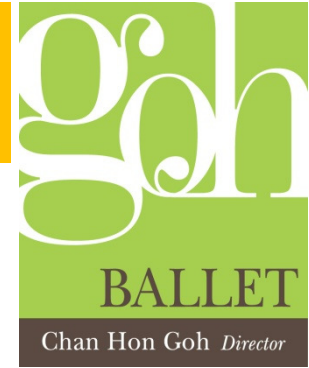


B.C.'s 100 of influence



It wasn't an easy task to come up with just 100 women of influence in B.C., as so many women are accomplishing so many amazing things. But these women, from seven distinct fields, deserve to be recognized.

VANCOUVER SUN OCTOBER 30, 2010

POLITICS AND COMMUNITY

KIM BAIRD

Chief, Tsawwassen First Nation

At 28 years of age, Kim Baird became the Tsawwassen First Nation's youngest chief when she was elected to the position in 1999. During her six terms since, Baird became the first woman in B.C. history who is not an MLA to address the B.C. legislature, on the subject of the Lower Mainland's first urban land treaty. The treaty took effect in April 2009, giving the Tsawwassen band's 200 members more than 700 hectares of land. Baird is also a BC Hydro director and her first nation's representative on the Metro Vancouver board of directors.

PATTI BACCHUS

Vancouver school board chairwoman

Vancouver school board chairwoman Patti Bacchus does not shy away from a battle. She took on the B.C. education ministry by tabling a deficit budget this year in defiance of provincial legislation, prompting a government-appointed overseer. This is her first term as chairwoman, but she has long been involved in the education system as the mother of two high-school-aged children.

RAMINDER DOSANJH

Women's rights activist

A retired ESL teacher and college administrator, Raminder Dosanjh has been at the forefront of the women's movement in B.C.'s South Asian community for more than 30 years. A founder of the India Mahila Association, Dosanjh has worked against violence toward women and fetal sex-selection in the Indo-Canadian community. When she's not fighting for women's rights, she's a political organizer and strategist for her husband, Ujjal Dosanjh, as well as others who need her help on their campaigns.

PENNY BALLEM

City of Vancouver city manager

Hand-picked by Mayor Gregor Robertson a week after he was elected in 2008, Penny Ballem became the de facto spokeswoman at City Hall. A staunch defender of harm-reduction strategy and universal health care, Ballem quit her job as provincial deputy minister of health in 2006 -- after four years in the post -- and criticized Premier Gordon Campbell's approach to public health. She's a physician at St. Paul's hospital and a clinical professor at UBC's department of hematology and bone-marrow transplant.

WENDY GRANT-JOHN

Former Musqueam chief

For decades, Wendy Grant-John has worked tirelessly to make life better for aboriginal people. As a three-term Musqueam chief, she launched the first aboriginal commercial fishery in Canada and led the Musqueam to two landmark Supreme Court cases that solidified aboriginal rights in the Constitution. The first woman elected regional vice-chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Grant-John has served on several boards and commissions. From 1997 to 2003, she was associate regional director for B.C. for the Indian and northern affairs department.

MAY BROWN

Political legend

Thank May Brown for Vancouver's enviable collection of parks and recreation centres, a legacy of her leadership on the park board. Brown has served as park board chair and city councillor, mentored the city's mayors and helped install at least one prime minister. Brown headed the capital campaign for B.C.'s first residential drug rehab centre for youth. A recipient of the Order of B.C. and Order of Canada, May is in the UBC Sports Hall of Fame for establishing a women's field hockey dynasty. Vancouver declared Dec. 9 May Brown Day in 2009.

MAGGIE IP

S.U.C.C.E. S.S. co-founder, fundraising chairwoman

When Maggie Ip immigrated to Canada in 1966, the former Hong Kong school teacher soon realized there were challenges integrating into Canadian society. So in 1973, she co-founded the immigration services agency S.U.C.C.E. S.S. to aid new Canadians in making their home here, and became a formidable force in the immigrant settlement movement. A Vancouver city councillor in the mid-1990s, Ip was last year named chairwoman of the agency's fundraising foundation as it embarked on an ambitious new plan to build an endowment fund.

