



## PROFILE OF A BC NOTARY

# Charmaine Van Tine: Breathless in Victoria



**like the saying *life is measured not in the number of breaths you take, but in the moments that take your breath away.***

Dancing and riding a motorcycle take my breath away. Practising as a BC Notary for 18 years has done the same on occasion—if not taking my breath away, at least leaving me gasping.

Two years ago, I signed up for the novice motorcycle course run by the Vancouver Island Safety Council, to learn how to ride. I discovered that with patient instructors, you can make up for a lack of talent with perseverance.

I rode a Honda 250 for 20,000 km over those 2 years before trading in my slightly dented steed for a Honda 750 Shadow—an awesome bike that takes me through mountain passes without hesitation.

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Meeting these altruistic instructors has also motivated me to volunteer my time to this nonprofit organization that, by the way, is in

need of a permanent location for their Tom Thumb Safety Village—a one-third scale village with roads for teaching traffic safety to children.

My recent move into Victoria means I now have a 30-minute commute to my office in Brentwood Bay. Sometimes, getting to and from the office on my motorcycle can be the best part of the day.

You are—in a way that only dancing has matched—living in the moment, feeling every curve, knowing when the huckleberries are out, and having motorcyclists wave to you just because you're on a motorcycle.



With our children Andrea, 25, and Brennan, 22, off on their own adventures, it was time to downsize. After 2 decades of weekends spent sailing the San Juan and Gulf Islands, we knew we wanted to be on the water. Home is now at WestBay Marina in the Victoria Harbour, in an 1800 square foot floathome of my design, that my husband Darryl—in between stints in the Arctic as Assistant Director, Informatics, Government of Nunavut—has made spectacular with his carpentry skills.

We love living on the water with seaplanes and ships coming and going; seals, otters, and purple martens singing their hearts out; and a heron we've nicknamed Goofy—because he is.

Being able to walk downtown along the West Song walkway or peddle the water bike into the Inner Harbour for musical performances is urban living at its best—and seeing a sunset light the city skyline on fire can take your breath away, too. ▲

**BC Notary Charmaine L. Van Tine** practises in Brentwood Bay, an area of Saanich on Vancouver Island.

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