

Class of 2016 – Steve Kearley, EO Toronto, EMP Class of 2004

Steve Kearley started his insurance career in 1985 when he joined Bruce Benson Insurance Brokers as a producer. In 1991, Steve purchased the brokerage from Bruce Benson. Steve completed the Birthing of Giants program - now known as the Entrepreneurial Masters Program - in 2004 and continues to attend and participate in the Alumni program known as the Gathering of Titans each year. His attendance at such events allows him to focus on growing Benson Kearley IFG and creating one of the premier financial service operations in Canada. Steve was recently honored by the Newmarket Board of Trade being voted as "Entrepreneur of the Year" for 2012 and Benson Kearley IFG was recognized as one of Canada's fastest growing companies on the 2013 *Profit 500* list.



Benson Kearley IFG is a "Conscious Capitalist" company. Steve and his team are committed to providing value to stakeholders - including clients, employees, suppliers and the local community - not just the shareholder.

Steve has taken on active leadership roles in many organizations. In 1995 he co-founded with 5 other business men "Hockey Helps the Homeless" which to date has raised over \$5,000,000 for homeless initiatives. He also served in many leadership capacities with the Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO) for over 10 years, and just completed a 3 year term on the Global Board of Directors. He is currently heading up the Global Student Entrepreneur Awards (GSEA) in Canada, the premier award for students that own and run businesses while attending a high school, college or university. He is the newest of the three Entrepreneurial Masters Program facilitators, and will take on the incoming Class of 2016 when they matriculate in the program in 2014.

"I'm excited about the future of Benson Kearley IFG. We are committed to growing for the right reasons, to be the absolute best we can be for our clients, to provide opportunities and rewards to our employees, and to truly make a positive impact in our community" says Steve, "Every day is a great day at Benson Kearley IFG."

Steve resides in Newmarket, Ontario, just outside Toronto. He has four children: Joshua, Courtney, Cameron and Jake, and a granddaughter, Irelyn. He has been happily married to his wife, Christine, for 28 years. Steve is passionate about cycling, golf and is a lover of fine wine.