

The Scrivener

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Editor-in-Chief Val Wilson
Legal Editors Wayne Braid
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**Magazine
Committee** Leta Best
Laurie Salvador
Kate Greening
Dawn Lagerbom
Dhama Sahota
Photographer Alastair Bird
Typesetting Graffiki Design
Printing Quebecor World
Web Master Web North
Courier Cheyenne Express

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The Society of Notaries Public of British
Columbia. Box 44, 1220 – 625 Howe Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 2T6
Voice: 604 681-4516 Fax: 604 681-7258

**Website: www.notaries.bc.ca
Email: scrivener@notaries.bc.ca**

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What's in a Name?

"A professional penman, a copyist, a scribe . . . a Notary." Thus the *Oxford English Dictionary* describes a Scrivener, the craftsman charged with ensuring that the written affairs of others flow smoothly, seamlessly, and accurately. Where a Scrivener must record the files accurately, it's the Notary whose Seal is bond.

Thus we chose *The Scrivener* as the name of our magazine: to celebrate the Notary's role in drafting, communicating, authenticating, and getting the facts straight. We strive to publish articles about points of law and the Notary profession for the education and enjoyment of our members, allied professionals, and the public.

Continuing Education

Message from the Minister of Advanced Education



Shirley Bond

Just about all public post-secondary institutions in British Columbia offer Continuing Education programs. These programs are an important link for communities, providing access to people of all ages and backgrounds who want to enhance their careers through new skills and training, or improve their lives by expanding their interests and thereby, their horizons.

The Ministry of Advanced Education does not directly fund Continuing Education; institutions offer courses on a cost-recovery basis. Because of this, there is no formal reporting to the ministry, but we do know that more than a quarter-million people in British Columbia enroll in Continuing Education courses every year. This is based on a report on the status of Continuing Education in the BC college, institute, and agency system in 1996/97, which shows at that time, there were 268,131 enrollments. Of these, 82 percent were in the career/technical/vocational sector, and 13 percent were in personal interest courses.

Continuing Education in British Columbia is a vibrant sector of our post-secondary system, which addresses the need for ongoing learning to keep pace with our rapidly changing economy. An important component of life-long learning is that it makes us

more aware of the world we live in and more adaptable to its shifts. Having gone back to school myself after I was 40, to pursue a degree in political science, I recognize first-hand the benefits of life-long learning.

I also believe in the importance of offering educational opportunities that provide both choice and flexibility for people who must also manage job and family responsibilities. As Minister, I will continue to explore alternatives such as the expansion of online and part-time learning, as well as increased degree-granting opportunities for both private and public institutions. Overall, the principles of choice and flexibility for students will be key as we build a top-notch education system for learners of all ages in British Columbia. ▲

A Prince George resident, **Shirley Bond** has been actively involved in the community for many years, serving on the Prince George School Board and working with the local school district's continuing education department. Ms. Bond is a recipient of the BC Interior, North, and Yukon "Woman of Distinction" Award for her work in public education.