

G. Wayne Braid



The Pioneer Spirit in 2002

Welcome to this issue of *The Scrivener*. I trust you will find our “Present-Day Pioneers” theme informative, entertaining, and thought-provoking.

Webster’s Dictionary defines a Pioneer as “one who is first or among the earliest in any field in inquiry, enterprise, or progress; to be the first to open or prepare a way, to take part in the beginnings of, initiate, to lead the way for a group, being the earliest or original.”

When I hear the word Pioneer, I think of someone in a covered wagon, travelling across the wilderness into uncharted territory, establishing new community roots, struggling to survive in a harsh, unfriendly environment—a person determined and committed to his or her cause, a person with strength of character.

We continue to celebrate our 75th year as The Society of Notaries Public of British Columbia. In previous issues, I have written about some of the “Notary Pioneers” who led the way, moved into uncharted areas of service on behalf of British Columbians, and endured hardships as they worked to establish a place and an identity in the legal field in our province . . . those who served at great personal cost, and sacrificed personal time and finances so that the people of our province could have a **choice** for certain legal services.

Are BC Notaries Present-Day Pioneers? I suggest the answer is Yes. We look back to those who set an example for us to follow, to those who provided the leadership and initiative that has given us the right to work today in our Tradition of Trust.

*We are determined
and committed to
provide the people of
this province with new,
cost-effective, and
efficient delivery of
legal products.*

In this issue, you will read stories about our Notaries from around the province, from Prince Rupert to the Okanagan, to Vancouver Island, to the Cariboo . . . Notaries involved in their communities—not just in their professional lives but in their personal pursuits, as well . . . from politics to service clubs . . . Notaries dedicating their time to make their communities better places in which to live today and for future generations . . . Notaries involved in the day-to-day lives of people.

It is our goal in each *Scrivener* to provide educational articles on various

topics, to introduce our readers to the services of Notaries, and tell you about some of our Notaries’ activities.

The type of work Notaries do requires us to look into the past. When we investigate a land title, we search to see what may have occurred in the past that is affecting the title now. We need to make certain our client will be receiving what he or she bargained for.

Notaries must also deal with the present. We must consider what our client needs, and make certain we provide the level of service and professionalism our client is expecting. Sometimes we must look ahead to assist our client to anticipate what the future may hold for his or her endeavour, project, or current home purchase. We use our best efforts and knowledge of the law, the local conditions, our own experience, and our contacts to provide our client with the best advice we can.

In the future, will Notaries continue to initiate? Will we lead the way? Will we be original? The answer is YES! Notaries in BC will continue to serve the needs of British Columbians. We are determined and committed to provide the people of this province with new, cost-effective, and efficient delivery of legal products.

Stay tuned! ▲