

Mike Dowell, Liber Farm & Winery

Mike, born in 1974 just outside Edmonton, had been a manager with a heating and air conditioning company as well as operating as an importer of premium Columbian rum. A wine tour in the Okanagan in 2005 followed by a 2006 wine tour in California sparked Mike and his wife's interest in wine. Changes in their personal lives, including a strong interest in organic food, led them to begin looking for a winery or an orchard in wine country.



Mike purchased their first farm in March 2016 in Cawston and opened the tasting room in July 2016. The vineyard started out as a seven-acre parcel on a portion of the historic Mariposa Farm which, in the early 1960s, was the first farm in British Columbia to be certified organic. In 2021 Mike and team Liber purchased a 2nd farm in the Osoyoos area and quickly replanted the former orchard with grapes. As well relocated the tasting room from Cawston to Osoyoos. Currently Liber has direct control of 30 plus acres of grapes between the Similkameen and Okanagan valleys.

Mike has served as the treasurer on the Similkameen Independent Winegrowers association and was part of many boards and committees during his time in Edmonton. Mike loves spending time with his wife and 2 children aged 9 and 6. As well enjoys getting beat by the golf course most days and ski hill in the winter.