry professionals.

Since the LOT program's inception some 16 years ago, SFU has forged a strong relationship with it. As a Gold Partner of the program, each year SFU's Beedie School of Business sends a steady stream of students to benefit from the mentorship, networking, and volunteering opportunities the program offers.

"As the Engaged University, SFU's partnership with the Leaders of Tomorrow program is a perfect example of our engagement with the business

community," says **Casey Dorin**, Executive Director of Undergraduate Programs at SFU's Beedie School of Business.

Since the LOT program's inception in 1999, some 2,000 students and nearly 1,000 mentors have participated, contributing several thousand volunteer hours to the community annually. The program has been an unmitigated success, growing by some 50 per cent in the last five years alone.

"The partnership with the Beedie School of Business is critical – about a quarter of the students come from SFU, the majority of which are Beedie students, and they are often very creative and entrepreneurial," says **Austin Nairn**, Director of Member Programs at The Vancouver Board of Trade. "The LOT program not only offers them great brand exposure, but also gives them the opportunity to connect with students from schools across Greater Vancouver."

Beedie School of Business graduate **Kyle Krystalowich** is one of the hundreds of SFU stu-



Beedie School of Business graduate Kyle Krystalowich credits The Vancouver Board of Trade's LOT program with helping him launch his career.

dents to have benefited directly from the LOT program since its launch. Now working in Advisory Practice at EY, Krystalowich credits the LOT program with helping him launch his career.

"The professional development aspect that the LOT program provides is extremely helpful," says Krystalowich. "When I was contacted by Ernst & Young for an interview I called my mentor, and he met me on short notice to help me prepare.

The advice he gave me on potential interview questions was a big factor in my securing the job."

SFU School of Communications graduate **Hope Wang** also credits the LOT program with boosting her career. Her experience in the program was so beneficial that she opted to continue her involvement after the program ended. She returned as a member of the LOT advisory committee, which ensures that participating students stay on

track in the program.

Now working at The Vancouver Board of Trade, Wang is responsible for coordinating the LOT program itself. Her role puts her in the unique position of being able to comment on the program's strengths as both a student participant and from the admin side.

"The Leaders of Tomorrow program brought me out of my shell, gave me the tools to connect with different individuals, and empowered me to take my career to the next level," says Wang. "I'm still in touch with the mentor I was paired with in the program four years ago – that is a real testament to the quality of the programs' mentors."

"If you want to take control of your career, the Leaders of Tomorrow program will help you own it," concludes Wang.

This year not only marks the 16th anniversary of SFU's partnership with the LOT program, but also sees the university celebrate its 50th anniversary.

For more information on the SFU 50th anniversary, visit sfu.ca/50.

The Vancouver Board of Trade

The Vancouver Board of Trade Show

Meet your next customer.
Only a handful of booths remain.

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 | 3:30 – 7 p.m.
The Westin Bayshore, 1601 Bayshore Drive, Vancouver

Presenting Sponsors:

boardoftrade.com/tradeshow

YVR VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
Beyond. Every Day.

ANNALISA KING

KEN MARTIN

KUSH PANATCH

WAYNE WRIGHT

Chair Mary Jordan, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Vancouver Airport Authority, is pleased to welcome four new directors: Annalisa King, Director at Large; Ken Martin, appointee of The Vancouver Board of Trade; Kush Panatch, appointee of the Federal Government of Canada; and Wayne Wright, appointee of Metro Vancouver.

The Board of Directors sincerely appreciates the valuable contributions made to YVR's success by former directors Brian Bentz, Grayden Hayward, Wilson Parasiuk, and Peter W. Webster.

More information on the Airport Authority Board and its Directors is available at yvr.ca.

Vancouver Airport Authority is a community-based, not-for-profit organization that manages Vancouver International Airport (YVR). Canada's second busiest airport, YVR served more than 19 million passengers in 2014. We are committed to creating an airport that British Columbia can be proud of: a premier global gateway, local economic generator and community contributor.

www.yvr.ca