

# *the* **Scrivener**



**RIMPY SADHRA**

President of the British Columbia Notaries Association

## **ALLIED PROFESSIONS TO BC NOTARIES**

# My Career Journey:

## Looking Back and Moving Forward

➔ **Hello, BC Notaries . . . and of course all *Scrivener* readers!**

Amid the cold, Winter offers us a chance to find and create warmth. It is a time for reflections, connections, gathering, and sharing stories in the company of loved ones. As we start the new year, I hope this message will provide comfort.

It is an honour to step into the role of President of the BC Notaries Association. As I happily assume this responsibility, I am reminded of the dedication my predecessors have provided to BC Notaries. I would like to thank our Past President Daniel Boisvert for building a strong foundation for the BCNA these past 6 years. I am deeply humbled by the trust placed in me by the BCNA Board and the membership and am committed to furthering the vision of the BCNA and our members.

I believe that to stand by someone and support their vision, you must know who they are. I would like to share a little bit about who I am—what drives me and what has shaped me into the person I am today.

I am the eldest of four. A first-generation South Asian woman, I was raised with solid Canadian values that emphasize kindness, inclusivity, hard work, and a deep appreciation for living in such a diverse and beautiful country. Simultaneously, my upbringing is deeply rooted in traditional values, instilling in me a profound respect for my heritage, traditions, and family

honour. For me it is about respecting my parents' hard work and appreciating the opportunities provided to us.

I grew up in Burnaby, graduated from Cariboo Hill Secondary, and went on to complete my undergrad at SFU. On the day I gained acceptance into the teachers' program at SFU, I was asked to run for a Burnaby School Board Trustee position. I enjoy being involved in my community. Therefore, I ran for election at age 22. Although not elected, I found it a valuable and amazing experience.

Upon completion of my Bachelor of Arts degree, I entered the world of insurance as a broker, working my way to obtain my CAIB designation. I worked at BCAA for 5 years, starting in personal lines insurance and moving into education and training. As rewarding as my career at BCAA was—and there were possibilities to move up the corporate ladder, I had a lingering feeling I wanted more and to do more.

I really wanted to be in the legal profession.

At that point, I again researched the requirements to be a BC Notary Public. What had seemed daunting some years ago, now looked more realistic. I decided to go for it and completed the application. Three days later, I got a call for an interview and was accepted into the postgraduate MA ALS Program (Master of Arts in Applied Legal Studies) at SFU—Cohort 2. I was commissioned in May 2011 and began my Notary career.



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As many Notary colleagues will appreciate, opening a Notary business is no easy task. I was now a Notary Public, learning to manage the different personas of being a Notary, an employer, businessowner, and often the office administrator.

As thrilled as I was about having my own business, my awareness of the importance of education and training stayed with me. I expressed my interest in creating a conveyancing course for Notary students and collaborated with the Notary Society to help develop the course I still teach today. I have been an instructor for Notary students for the past 10 years at the Notary Society.

The teaching position allowed me to expand my work with the BCNA to develop conveyance courses for Notaries and Notary support staff. I am very proud to be a BC Notary and, despite the long days (stressful ones, too), I am pleased with the progress we have made in continuing education.

I have shared my career journey with you. The most important part of my life, however, is my family. The proud mother of beautiful children Khushi and Ari, I am wife to Raman, my outstanding, supportive husband and business partner. I couldn't do any of this without him. It is through our teamwork that we manage a full-time Notary practice with multiple offices, and balance family life, as well.



I am also blessed with the endless encouragement from my loving immediate family—parents Parmjit and Tejinder Khera and siblings Govin, Neeta, and Jay.

I believe that to achieve certain goals and accomplishments, we all rely on our families, friends, colleagues, clients, and our community as a whole. In today's interconnected world, no occupation operates in a vacuum. That is especially true in the legal field.

Our success as BC Notaries has been built through our relationships with our allied professions. We rely on the expertise of industry colleagues: Realtors, mortgage brokers, accountants, lawyers, financial advisors, insurance brokers, and many more, to effectively serve our clients.

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Continued collaboration and stronger interactions with our industry colleagues are crucial in ensuring ideal outcomes and the ongoing success of our Notary profession. Through networking, we learn and share insights as we come together on issues that matter most to our work and our clients. BC Notaries have established public confidence and reliability and are valued professionals in the noncontentious legal realm.

I believe our profession is only as strong as our membership and the connections we foster, the ideas we share, and the actions we take together. I believe the true potential of our organization lies in the engagement of each of you. We can make incredible things happen—via networks with like-minded professionals; by enhancing our skills through participation in education conferences and workshops, and gaining invaluable knowledge.



Most important, as a unified body of individuals, our voices are amplified, whether we are advocating for policy changes or advancing our vocation.

As your President, I personally invite each of you to move forward with me toward shaping the future of our Association and our legal profession. Let's unlock our power and feel the strength of our BC Notaries' brand. I am excited to go on this journey with all of you and look forward to generating a legacy that makes us proud.

The future is bright and it begins with us—together. 🍷

Your President, Rimpdy Sadhra