



## Enterprising Rural Families Assessment Where Do Your Cycles Overlap?

Write down where each member of your family fits in the Individual Cycle and the Family Cycle. Then ask each family member to indicate where they think the business is in the Business Cycle. If there are different perceptions of the stage of the family business, discuss them. Observe what different priorities family members would have depending on where they are in the various cycles. What impact is this having on the family business?

Individual Cycle		Family Cycle		Business Cycle	
Stage	Family member(s)	Stage	Family member(s)	Stage	Family member(s)
Age 18-24: Transition to adulthood		Stage 1: Single young adult		Stage 1: Founding or birth	
Age 25-30: Commencing adulthood		Stage 2: The new couple		Stage 2: Growth and development	
Age 31-35: Settling in		Stage 3: Families with young children		Stage 3: Maturation	
Age 36-42: Mid-life transition		Stage 4: Families with adolescents		Stage 4: Decline or renewal	
Age 43-59: Middle adulthood		Stage 5: Launching children			
Age 60 and beyond: Late adulthood		Stage 6: Families in later life			

Adapted from:

*Managing the Multi-Generational Family Farm* published by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

*The Marriage and Family Experience: Intimate Relationships in a Changing Society* published by Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.