

# Prospera Partners *with* *the* Notary Foundation *to Benefit* *the* People of British Columbia

**B**C Notaries and the Notary Foundation are pleased to announce a new partnership agreement with Prospera Credit Union.

Prospera is BC's fourth-largest credit union and one of the 50 Best Employers in Canada, according to *The Globe and Mail's Report on Business* magazine.

Offering full service retail banking, wealth management, commercial banking, and insurance services, Prospera has over \$2.28 billion in assets under administration. In the Spring of 2004, Prospera launched Canada's newest full-service national bank called Ubiquity Bank of Canada, a schedule I national chartered bank.

Keith Puiu acts as President and CEO and Chair of the Board of Prospera Credit Union and Insurance Agencies and subsidiary companies. His dynamic personality helps him overcome business challenges and inspire others to achieve success.

Born in Kent, England, Puiu attended London Polytechnic where he completed the Institute of Bankers designation in 1966 while working at the Westminster Bank in London. Within that same year, he immigrated to Canada to establish his banking career in British Columbia.

Today, Puiu's wealth of leadership and finance experience includes over 30 years in the banking industry. For 19 years, he held many management



Keith Puiu

positions at the Bank of Montreal, completed the most senior level accreditation for Commercial Credit courses, and attended HR courses at the University of Michigan and the University of California in San Francisco.

Puiu held senior management roles with Continental Bank of Canada (later operated as Lloyds Bank) and was a vice president with Canadian Western Bank. His branch expertise includes strategic planning, commercial banking, senior commercial credit roles, human

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resources, training and management of a retail branch network, and executive teams.

He has been President and CEO of Prospera Credit Union since December 2000. Prospera was created as a result of a merger between Fraser Valley and Edelweiss credit unions. Puiu was instrumental in the merger, due in large part to his roles as President and CEO of both credit unions.

Under Puiu's leadership, Prospera expanded into the Interior in 2003 to become the first of British Columbia's big-five banks to expand outside the Lower Mainland. The new branches—in Vernon, Kelowna, and Penticton—and insurance subsidiary companies have exceeded all expectations.

Outside of business, Keith has a passion for soccer. He has served as head coach for 11 provincial teams and won Canadian national and international championships. He has coached at the national training centre for the Canadian Women's National Soccer Team and operated his own performance training centre.

In recognition for his service, Puiu was presented with a distinguished merit award from the BC Soccer Association and a lifetime membership to the Richmond Soccer Association.

He was a national instructor of The National Coaching Certification Program of Canada and holds a Fitness Leadership Diploma from Capilano College.

Puiu resides in the Lower Mainland. ▲