STEPHANIE CADIEUX

Liberal MLA, Surrey-Panorama

Stephanie Cadieux reached new heights this summer, rappelling 20 storeys down a Vancouver office tower, in a wheelchair, raising \$2,500 for the Easter Seals Drop Zone campaign. The former director of marketing and development for the BC Paraplegic Association was injured in a car accident at 18. In May 2009, she became the second person in a wheelchair to be elected to the B.C. legislature, after Doug Mowat. She's now minister of community, sport and cultural development. In 2007, she made Business in Vancouver's Top 40 Under 40 list.

CAROLE JAMES

Leader, New Democratic Party of B.C.

Carole James was elected leader of the B.C. NDP in November 2003, after the party's worst defeat in nearly 70 years reduced its seats in the legislature to two. In the 2005 election, she surprised many by leading the party to nearly 42 per cent of the popular vote and 33 seats. James served on the Greater Victoria school board from 1990 to 2001, including seven terms as chair, and was president of the B.C. School Trustees Association for an unprecedented five terms. She has been a foster parent for more than 20 years.

SHIRLEY CHAN

CEO, Building Opportunities with Business

Shirley Chan grew up in the same neighbourhood she's working to improve and is a founding member of the Strathcona Property Owners and Tenants Association. As a student, she protested the opening of Georgia and Dunsmuir viaducts, and she's still a strong advocate for tearing them

down to create more green space with unique shops and cafes. It's part of her desire to make Vancouver a more people-oriented, pedestrian-friendly city. As CEO of BOB, a non-profit organization, Chan is also championing a revitalization process for the inner-city.

CAROL LEE

President and CEO Linacare Cosmethery, activist

When she set up her own business, Carol Lee, daughter of former UBC chancellor Robert Lee, chose to base her office in the Chinatown building that housed her grandfather's store in the 1920s. It's that history that drives the entrepreneur in her efforts to revitalize Chinatown. The Harvard grad is a member of the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee, the Vancouver Chinatown Revitalization Committee and Building Opportunities with Business Inner City Societies. She vice-chairs the Asia Pacific Trade Council.

LARA DAUPHINEE

Deputy chief of staff, executive assistant to the premier

Wherever Premier Gordon Campbell goes, Lara Dauphinee is right beside him. She is responsible for his communications branch, scheduling and correspondence. She arranges all his appearances and is the main gatekeeper in charge of access to the premier. Dauphinee, 40, started as a constituency executive and has been with Campbell throughout his years in provincial politics.

DEBRA McPHERSON

President B.C. Nurses' Union

For the past 10 years, Debra McPherson has been a huge bargaining force as president of the B.C. Nurses' Union. In 2006, she helped lead the union to a new contract that made them the best compensated in Canada. The contract for the 29,000 nurses called for wage increases totalling 14.2 per cent over four years and offered better work hours and vacations. McPherson also received the Canadian Federation of Nurses' Unions Bread and Roses award for outstanding local, provincial and national nursing leadership.

CORNELIA HAHN OBERLANDER

Landscape Architect

One of the first women to graduate from School of Design, Cornelia Oberlander applied unique "green city" vision to Vancouver's urban environment at UBC's Museum of Anthropology, the

Robson Square courthouse complex and VanDusen Botanical Garden. Oberlander pioneered green roof design and environmental sustainability, concepts she integrated into many of her works, including the National Gallery in and the Canadian Chancery in Washington, D.C.

SOPHIE PIERRE

Chief Commissioner

B.C. Treaty Commission

Sophie Pierre is a driving force for the cultural, political and economic advancement of B.C. Nations. After a 26-year career as elected chief of the St. Mary's Indian Band and an appointment to the Order of British Columbia, Pierre was made chief commissioner of the B.C. Treaty Commission, charged with the task of settling outstanding treaty negotiations for bands the province. Pierre is also chairwoman of the Aboriginal Tourism Association.

