

About



Jake Nemec, CIM, FCSI, CFP Investment Advisor

I bring 25 years of experience helping families and business owners with their financial planning and investment needs.

Ventum Financial Corp. (Ventum) is a leading independent, Canadian-owned and operated wealth management and capital markets firm, known for our client-centered approach and entrepreneurial spirit. Ventum is a compelling option for investors seeking unbiased investment solutions, professional management and unparalleled service.

If you believe this newsletter would be of interest to your family or friends, please do not hesitate to share it with them.

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25 Years

It seems just yesterday I was reflecting on hitting my 20-year anniversary in the business. Now I sit here looking back at a quarter century. I'm finally feeling old!

Back in April of 2001 I entered the business as the dot-com bubble was bursting and the U.S. was about to enter a war in the Middle East. Today, there are fears the AI bubble may burst and the U.S. is at war in the Middle East.

If I had put \$10,000 in the S&P500 Index or the S&P/TSX Composite Index back on my first day it would currently be worth over \$80,000. Had I invested that \$10,000 in "cash" it would only be worth around \$15,000 today. Along the way there would have been plenty of reasons to be spooked out of the market, but holding the course would have proven the right move. (See chart below)



Date Range: 04/30/2001 - 03/31/2026

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Beyond the importance of staying invested for the long run, here are a few other things I've learned along the way:

- It's nearly impossible to outperform the market on a consistent basis, so why pay someone high fees to attempt to do so.
- Working with an independent firm is in the best interest both from an advisor and client perspective. Firms only offering their own products should be a red flag.
- I'm not going to be the right advisor for every client and not every client is going to be right fit for me. That's OK. Ignoring that truth can lead to poor outcomes for both parties.

Quotable

“The first rule of compounding: never interrupt it unnecessarily”

– Charlie Munger

What I’m Reading

In no particular order, here are my top reads from the past quarter:

1. [Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow](#): It took me six months to get through the first half of this book, but only two days to finish the second half. The book centres around two childhood friends and their shared passion for video game design as they experience the ups and downs of life.
2. [The Bear](#): Set in a post-apocalyptic landscape, the book follows a young girl and her father as they navigate a world where nature has reclaimed its dominance.
3. [What You’re Made For](#): This memoir / self help book from a basketball coach I had never heard of until coming across this book preaches serving others, continuous learning and finding meaning by using your strengths to positively impact the world.
4. [The Way of Excellence](#): This book explores how success comes from consistent habits, discipline and focusing on the process rather than outcomes.
5. [The Wisdom of Wolves](#): The author shares his insights after years of living with wolves focusing on their deep social bonds, loyalty and emotional intelligence. He doesn’t try to humanize the animals, but rather highlights certain traits of wolves that humans can put to use themselves.

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