

# Meet the Board of Governors: Laurie Salvador

**U**ntil age 12, Laurie Salvador lived in Creston, BC, then her family moved to Campbell River, Coquitlam, and finally Sidney, where they settled in 1968.

Laurie says, “Back then, you could only buy milk on a Sunday at the bus depot and we fished for prawns off the pier. Then Safeway came to town and we never looked back.”

Before becoming a BC Notary, Laurie worked in the travel business. Manager of an inbound tour company, she travelled the world, extolling the virtues of British Columbia. In the early ‘80s, Laurie was Executive Assistant to Grace McCarthy, then Minister of Human Resources. The commonality in her work experience was serving people.

When we asked why she chose to become a BC Notary, Laurie responded: “Working for government taught me something important about myself. I wanted to be self-employed.” Her father, Sidney Notary John Salvador\*, was thinking of retiring and encouraged Laurie to take the Notary course with his assistant Susan Davis. “He basically told us we would take the course and then become partners, even though we didn’t know each

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other! One thing about my father is that he has great instincts.”

Susan and Laurie studied together and went on to be partners for 14 years in beautiful Sidney By The Sea. “I was fortunate to have a great dad who let me take over his practice. I feel honoured to be serving his former clients. Many of them still call to ask if Mr. Salvador is available. He was so popular. Many of his clients just assume he is still working—even though it has been almost 20 years since we took over his practice.”



For Laurie, the most satisfying aspect of being a Notary Public is the people. “I really enjoy helping people. Actually, I really miss the olden days when clients brought us warm homemade bread and honey. Mr. Lawton used to bring us fresh vegetables from his garden and Mrs. Olsen’s mother used to bring us a plate full of Swedish baking at Christmas. Those efforts were really special to us and much appreciated.”

Recently elected to the Board of Governors of the Notary Foundation, Laurie enjoys “reviewing the Grants and learning about the different organizations out there. It’s great when we can help them with their programs.”

Also a Board member of Sidney’s new community hall, Laurie has been involved in politics, Big Brothers and Sisters, and was a founding director of Victoria AM Tourist Association.

An avid quilter, she has recently started a new hobby in art stamps. Laurie also makes cards from recycled materials, leaves, and wine labels. “People like them because they contain little memories of events we have shared. They are an expression of friendship and love, the sharing of an art form, much like the quilts.”

When asked what is most important in her life, Laurie responds, “Family and friends and work, in that order.” Her two children, Nick and Morgan, are about to turn 17. “They are becoming adults and we love watching them experience things and grow. I married a wonderful man last year and together we have six children and six grandchildren. Juggling our busy schedules is a challenge.

“After 19 years in practice, I still love going to work where I enjoy my ‘other’ family. We have a great team of dedicated and caring women. We get along so well. It is a real treat to be at home at the office!” ▲

\* For a previous story about John Salvador and Laurie Salvador, please see *Scrivener* Archives online: [www.notaries.bc.ca/scrivener](http://www.notaries.bc.ca/scrivener). Vol. 8, No. 2, June 1999.