About Ben Dolf

Ben grew up in Switzerland, and worked in international banking in Zurich and Montreal where he observed how the rich hid their money. He was also involved in recycling petrodollars from the Middle East to poor countries. The benefits went to the banks, the risks were transferred to the public.

He and his wife spent the next 4 years in Kigali, Rwanda, continuing to develop a network of rural credit unions supported by the Swiss Government. This was followed by 4 years in Bern, Switzerland, where he looked after Swiss programmes in Rwanda and Tanzania.

In 1984, the family won the first prize in the cosmic lottery and got to live for 6 years in Kathmandu, Nepal. Ben ran programmes in social and economic development for the Swiss Government, a Swiss NGO AND the Government of Nepal.

Ben left the Swiss Government in 1990 because he found that even well-executed programs run into problems of cross-cultural imperialism and often represent a world- view that is not sustainable.

The family moved to Victoria. Ben first worked as a management consultant to NGOs and the federal government. With two colleagues he also designed and delivered inter-cultural communications workshops for the Victoria Police Department.

Ben then worked with the BC Ministry of Health where he designed and delivered workshops and courses in collaborative planning and in strategic planning. Participants included employees of the Ministry as well as ambulance chiefs, public health nursing managers, the management and staff of a health region, health inspectors and a group of psychiatrists.

Ben also operated a crisis line for managers at the Ministry of Health.

All this came to an end when the BC severely cut the budget and postponed a lot of important work.

For the next few years, he taught management courses at Kwantlen College and project management courses to the staff of UBC. He also delivered Myers Briggs workshops.

Ben now owns a small business in the commercial and institutional buildings design sector.