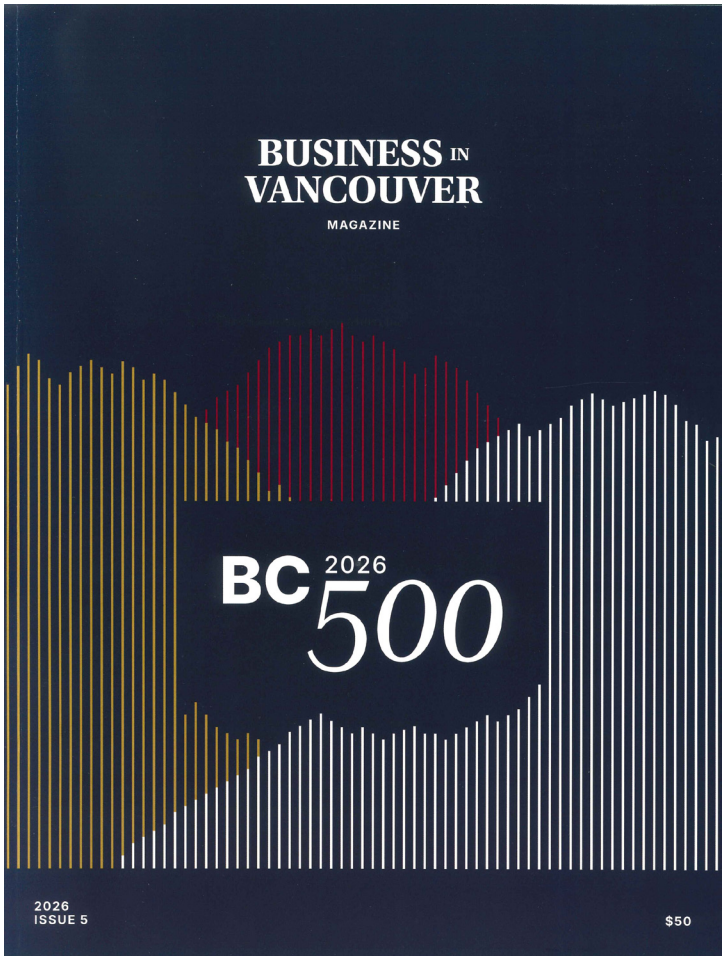




BIV BC 500

2026, Issue 5

ABOUT *BC500*

BC500 features influential leaders who have had a notable impact on British Columbia's communities, industries and economy. They are visionaries, innovators, connectors and trailblazers. They embody the values of modern leadership, including engagement, trust, corporate citizenship and inclusion. Some of these leaders are household names; others are well-known by their peers and within their respective industries. All of them influence life and business in British Columbia.

NAVIGATING THE *BC500*

The book is divided into chapter categories covering a wide range of leaders from a variety of sectors. Rather than categorizing leaders by industries, the chapters divide them by their impact on the province.

Readers will note that elected officials and those who have announced their intentions to seek public office are not in the *BC500*, save for elected Indigenous leaders. Within the profiles of each leader, sectoral tags note industries upon which they have a notable influence. An index listing leaders in each sector can be found in the back of the book.

Many profiles also feature boxes noting the *Business in Vancouver* awards for which honourees have been recognized in the past: Forty under 40, Influential Women in Business or one of our C-Suite awards (CEO, CFO, etc.). Some have received multiple awards from *BIV* over the years.

The list was compiled by an independent editorial committee. The committee took a holistic approach to leadership in British Columbia, ensuring those in the book are influential in business or the public service, as well as the broader community.

BENOIT-ANTOINE BACON

President & Vice-Chancellor
UBC



Dr. Benoit-Antoine Bacon is president and vice-chancellor of the University of British Columbia, where he is also a professor of psychology and neuroscience. He was previously president of Carleton University and a senior leader at Queen's University and Concordia University in his hometown of Montreal. Sharing his own lived experience, he advocates nationally for mental health and substance use issues.

INSTITUTIONS AND NON-PROFITS

RYAN BENN

CEO & Group Publisher
Alive Publishing Group



Ryan Benn is a multi-award-recognized CEO with a history of business and board management. He is growth-focused, with an aptitude for the buying and selling of companies, international business, strategic planning, operational execution, legal, human resources and finance. An inspirational leader who has managed complex business structures, Benn is a go-to adviser, director and investor who gives tremendously to non-profit roles.

ARTS & CULTURE
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

SEYCHELLE CUSHING

Executive Director,
Partnerships Hub
SFU



Seychelle Cushing spearheads initiatives enhancing the productivity and competitiveness of Canadian companies in AI, cleantech, agritech and advanced manufacturing. As executive director of the Partnerships Hub and founder of the Big Data Hub, she champions innovation through strategic partnerships. She also leads the BC Centre for Agritech Innovation, enabling companies to de-risk and adopt cutting-edge technologies.

INSTITUTIONS AND NON-PROFITS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ETHAN FABER

News Director
CTV Vancouver



Ethan Faber is a veteran journalist who has helped lead the local evolution of CTV News into a digital news powerhouse that continues to win the top journalism honours in the industry. Besides its television newscasts, CTV News Vancouver is now one of the top read and watched news websites in the province.

ARTS & CULTURE
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

JOCK FINLAYSON

Chief Economist
ICBA



Jock Finlayson is chief economist at ICBA, Canada's largest construction industry association. Concurrently, he is also a senior fellow at the Fraser Institute. Previously, he was executive vice-president at the Business Council of B.C. and served on several boards, including the Bank of Canada, the Canada West Foundation and GenomeBC.

INDUSTRY

THOMAS FUNG

Founder, Chair & CEO
The Fairchild Group



Thomas Fung founded The Fairchild Group, which has substantial interests in a range of business areas, including media, information technology, retail and real estate. He has studied at the University of British Columbia and New York University. He is the recipient of an honorary degree from UBC.

ARTS & CULTURE
RETAIL

SECTOR TAGS

- ARTS & CULTURE
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- FINANCIAL & BANKING
- INDIGENOUS BUSINESS
- INDUSTRY
- INSTITUTIONS AND NON-PROFITS
- MANUFACTURING
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
- PUBLIC SECTOR
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- RESOURCES
- RETAIL
- TECHNOLOGY & LIFE SCIENCES
- TOURISM & HOSPITALITY
- TRADE & TRANSPORTATION