

Knowledge is Powerful . . . I Enjoy Sharing Mine



Trish Fedewich

I have served on the BC Notaries' Board of Directors and was a member of the Education Committee.

Over 20 years ago, I was a speaker at a Notary conference to share my knowledge of buying and selling small businesses, along with Notaries Roy Cammack and David Rowan. I have been teaching courses to Notary candidates ever since, including the annual Business course. Toastmasters was instrumental in helping me feel comfortable in front of an audience . . . knowing your material well always helps.

About 2013, Notary Laurie Salvador asked if I would assist her and Lorne Mann in presenting a course on how to be an executor. Laurie did an amazing job developing that comprehensive course for Notaries. My dad El Fedewich had to take that course and write an exam to qualify for Notary insurance at age 75, but I did not mark his exam! I continue to teach the Executor course annually.

When the *Family Law Act* changed, I chaired a panel of speakers at a Notary conference and was honoured in 2018 to be appointed as an Examiner for BC Notaries by the Province.

I love the enthusiasm Notary candidates bring and their fresh perspectives. It reminds me to avoid legal jargon and not make assumptions about the

participants' knowledge when discussing legal matters.

Dad mentored me and always used examples to make his points stick; I do that when I am teaching. My teaching has gone from using overhead projectors to hosting Zoom meetings. After my 25 years in Notary practice, there are more and more lessons to share.

Teaching keeps me abreast of changes to the law and ways of doing business.

Last year I developed an Oral Wills exam for Notary candidates that I thought was important—estate planning has grown in complexity over the years. Students complete a mock Will interview with experienced Notaries Hilde Deprez, Janice Rutherford, Morrie Baillie, and me as Examiners.

I have spoken at dozens of events over the years to educate the public about legal topics and continue to teach for The People's Law School and pretty much anyone who invites me.

Teaching keeps me abreast of changes to the law and ways of doing business. Knowledge is powerful and I enjoy sharing mine.

When COVID-19 is not a concern, I will resume mentoring Notary candidates and legal assistants with pleasure. ▲

BC Notary **Trish Fedewich** practises in Surrey (Cloverdale).