

The Life and Times of Larry Ference

Larry Ference was born in Selkirk, Manitoba. His family lived in Vancouver, then moved to Windsor, Ontario, returning to Vancouver in 1955 where Larry has lived ever since.

His dad was a carpenter. As a young boy, Larry would accompany him to job sites, but reports that most of his dad's carpentry skills did not rub off on him.

While attending King Edward High School, Larry worked part-time swamping from the *Vancouver Sun* newspaper trucks. After graduation, he worked full-time for over 12 years at the *Sun's* wholesale division as a Route Manager. He was greatly inspired by his employers Bruce and Len Moffat, who had a strong influence on Larry's career decisions. Len treated all his employees like family and his employees responded by calling him "Father." His advice was always welcomed; he had an open ear for his staff.

Larry moved into the Circulation Department as a District Advisor, then spent four more years in the Mailing Room of Pacific Press, which owned the *Sun* and *Province*.

Needing a bigger challenge in his life, Larry embarked on a career in real estate—in sales and management—that spanned over 14 years. His association with many Notaries and lawyers led to his decision to become a Notary.

Commissioned as BC Notary in December of 1992, Larry acquired the practice of Ron Chivers in May of 1993. He chose to practise in the Lougheed Mall of Burnaby because of its proximity to the areas he had served during his real estate career. He and his wife Barbara reside in nearby New Westminster, minutes away from the office.

In his years as a Realtor, Larry feels fortunate to have built a loyal clientele that now uses his services as a Notary.

Some are second-generation clients; some are associates from his newspaper days.

Although operating a practice six days a week puts time constraints on outside activities, Larry is a member of his Strata Council, which he finds an interesting learning experience.

An avid car buff, he is known to pamper his vehicles. Because he didn't have the opportunity to own a custom car in his younger years, Larry filled that dream with a taupe PT Cruiser, which won a trophy in the "New Westminster Show and Shine." Larry's cars always look like they have just come out of the showroom. At the moment, he is mothering a Pewter-coloured 2003 Nissan Murano with his personalized licence plate "NOTARY." Daughter Cindy says he will start his own mobile car-detailing business when he retires!

Son Bryan, daughter-in-law Shamaine, and three of the greatest grandsons—Lucas, Marcus, and Trey—round out the family.

An avid sports fan, Larry enjoys watching most sports—especially seeing his grandsons play soccer.

For Larry, family is number one. He has been married to Barbara for over 40 years. They both look forward to their annual visit to Maui.

He enjoys his work as well as his association with his fellow Notaries and with Realtors, loyal clients, and dedicated staff. While not a mentor to any one particular person, Larry says his door is always open to any one who wishes to enquire about the Notary profession. ▲

