

Leta Best



BC Notaries: Moving into the Future

We have just returned from our 46th Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting at Whistler, BC. What a grand weekend. The weather was great and the location unbelievable. Look out 2010 Olympics; welcome to BC at its finest!

Several international guests flew in to participate in our events. In the next issue of *The Scrivener*, they will enlighten you about the international aspects of Notarial procedures around the world and how Notaries work together in a global community. Thank you for adding so much to our conference:

- Angel R. Marrero of Puerto Rico, Vice President of the North American arm of the International Union of Latin Notaries;
- Peter Lawson, Past President of the Notaries Society of England; and
- Milton G. Valera, President, and Deborah M. Thaw, Executive Director, of the National Notaries Association from the United States.

[Please see photo on page 44.]

We hope you enjoyed your stay in Whistler.

Our conference education package echoed this issue's theme: Fiscal Designing and You! The Saturday presenters—Wayne Braid, with “Who Moved My Cheese,” and Wes Beeston, with “Strategic Financial Planning”—emphasized the importance of anticipating, accepting, and embracing change and of taking “the smarter approach” in business.

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We know change is coming. We resist change, but change we must if we are to prosper. We are seeing fewer and fewer Land Title Offices and other government services to serve the public. As government services diminish, someone in the public sector must be available to assist the people of British Columbia. The Notary is well positioned to fill the void in areas previously served by government.

Our focus in future will go beyond the traditional areas by expanding to involve Notaries as consultants on matters pertaining to people's day-to-day

lives. Where can individuals go for general consultation and guidance on issues of importance to them? They are now seeking and will continue to ask for the advice of their local Notary, a person they trust.

BC Notaries come from many professional disciplines: banking, real estate, insurance, accounting, and others. The Society is committed to providing its members with continuing education opportunities to enable them to hone and enhance their entrepreneurial skills and abilities. Wes Beeston's address focused on techniques for thinking outside of the box and on ways to run a business at optimum levels of success and fiscally responsibility.

Speaking of change, we trust you like the new look of *The Scrivener* and our advertising logo. Thanks to the perseverance of the PR Team, lead by Director Laurie Salvador, the image of the BC Notary is changing with the times.

The role of the Notary is becoming more important than ever. Isn't it amazing that as the world evolves and things change, our profession—one of the oldest and most noble—is the one that people will require more in the future? BC Notaries: “A Trusted Tradition.” ▲