The Biggest Business Transition

Haverhill Rotary Club - 9 January 2014

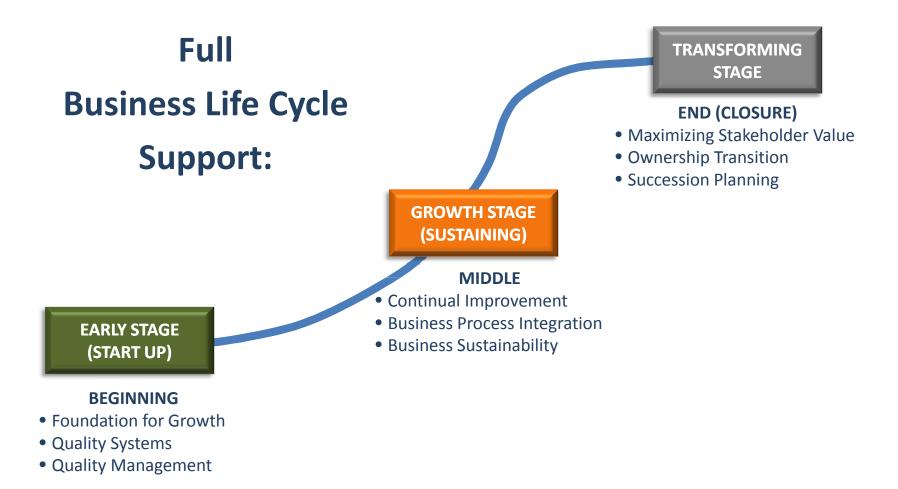
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ABOUT ADVYSE



"No Enterprise is too small to Profit from a little Systems Thinking..."



INTRODUCTION



FACT OF LIFE: NOTHING IS FOREVER

SOONER OR LATER, YOU WILL LEAVE YOUR BUSINESS:

- Business Failure
- Acquisition, Sale, Transfer
- Retirement
- "Dying at your Desk"

What happens to your business <u>and you</u>

Depends on what <u>you</u> do today !!!



ECONOMIC FACTS & FORECASTS

- 9.2 Million US Business Owners are over 50 years old
 - Will account for 65 75 % of Small Businesses on the market over the next 5 – 15 years
 - ~ \$ 10 <u>Trillion</u> in Business Equity will be transferred
- 84 % of Business Owners are depending on Sale
 Proceeds for the next phase of their lives
 - ~ 80 % of a Business Owner's personal wealth is in the business
 - 60 % of Business Owners between 55 and 64 have not discussed their transition plans with spouses or partners
 - 78% of 'Baby Boomer' Business Owners do not have written Succession Plans



IMPORTANCE OF THE BUSINESS

- Small & Medium Businesses account for:
 - − > 50 % of Private Sector Employees
 - − > 50 % of nonfarm private GDP
- Most Businesses have a web of stakeholders:
 - Customers
 - Employees
 - Vendors
 - Community
 - Etc.



Every Business is Important to Its Stakeholders



IMPORTANCE OF THE OWNER

- Business Owners also have a web of relationships:
 - Family & Friends
 - The Community
 - The Trade / Profession
 - The Economy



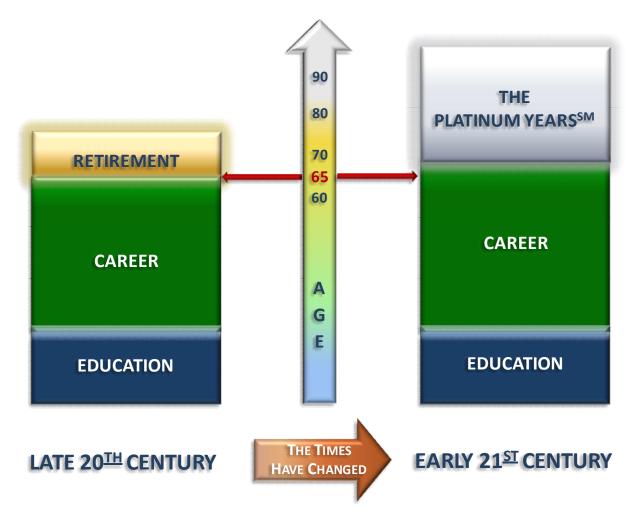
And, a Wealth of Experience

You have a lot to offer
--- And a lot of time to offer it...

