



Margot Rutherford: Comox Valley Luminary

Margot was born and raised in Vancouver. Before becoming a Notary Public, she was an accountant specializing in the real estate industry.

In her accounting career, and later in her Notarial practice, Margot had two mentors: Vancouver Notary Public Stan Olson, and mother Charlotte Willis. Prior to moving to Courtenay, Margot's mother had worked for Stan as his conveyancer and accountant, as did Margot before she moved to Courtenay.

Her mother encouraged Margot to become a Notary. She applied for the Courtenay Notary Seal because she and her husband Bruce had settled on 30 acres of paradise in rural Courtenay—moving away was not an option. The surrounding

countryside is beautiful, and amazing wildlife abounds around their home.

Margot feels the most satisfying aspect of being a Notary is the work of real estate conveyancing. She loves the people—the generations of families that have come to her to do their work over the years: the first-time buyers, the loggers, and the fishermen. She loves pulling together a transaction that is going off the rails, when the parties are willing to keep it together.

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A longtime director of the local food and fuel co-operative, she is presently treasurer of Soroptimists International of Courtenay. Their current project is assisting local women and men—living with breast cancer—to purchase a Dragon Boat for the Comox Valley.

Her leisure activities include working on her garden (pitiful to some, but Margot likes it when the flowers overtake the weeds). Her garden mentor is Kate Greening, who maintains a

miniature Bouchart Garden. Margot loves reading fiction and history, and travelling to the UK every four years.

Important in her life are: family, work, cat Murray, reading, history, and the garden (not in order of value). “Bruce would say Murray comes first,” laughs Margot. ▲

[Editor's note: a wee long-haired grey kitten named Stan joined the family last week. Margot *et al* will be visiting the SPCA soon, to find a buddy for Stan.]

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