Game Changer

Goldcorp Inc. makes a generous donation to the Centre for Social and Sustainable Innovation

by Angelica Pass

On February 19, 2013, Vancouver-based gold producer Goldcorp Inc. announced its donation of $500,000 to support the Centre for Social and Sustainable Innovation (CSSI) housed within the Peter B. Gustavson School of Business. “Goldcorp is committed to making a positive difference in the communities where we are located,” says Chuck Jeannes, president and CEO of Goldcorp. “Our investment in the CSSI aligns with our commitment to operate sustainably, to become agents of change and role models for adopting sustainable and responsible approaches to business, including minimizing impact on the global environment, transparent and consultative decision-making and responsible stakeholder relations.

The Goldcorp donation will allow the CSSI, which has already launched several research and education initiatives with a small annual budget, to significantly increase activities and opportunities for both students and faculty. Providing funding for two years to support the operations and work of the CSSI, this gift will contribute to research and scholarship programs with the goal of developing best business and organizational practices in sustainability and corporate social responsibility.

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“This donation is important support for the centre, which has already helped us examine our own practices and connected Gustavson students, faculty and staff—as well as the entire UVic campus—with sustainable business expertise and scholarship,” says Dr. Saul Klein, dean of the Gustavson School of Business. The funds will support the implementation of the school’s commitment to sustainability and social responsibility through the education of its students, as well as deepen support for research in this area. Furthermore, the number of employee hours spent in the review and improvement of the school’s internal operations will increase.

“We’re grateful that Goldcorp saw the potential in the research capabilities of CSSI,” says UVic president David Turpin. “The centre and the Gustavson School of Business are helping today’s students and tomorrow’s business leaders learn to think in new ways about addressing complex problems in the changing world of business.”

DONATION BREAKDOWN

The funds from Goldcorp will be used to:
- Fund faculty research directed at improving sustainability and corporate social responsibility;
- Support costs of visiting experts (business and academic) to conduct lectures for students on sustainability and corporate social responsibility;
- Bring in visiting scholars and post-doctoral fellows to support curriculum and research development in the areas of sustainability and corporate social responsibility;
- Support teaching seminars and research in sustainability and corporate responsibility;
- Support research and knowledge mobilization of the best practices in sustainability and corporate responsibility;
- Support faculty and students to participate in networks of organizations and individuals sharing similar goals and interests, such as conferences and student research summits.

Helping develop the field of social and sustainable innovation: (left to right): David Turpin, Brent Bergeron, Monika Winn, Chuck Jeannes and Saul Klein.

act responsibly and grow educational opportunities for young people. We are pleased that the Gustavson School is integrating social responsibility and sustainability into academic content and research agendas, and believe ongoing strides in this growing field will continue to yield encouraging results.”

Founded in 2011, the CSSI helps establish the School of Business as an educational and academic leader in the developing field of social and sustainable innovation. The centre’s activities assist students and the wider community