

**Vince Avery BscPt, FCAMPT, CGIMS | Thrive Now Physiotherapy
New Candidate | Seeking 2-Year Term**

Vince has worked in Cowichan as a physiotherapist since 1998. He began his business as a solo-practitioner and now employs 13 therapists and 8 administrative staff at 2 locations in the Valley. As a business owner, Vince is dedicated to doing what he can to contribute to economic development and success of Cowichan, for the benefit of all residents. Vince looks forward to serving on the Chamber Board and furthering his business development and advocacy skills, while helping to make Cowichan a better place to do business.



**Karen Bresler B.A. LL.B CPCA | KBL Law Corporation
New Candidate | Seeking 2-Year Term**

Karen is a lawyer with over 20 years of experience. She found her start in litigation and family law, but has spent the majority of her years specializing in real estate law. Having first earned degrees in Psychology and Law, Karen also went on to become a certified professional coach, graduating from CTI Leadership Training. Karen believes that much can be achieved by both listening to the needs of others and focusing on personal development. Her clients and those closest to her, describe Karen as a force of nature.



**Ruth Hartmann, Hartmann Interior Design
Incumbent | Seeking 2-Year Term**

Ruth was a Municipal Councillor for North Cowichan from 2001 until 2014. During this time, she served as Deputy Mayor, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Committee, Chair of the Public Works Committee and Director on the CVRD Board. Ruth has been the owner and operator of Hartmann Interior Design for over 30 years and is passionate about advocating for Economic Development, Tourism and Agriculture in Cowichan. She has been a Director with Chamber Board for 4 years and currently serves as the 2nd Vice President.



**Don Hatton, Hatton Insurance Agency Ltd.
New Candidate | Seeking 2-Year Term**

Born and raised in the Cowichan Valley, Don opened his first business at the age of 19. Today he, along with his wife Natalie, are the owners of Hatton Insurance Agency Ltd. Since the Agency's foundation in 2012, the business has been recognized three times by Insurance Business Canada as one of the Top 30 Elite insurance brokers in Canada. With many years experience, both as an entrepreneur and insurance broker, Don understands the challenges faced by owners of small and medium enterprises.



**Christopher Schmerk, TD Canada Trust
New Candidate | Seeking 2-Year Term**

Christopher has lived and worked on Vancouver Island for the past 17 years. As a Business Banker at TD, he's committed to serving the needs of business owners in the Cowichan Region. An avid community supporter, Chris has led volunteer campaigns with BC Children's Hospital and TD's Friends of the Environment Tree Days. He's also volunteered as a mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters for over five years. Christopher looks forward to actively working with the Chamber's in fostering growth and success for Cowichan business.



**Pamela Stover, Paralegal | PD Stover Professional Corporation
New Candidate | Seeking 2-Year Term**

Pamela was raised in St. Thomas, Ontario, and moved to the Island two years ago to be closer to her extended family. Pamela is a licensed Paralegal, a Workers' Compensation Specialist for employers and owner of PD Stover Professional Corporation. Ensuring the correct application of law, policy and procedures on WCB matters, Pamela advocates for and works diligently on behalf of her clients. When she is not working, Pamela can be found exploring the Island in search of new hiking and walking trails.

