

## About



**Jake Nemec, CIM, FCSI, CFP**  
**Investment Advisor**

I bring over 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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## Laddering

As we continue to see volatility in the bond market, and are likely facing a rate hike later this month, building a ladder of bonds (or GIC's) may be a good choice for the fixed income portion of your portfolio.

Think of a bond ladder as a series of stepping stones that provides both predictable cash flow and protection against shifting interest rates. Instead of putting all of your money into a single five-year bond, you divide your investment into five equal building blocks:

- **Year 1:** 20% of your money goes into a 1-year bond.
- **Year 2:** 20% goes into a 2-year bond.
- **Year 3:** 20% goes into a 3-year bond.
- **Year 4:** 20% goes into a 4-year bond.
- **Year 5:** 20% goes into a 5-year bond.

Every year, one of your bonds will mature, giving you a steady stream of liquid cash. If interest rates have gone up, you can immediately roll that cash into a new, higher-yielding 5-year bond. If rates have gone down, you are still protected because 80% of your fixed income portfolio remains locked in at the older, higher rates.

Building a bond ladder removes the guesswork. You no longer need to stress over predicting what the Bank of Canada will do next. Instead, you create a self-sustaining loop that continuously captures peak market yields while ensuring you always have penalty-free access to cash once a year.

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## FHSA Reminder

It's been a few years since FHSA's (First Home Savings Accounts) were first launched, so I thought it may be a good time to remind you of the benefits.

These are accounts designed to help first time home buyers. You are able to deduct your contributions (similar to an RRSP) and withdrawals are tax-free (similar to TFSA's) when used for a qualifying first home.

One important thing to keep in mind is you don't start accumulating contribution room until an account is open.

If you, or a family member, may benefit from an FHSA, please let me know. I'd be happy to help you get started prior to year end to start accumulating contribution room.

Quotable

# "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

– Benjamin Franklin

## What I'm Reading

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

1. [Convenience Store Woman](#): If you have ever been inside a *konbini* the opening pages will take you instantly back. The story follows along with a woman who finds peace in the structure of being an employee at a store.
2. [Train Dreams](#): A look at early 20<sup>th</sup>-century life in the Pacific Northwest as a solitary man is haunted by the loss of his wife and daughter.
3. [Why Fish Don't Exist](#): A biographical memoir that intertwines the author's personal crisis with the life of 20th-century scientist David Starr Jordan. Jordan obsessively cataloged and rebuilt massive fish collections despite natural disasters, reflecting a rigid human desire for natural hierarchy that ultimately spiraled into a dark advocacy for eugenics.
4. [Under the Jaguar Sun](#): An unfinished collection of three short stories, each centered on a different human sense: taste, hearing, and smell.
5. [Close to Shore](#): Chronicles the terrifying true story of the 1916 Jersey Shore shark attacks, which gripped the American public with fear during a sweltering summer.

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