SAIDA RASUL

Dentist, Teacher, Volunteer

Dr. Saida Rasul came to Canada from South Africa in 1981 and has been active in community service for many years. She's served on the boards of York House school, B.C. Women's Hospital, B.C. Children's Hospital, Outward Bound Canada and Simon Fraser University's boards of governors directors. She chaired the Lower Mainland's Way board in 2002 and co-chaired the 2004 Way Campaign. Rasul is also a consultant dentist the Aga Khan University in Pakistan and a clinical instructor supervising residents.

MARY ELLEN TURPEL-LAFOND

B.C. Representative for Children and Youth

Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond has been a watchdog over the ministry of children and family development since she was appointed to the job in 2006. A judge on leave from Saskatchewan Provincial Court, Turpel-Lafond began university at 16 and by 35 was the first treaty Indian named to the bench in Saskatchewan. Time magazine twice recognized her, placing her among its "100 global leaders of tomorrow" in 1994 and the "Top 20 Canadian leaders for the 21st Century" in '99.

KAREN GELMON

Oncologist, B.C. Cancer Agency; UBC professor

Dr. Karen Gelmon has spent more than 20 years as a breast cancer specialist at the B.C. Cancer Agency. She's also a professor of medicine at UBC and co-chairwoman of the National Cancer Institute of Canada's Clinical Trials Group Breast Site Committee. Her expertise lies with clinical trials, offering patients access to the newest breast cancer treatments and developing knowledge in breast cancer pathology. Gelmon also sits on the International Advisory Board of the medical journal The Lancet.

NATALIE STRYNADKA

Biochemistry professor, University of B.C.

Natalie Strynadka is working on identifying and exploring proteins in the human body that could help scientists develop new antibiotics to combat drug-resistant bacteria. Strynadka uses nano technology to learn about the 3-D shapes of living cells. She also teaches biochemistry at UBC, but is taking a break from teaching after winning a prestigious Killam research award, which allows her to focus solely on her innovative research for two years.

DIANNE WATTS

Surrey mayor

Since becoming Surrey's first female mayor in 2005, Dianne Watts has garnered a dedicated following for revitalizing the city with a crime reduction strategy, an economic investment plan and B.C.'s first homelessness and housing fund. The former councillor has played a crucial role in bolstering Surrey's sense of community by committing to free annual celebrations for events such as Canada Day. In June, she was among 25 mayors shortlisted for an online competition to find the world's best mayor.

JOY JOHNSON

Institute of Gender and Health; professor, UBC

With an extensive background researching the role that gender plays in medical treatment, Joy Johnson is considered one of Canada's leading scholars in the field of health behaviour. She's won several awards, including a Killam research prize from UBC, which recognizes outstanding and scholarly contributions "of international significance." Johnson is scientific director at the Institute of Gender and Health, co-founder of the Women's Health Research Network and a professor at UBC.

JULIA LEVY

Scientist and entrepreneur

The co-founder of QLT Inc., Julia Levy has been called the mother of B.C. biotech. Under her guidance, QLT developed Visudyne, a treatment for age-related macular degeneration, a leading cause of blindness in the elderly. She launched QLT in 1981 and left in 2008 to join the Toronto-based Cannasat Therapeutics, which is developing pain treatments from cannabinoids. The recipient of numerous awards and scientific honours, including the Order of Canada, she teaches microbiology and immunology at UBC.

LYNNE QUARMBY

Professor, molecular biology And Biochemistry, SFU

Lynne Quarmby is a professor in the molecular biology and biochemistry department at SFU and a member of the cell biology research grant committee at the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. A vocal advocate for more women in elite research, Quarmby penned an editorial for the Ottawa Citizen in June after the Canada Excellence Research Chairs program awarded \$200 million in grants, all to men: "The loss to Canada is more hard-hitting than overlooked excellence or the morale of scientists."

