

Keynote

Val Wilson



Leading for Success

There are many schools of thought on leadership. It is generally agreed, however, that effective leaders inspire, motivate, make things happen, and create a positive impact for themselves and the people around them.

The attitude of the leader—both positive and negative—filters through a business from the top down. The leader sets the tone. And the example.

Some would-be leaders today are still hollering at their staff when their expectations are not met. That repressive, out-of-control leadership style went out with the '50s. A leader doesn't have to win a popularity contest, but he or she *will* be more effective through gaining consensus.

Without followers, you can't be a leader. And a leader is only as good as the sum of the efforts of those who agree to follow.

To be successful, any organization must have a dedicated Leadership Team (read: staff) that will carry out the goals and objectives of the business.

The Society of Notaries Public of BC is a Leadership Organization. G. W. (Wayne) Braid, CEO of The Society, says he feels fortunate to have such a fine leadership team serving The Society with enthusiasm and professionalism.

The team handles diverse and unique requests from individuals such as the following.

- The many members of the public who contact the office every day, looking for service and help with certain documentation;
- The many not-for-profit groups that come into contact with the office through the work of The Notary Foundation
- Members of The Society requiring assistance
- The hundreds of requests received each year by The Society from people looking to become a BC Notary.

BC Notaries take a leadership position, both in their businesses and in their communities.

Such tasks require commitment from each and every member of the staff. The Society's leadership team always serves with the best interests of the public and the members of The Society at heart. The team's motto is: "Yes, We Can!"

A new perspective espouses the belief that we are all leaders in our respective place of business. If that is true, we are each accountable for:

- motivating ourselves;
- making the commitment to put forth our best effort;

- contributing whole-heartedly to the team; and
- focusing on the tasks necessary to achieve success.

Although you may not have the title of "leader," you can make the choice to step in—gracefully and with passion—to do what must be done to support the mission and vision of the company.

BC Notaries take a leadership position, both in their businesses and in their communities. They are pleased to "give back" to the neighbourhoods they feel privileged to serve.

Many members of The Society of Notaries Public of BC, past and present, are exemplary leaders. In this issue of *The Scrivener*, we are delighted to tell you about a few of our leaders; we have chronicled many others in previous issues.

Marilyn Taylor, valued member of The Society staff for over 20 years, offers these words about the current leadership: "The positive energy generated by President Leta Best and Secretary/Executive Director Wayne Braid makes you happy to be part of the team.

"With their enthusiastic, innovative leadership, and the continued support of the Board of Directors, I feel confident the future of The Society will be exciting and that our members will continue to prosper." ▲