

NAME:  
**KATHERINE COWIE**

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

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

Initially, I decided to pursue the online GDBA program as it would provide me with crucial business knowledge and give me time to see if I enjoyed a business education. It was also important that SFU is located in my hometown of Vancouver and my hope was that enrolling in one of their programs would instigate my eventual transition home after many years of living abroad. Because I enjoyed the GDBA program, it felt like a good moment to move on to the full-time MBA program.

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


Being a student in my home town after all of these years is pure joy. The city is magnificent and I'm very delighted to be close to family, friends, and an active community. I have been enjoying the beautiful outdoors since the beginning of the school year as well as the many amazing restaurants and shopping, not to mention the many choices of yoga studios! I have also reconnected with the arts community here in Vancouver and am familiarizing myself with their many challenges which has been a very energizing experience.

**What has been your favourite moment or experience at SFU Beedie so far?  
What are you looking forward to?**

So far, my favourite experience has been the course titled Managing a Globalized Workforce taught by Mila Lazarova. I have extensive experience working across borders with different cultures and the course helped me to gain a deeper understanding of my experiences. To finally be able to vocally articulate the issues has been illuminating.

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

I have learned that my life experience as a performer is valid and transferable to other industries beyond the arts. I have learned that my many years as a professional has given me the confidence and skills to be successful in any field. Finally, I have learned that no one person or leader is perfect, including those in leadership positions, and it is vital to continue to have empathy for everyone as we move through the various stages of life.



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