NATALIE DAKERS

Vancouver Centre For Drug Research and Development

KARIMAH ES SABAR

Vancouver Centre for Drug Research And Development

Natalie Dakers is CEO of the Vancouver Centre for Drug Research and Development, a non-profit that researches and advances new drug discoveries. Previously, she co-founded Neuromed Pharmaceuticals Inc., a private biopharmaceutical company developing drugs for chronic pain, anxiety, epilepsy and cardiovascular diseases. She's an adjunct professor in UBC's faculty of pharmaceutical sciences and a recipient of BIOTECanada's Gold Leaf award for Industry Leadership.

JANE ROSKAMS

Associate professor, UBC Department of Zoology

An expert in the area of cell and development biology, Jane Roskams' lab is exploring how to stimulate regeneration when cells of the nervous system become injured. She recently received an award from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, recognizing her for encouraging youth to

appreciate science through initiatives such as UBC researchers mentoring high school students and Nobel Prize winning scientists speaking at local schools.

YULANDA FARIS

Chairwoman, Vancouver Opera Foundation; arts patron

Yulanda Faris and her husband, Mohammed, received the Ramon John Hnatyshyn Award for Volunteerism in the Performing Arts this year, in recognition of what they've given to the community since moving to Canada in 1974 from Lebanon. The couple has donated time and money to numerous arts groups, including the Vancouver Opera and its foundation, the Scotiabank Dance Centre and the Dance Foundation, the Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver Symphony, Bard on the Beach and more. Senior vice-president of business and strategic affairs at the Centre for Drug Research and Development, Karimah Es Sabar previously had the biotech world beating a path to our doorstep in her role as president of LifeSciences BC. EsSabar first came to Canada in 1988, working for Connaught Labs. She also founded and built SAL Healthcare in Kenya. EsSabar serves on many boards, including the Michael Smith Foundation, Vancouver General Hospital and MOSAIC.

DANUTA SKOWRONSKI

Physician, epidemiologist B.C. Centre for Disease Control

Danuta Skowronski is responsible for surveillance, policy, program planning and research activities related to respiratory infections at the BC Centre for Disease Control. She was instrumental in the health response to SARS in B.C. in 2003 and for human health recommendations during the avian influenza outbreak that hit poultry in B.C. in 2004. In 2009, a study she headed prompted health officials to rethink their H1N1 flu shot programs.

MARTHA LOU HENLEY

Martha Lou Henley

Charitable Foundation

For Martha Lou Henley, giving is a way of life. The Martha Lou Henley Charitable Foundation had assets of \$9.1 million in 2009, dispensing \$353,000 in grants. Henley has given lavishly to music organizations in Vancouver and has worked as a volunteer fundraiser for more than 20 years. In 2002, she gave the Vancouver Opera a \$1-million endowment fund -- the second such gift the organization had received in two years. In November 2005, she gave the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra \$1 million.

KATRINA PACEY

Ethos Law Group; Pivot Legal Society

Katrina Pacey is a lawyer and social activist who puts activism ahead of her day job. Just 35, she is a partner with the Ethos Law Group and a part-time lawyer with Pivot Legal Society, which offers legal services to residents in the Downtown Eastside. Pacey graduated from UBC Law School in 2004; while there, she founded the UBC Law Students' Social Justice Action Network. She was also awarded the YWCA Women of Distinction Award. A past president of Pivot's board of directors, she has worked on many of their social initiatives, including the reform of laws governing sex workers.

CAROL NEWELL

Philanthropist

For a long time, Order of Canada recipient Carol Newell, 54, was Vancouver's hidden philanthropist. Born in New York and one of the heirs to the Newell Rubbermaid Corporation, she moved to Canada in 1983 and has since used \$20 million of her inheritance to fund a number of environmental charities and provided venture capital to a number of environmentally responsible businesses. She has also invested in businesses such as Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson's Happy Planet Foods and Capers Community Markets.