SLIDE: 7 -



MORE FACTS OF LIFE



Our increased Life Expectancy Has Created New Opportunities



EXITS, TRANSACTIONS, AND TRANSITIONS

• EXITS

- One sided-doors
- Unknown consequences
- What's on the other side is unknown **Process: END**

TRANSACTIONS

- "If this, then that"
- Closed --- Short Term
- Well defined Goals and Consequences

BEGINNING \rightarrow MIDDLE \rightarrow END **Process:**

Words Matter !!!





EXITS, TRANSACTIONS, AND TRANSITIONS (cont.)

TRANSITIONS

- "If this, then maybe this, maybe that, depending upon..."
- Modification or adaptation in <u>response</u> to a change
- Open, Long-Term Duration and Outcomes
- Spectrum of Options / Palette of Scenarios



Process: END → MIDDLE → BEGINNING



OBSTACLES TO (BUSINESS) TRANSITION PLANNING

- Fear of Loss of Identity
- Leaving feels like "death"
- Fear of an Unknown Future
- Discomfort with discussing personal emotions
- Think it's "to early" to plan
- Fear that the process will be too complicated
- Don't know experienced Advisors who can help
- Fear of becoming "Irrelevant"



IMPORTANCE OF TRANSITION PLANNING

- If You Don't Plan Your Future, It Will Be Planned for You
- Transition without a Plan is like Driving Blindfolded:
 - Emotional content clouds judgment
 - Reaction to events & symptoms rather than response to the environment
- Proper planning can reveal a wide range of options
 - Avoid choosing "the lesser of two evils"
 - New possibilities

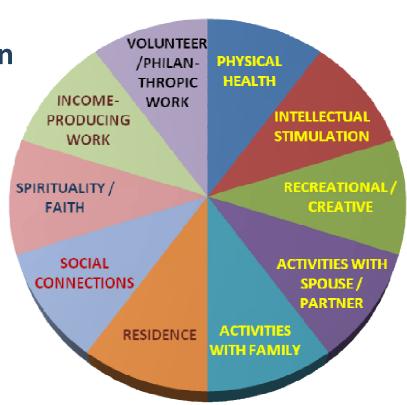
"The best way to predict the future is to invent it."



THE PERSONAL TRANSITION PLAN

- Personal Transition Planning Must Be Done First:
 - Emotional Commitment
 - What You Will Need Depends on What You Plan to Do !!!

- Plan a Life That You Can't Wait to Live
 - Who You Will Be
 - What you Will Do
 - A <u>PULL</u> not a <u>PUSH</u>





THE BUSINESS TRANSITION PLAN

Project Team:

- Your CPA
- Your Attorney
- Your Personal Financial Advisor
- Your Wealth Management / Investment Advisor
- Merger & Acquisition Advisor
- Estate Planning Attorney
- Business Insurance Advisor
- Etc.

Multiple Transfer Options:

- To Partner / Co-Owner
- To Family Member
- To A Key Employee
- To All of Your Employees (ESOP's, etc.)
- Directly to an Outside Buyer
- Through a Business Intermediary to an Outside Buyer
- Private Equity Recapitalization



PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

• Be Prepared:

- Know Your readiness for transition
- Know your Business' readiness for transition

Know Yourself:

- Who you really are (<u>not</u> just what you do)
- What your fears are
- How you make decisions

Know your Business:

- How much it is <u>really</u> worth
- What you most value in it
- Who relies on it

• Know what you want:

- For Yourself
- For your Business



SUMMARY

- Sooner or Later You & Your Business Will Part
 - How Do You Want to Leave ??
 - When Do You Want to Leave ??
 - Who Do You Want to Be After You Leave ??
 - How Do You Want the Business to Continue ??
- Early Planning is Essential
- The Market for Business
 Sales is Changing
- There is Hope...
 There is Help...









Contact information

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Business Process Integration ~ Transition Planning ~ Quality Management

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