

# Trish Fedewich: *Beautiful Balance of Career and Family*

**T**rish was born in New Westminister, BC, and grew up on a hobby farm in Surrey with cows, horses, chickens, cats, and dogs and beautiful trees.

Later her family sold the property to a developer and moved to White Rock.

She graduated from Semiahmoo High School in 1986 and the Faculty of Commerce at UBC in 1990.

Trish is the youngest of three girls in a very close family. She and her husband Norman Witt have recently bought a bigger house because over 20 family members—including everyone’s children—gather almost every weekend for a get-together. Her dad El Fedewich practised as a BC Notary for 27 years and is now a Roving Notary, working some days in Trish’s Notary practice.

Trish has worked regularly at some type of job since age 13. She was a sales representative for Canada Post, selling parcel delivery service to businesses. She did well in sales and enjoyed the corporate environment.

Before she became a Notary, she completed management training with the TD Bank. “I learned a lot,” she says. “I would attend banker school for a week or two, then go to a branch to practise the skills that I had learned in the classroom. That went on for a year and then I supervised other staff.”

Although she really enjoyed the people with whom she worked, Trish found she didn’t have much of an opportunity to effect change. “I often called my dad for advice with

difficulties I was experiencing. He didn’t have the same problems in his small business.”

In 1994, she left the bank to become a BC Notary. “I always knew my dad’s Notary business was there, but he had never encouraged or discouraged me toward it. That was wise of him because I gained enough experience on my own to really want to become a Notary and to appreciate the benefits of self-employment.”

Trish has many exceptional mentors, including her dad, Dave Rowan, and Roy Cammack. “I have great respect for them; they have all been very willing to help me. I have served as a mentor myself—a few students have articulated with me over the years.”



*Dressed for Canadian Cancer Society Gala, May 2006*



*On top of Whistler, August 2005*

Trish loves working in Surrey. “My roots are here. Some of my current clients were my classmates and some were my teachers in elementary school. I assist my friends, their parents, and their grandparents.

“The most rewarding part of being a Notary is all the thanks we get. People are very appreciative of the work we do. Being unbiased and ethical is the cornerstone of a Notary’s practice. I am honoured by the trust clients have in us. I endeavour to assist them with a high level of skill and integrity.”

She notes that her practice will change soon. “My husband is currently a Notary student. His experience is in business and real estate management so his skills will be a real asset to the company. With both of us directing our energies toward the business, we’ll be able to manage it more effectively and have more time with our family.”

She greatly appreciates the work accomplished by the Board of Directors of The Society of Notaries Public of BC. When asked why she chose to run for office at the recent AGM, Trish says, “I feel I now have enough experience as a Notary to contribute to the Board. My children are both in school and I have more time to give. I’m particularly interested in education. With

knowledge comes power.” Trish is now a member of the Board.

She still makes time for community service. A member of the Valley Women’s Network and the Surrey Board of Trade, she helped found the Rotary Club in Cloverdale and is a past president and former Rookie of the Year for White Rock Toastmasters.

Trish credits her parents for her love of sports and the outdoors. She learned to scuba dive at age 15 and “lucked out and married a diver.” We take most holidays near the ocean so we can snorkel and scuba dive.

Together we’ve dived along the coast of BC, Mexico, Cuba, Hawaii, and the Red Sea in Egypt. In February this year, we went to Hawaii with the kids and did some great snorkelling with turtles, corals, and tropical fish. I did a night snorkel with six huge manta rays—one had a 12-foot wingspan and a very large mouth.

“In 2005 we went to the Mayan Riviera and all snorkelled in underground freshwater caves and in the ocean. It’s wonderful to see our children experience the joy of the underwater world. We taught them to snorkel in the bathtub before they were 3.”

The family enjoys cross-country skiing and belongs to the Jackrabbits Ski Club. They also love hiking at Whistler and in Zion Canyon in Utah.

It’s not surprising to learn that for Trish, the most important things in life are family, friends, and health! ▲



*At Black Rock, Ka’anapali Beach, Maui, February 2006*



**The Family in November 2006**

- 1. Trish Fedewich; 2. Noreen Fedewich; 3. Eva Kartsonas;
- 4. Ben Carr; 5. Derek Carr; 6. Jonathan Carr; 7. Cathy Carr;
- 8. Andy Carr; 9. Yannis Kartsonas; 10. Rachel Witt;
- 11. Zoe Kartsonas; 12. Michael Witt; 13. Norman Witt;
- 14. Nancy Kartsonas; 15. Perry Kartsonas; 16. El Fedewich



*In Haleakala Crater, Maui, February 2006*