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April 16, 2020

Dear Family-Owned Businesses,

The Institute for Family-Owned Business (IFOB) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the success of family-owned businesses in the state of Maine. Now more than ever, the bonds of family, community and our livelihoods are being tested.

To fulfill our mission to support local family-owned businesses, the IFOB Board and staff have decided to waive all new family business membership fees for the remainder of 2020 and to open our Affinity Groups to all family-owned businesses to help them in these challenging times.

When asked, the Board resoundingly agreed that the benefit to being a member of the IFOB is the access to all the diverse family businesses and to share so many business issues and opportunities in an intimate setting. To learn from each other and to know you are not alone with many resources available to help you manage your business can be of immeasurable value in times like these. It's the opportunity to learn something from people who have already accomplished so much that really sets the IFOB apart and it's a place where friendships are born with a network that supports you.

Come join us for an online educational program, a networking event (when we re-open) and our awards (which we look forward to on September 21) to celebrate family-owned businesses.

Get involved in one of the following Affinity groups and join the family!

- Women's Leadership Forum – inspirational discussions for women who have families and are running the family business
- Next Gen – leadership coached facilitated discussions for young leaders who are currently running or working in their family-owned business
- Leaders in Transition – facilitated meetings to discuss the next chapter of your life as you work to transition the business to the Next Gen
- CEO Central – for businesses with over \$5 million in revenue to discuss a wide range of issues

We look forward to welcoming you!

Catherine W. Fossett

Catherine Wygant Fossett
Executive Director

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PASS IT ON.