

NAME:  
**JOEY LAM**

PROGRAM AND YEAR OF GRADUATION:  
**FULL-TIME MBA 2020**

**Why did you decide to pursue an MBA at SFU's Beedie School of Business?**

Unlike other reputable business schools, SFU's Beedie School of Business does not only focus on academic performance, but also diversity of the cohort. What really moved me was its drive to give back to the community. I love doing volunteer work and enjoy meeting people and helping them. These values of mine align closely with those of SFU Beedie. I believe an MBA is not only about studying, but also the exposure I will receive during my 1-year career break, and how this will equip me with skills and experience to evolve to be a better independent career woman both professionally and personally.

**What is it like to study and live in Vancouver, Canada?**

I am a skier and a hiker. I cannot think of a better city for me to live. There is nowhere else you can go to a ski resort on a day trip. I used to live in Japan and there are lots of ski resorts, however they are far from the city. I love the diversity – only 5% of the people in Vancouver are actually from here. I love hearing stories from people with similar experiences. The diversified culture also means you can find different cuisines, which is a very helpful cure for homesickness – the comfort food from home!

**How would you describe SFU Beedie's culture?**

SFU Beedie's culture is very strong academically, but it is not only about school. People do work hard and play hard. There are academic curricular activities as well as non-academic ones such as Net Impact and the Graduate Business Women's Council in which to get involved. These can all give you great exposure outside of school. There are BC Games and MBA Games where you can meet other MBA students in BC and in Canada. Everyone in the cohort and staff are very helpful and friendly – they will help you out or show you in the right direction whenever you reach out.

**What is the most important thing that you have learned from your experience at SFU Beedie?**

I would say it is to self-learn under a time constraint. There is always so much more you can do, but there is not always enough time. Time management and setting priorities is the key to success and priorities should not only be about studying, but also building friendships with your cohort, networking outside school, enjoying your life in Vancouver while maintaining good physical and mental health. Pursuing an MBA at SFU Beedie is very important at this point of my life but there are other things to maintain. It is all about finding the balance.

A portrait of Joey Lam, a young woman with long brown hair and bangs, smiling warmly. She is wearing a dark blue blazer over a grey top. The background is a blurred outdoor setting.

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