Welcome to the Alberta Business Family Institute’s 10th annual Signature Event!

Each year we recognize a leading Canadian business family and ask them to share their unique story with us. This year we are honoured to welcome back the Richardsons, our very first Signature Event family. Tonight the Richardson Family will share their remarkable journey with us, including highlights from the last decade since we first met.

Thank you for supporting this event through your attendance and sponsorship. Your support makes it possible for the Alberta Business Family Institute to help business families succeed for generations to come.

Grant Lovig
Chair, Advisory Board
Alberta Business Family Institute

celebrating 10 years of signature events...

The Alberta Business Family Institute proudly presents an evening with

The Richardson Family

November 6, Calgary Hyatt Regency
November 7, Edmonton Sutton Place Hotel

The Evening’s Program
Reception and Registration
Official Welcome
Richardson Business Family Video
Dinner
Dessert
Richardson Family Presentation
Moderated Discussion
Questions and Answer Period
ABFI and RBC Presentation to the Richardson Family
Closing Remarks

We gratefully acknowledge our sponsors:
Building on a tradition of service, Hartley lends his time and expertise as a Director of Canadian Pacific Railway and served for seven years as a Director of the Royal Bank of Canada. He is Chairman of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives and past Chairman of the Business Council of Manitoba. In addition, he is Chairman of the Assiniboine Park Conservancy, Co-Chair of the Trans Canada Trail Foundation, and Chair of the Board of Governors of The Duke of Edinburgh’s Award Charter for Business.

The current presidency is highly regarded for the way it has positioned James Richardson & Sons Limited as a global leader powering the new economy with a strong group of diversified core businesses and investments, assuring their future through sound planning and sustainable growth.

Carolyn A. Hursh
A Director of the Firm since 1991, Carolyn (Richardson) Hursh was appointed Chairman of the Board in 2000, following in the footsteps of her father, the Honourable James Richardson, and her uncle, George T. Richardson. As the Firm’s first non-executive Chairman, she guides the business of the Board and provides leadership for the Firm and the family.

After generations of having a family-based Board, Carolyn and Hartley formalized a new governance structure for JRS, which for the first time included independent Directors, as well as audit, nominating, and compensation committees. “Our Independent Directors challenge our thinking and suggest alternate strategies,” says Carolyn. “We benefit from their outside perspective as well as their years of experience and business acumen.”

Continuing a family tradition of community service, Carolyn currently serves as Chairman of the Max Bell Foundation, a position previously held by her father. She is also a Director of Corus Entertainment, Inc., and sits on two community Advisory Boards.

Carolyn has also made it a priority to be a visible family representative of the Firm. Along with Hartley, she co-hosts corporate functions, such as the annual 25 Years’ Service Awards Dinner and the JR Christmas Party, and represents the company at client appreciation events and new facility openings.

“As Chairman of a family business, it is my responsibility to keep the family connected to each other and to the business,” she says. Carolyn ensures that company information is well communicated to the shareholders and every quarter she chairs a shareholder business meeting and a private family meeting. She and Hartley also organize a biannual family conference, which brings together the fourth, fifth, and sixth generations for business education and team building. “Such time as the next generation communicating about the business—including that ownership of a company is a responsibility as well as a privilege,” Carolyn says. There are 28 members of the sixth generation, known as G6s, between the ages of 4 and 31. “During the conference, we also have a lot of fun and adventure,” each time the G6s are building their repertoire of shared experiences. In the future, as shareholders, employees, or Directors of the company, these positive relationships will help them stay together and work through trying times.

Carolyn says it is immensely satisfying to be involved in setting the stage for the future of both the Firm and the family.

“To have a strong family business, you need to have both a strong business and a strong family. In terms of business strategy, we have well-diversified companies that are successful in their traditional core businesses at the same time as they explore new, innovative niches. From the family perspective, we are developing educated, thoughtful young men and women in the next generation who we hope will one day be ready to assume responsibility as owners and managers to lead James Richardson & Sons, Limited into the future.”