

Award-Winning Professional: Suzanne Pantazis



Suzanne Pantazis was born in Vancouver, BC, and raised in the Lower Mainland.

Before becoming a BC Notary, she worked with the City of Burnaby, in their tax and payroll departments, and with the federal government in various positions with Revenue Canada and Immigration, doing interpretation and application of federal legislation.

In 1994, tired of spending three hours a day in traffic, Suzanne and her husband decided it was time for a change. They moved to Cranbrook, where Damianos started his own construction company. Although Suzanne helped with the business, her most important project was raising their young boys.

When ready to return to work, she applied for the BC Notary Preparatory Course, which she successfully completed in the Summer of 2000, receiving the UBC Award for the highest marks on the Conveyancing Exam.

Suzanne purchased one of two Notary Seals in the Cranbrook area. Her current commute to work is a 3 kilometre drive that takes about 5 minutes. Or she can walk, which takes about 30 minutes. Having an extra 15 hours a week lets her enjoy life more; she can go home for lunch and drive her children to and from school.

Suzanne really enjoys her practice. She says:

As a Notary Public, you help your clients through many major events in their lives. You see them when they are buying their first home. You see them when they are expecting their first child and wanting to have their Wills prepared. You might see them when they are dealing with a death in their family. You might see them when they are getting older and doing a Power of Attorney and updating their Wills. You see your clients at so many different stages in their lives that you really get to know them and their families.

Suzanne says it makes her feel good to be able to help people through those times.



Fine Family of Four: Kristofer, Suzanne, Nikolas, and Damianos

She has two wonderful office assistants. Christine has worked with her for three-and-a half years and is like her right arm. Stacy has just started working in the office this year and fits well into the welcoming, warm environment Suzanne's practice provides. She says,

It can be uncomfortable for some people to have to deal with legal issues. We try to make our clients feel relaxed and let them know they are in good hands when they walk into our office. We pride ourselves on giving professional and friendly service.

Suzanne says that one of the hardest things about being a Notary is achieving a balance between work and personal

life. She thinks living in a beautiful community like Cranbrook makes that transition a lot easier. "In a matter of minutes, I can be in the middle of a forest with beautiful, undisturbed landscapes and fresh mountain air. It's a wonderful way to wind down after a busy day at the office."

The whole family loves Cranbrook. They mountain-bike, swim, garden, boat, camp, cross-country ski, ice-fish, and toboggan.

Suzanne is mother to two wonderful sons: Nikolas, 13, and Kristofer, 8. The time she spends with Damianos and the boys creates the most precious moments in her life. ▲



Cranbrook, BC