ALEXANDRA SAMUEL

Director, Social and Interactive Media Centre, Emily Carr

Alexandra Samuel and her husband Rob Cottingham launched Social Signal, Vancouver's first social media firm. Samuel quickly earned a reputation for her writing about the impact of social media on work and personal lives. In 2009, Samuel (whose PhD dissertation at Harvard was on computer hacking) was hired as director of the new Social and Interactive Media Centre at Emily Carr, created to further the university's research role and foster its connection with B.C.'s tech sector.

JANE BIRD

President and CEO, Columbia Power Corp.

Jane Bird was the chief executive who led Canada Line Rapid Transit Inc. through construction of the \$2-billion megaproject. That position helped earn her a place on the Women's Executive Network's Top 100 list of most powerful Canadian women in 2009. Previously, Bird, a lawyer by training, represented the City of Vancouver in negotiations with the B.C. government over the

Millennium Line SkyTrain expansion project. In private practice, Bird was partner in a firm where she practised corporate and commercial real estate law.

MARJORIE ANNE SAUDER

Philanthropist

Marjorie Anne Sauder and her family have donated millions to charities and causes over the years. In 2003, a \$20-million gift to the University of B.C. helped establish the Sauder School of Business. Other beneficiaries at UBC include: Sauder family chairs in pediatric infectious diseases, viral diseases of children and cardiology and the Sauder Family Heart and Stroke Foundation Professorship in Clinical Stroke Research. Sauder was a founding member of the BC Children's Hospital board of directors.

RENEE SMITH VALADE

BC Hydro, senior vice-president of communications

Before joining BC Hydro in August, Renee Smith-Valade was head of communications for the organizing committee of the 2010 Olympic Games. Smith-Valade was on the media front lines, helping shape Vanoc's public handling of the death of Georgian luger Nodar Kumaritashvili in a practice run on the day of the opening ceremonies. Previously, Smith-Valade worked for the 1988 Calgary Games and was manager of corporate communications for Air Canada.

JACQUI COHEN

Owner, Army & Navy; philanthropist

As the sole owner of Canada's Army & Navy department store chain, and founder of the nonprofit Face the World Foundation, Jacqui Cohen is known as much for being a businesswoman as for her philanthropy. A fixture in Vancouver's social scene, Cohen is well-known for hosting lavish black-tie fundraisers at her Point Grey home each year, which attract celebrity guests including Goldie Hawn and Tom Jones. To date, the Face the World Foundation has distributed more than \$6 million to local charities.

TERESA WAT

CEO, CHMB AM 1320

Teresa Wat is a leading executive in Metro Vancouver's thriving multicultural media scene. The CEO of CHMB AM 1320, which has broadcast for more than three decades, she was previously news

director at Channel M Television (now Omni), where she built a multicultural news team in Cantonese, Mandarin and Punjabi. She held various senior media positions in Hong Kong and Singapore before moving to Vancouver in 1989. She's now an adviser of the Canadian Women Voters Congress.

CHRISTINE DAY

CEO, Lululemon Athletica

Christine Day has been CEO at Lululemon since June 2008, after joining the company months earlier as executive vice-president of retail operations. A seasoned industry executive with a strong record in high growth retail, she's responsible for creating and executing the company's long-term business strategies and reinforcing its position as a global leader of yoga-inspired women's athletic apparel. A graduate of Harvard Business School's advanced management program, she'd previously held senior management positions at Starbucks.

MAT WILCOX

Public relations consultant

Mat Wilcox presided over Vancouver's public relations world for years as head of the Wilcox Group. The firm specialized in issues management and crisis communications. In 2008 and 2009, Wilcox was named one of Canada's top 100 most powerful women by the Women's Executive Network. Wilcox also is a director for XM Canada/Canadian Satellite Radio Holdings. This summer, she closed her office, saying social media had changed the PR game. She continues to consult on strategic planning and corporate projects.

ANNE GIARDINI

CEO Weyerhaeuser Canada, novelist

Anne Giardini is a multitasker, and a successful one at that. Among her many roles, she's an acclaimed author, having published *The Sad Truth About Happiness* and *Advice for Italian Boys*, the first of which was short-listed for the Amazon.ca First Novel Award in 2005. She's also president of the Canadian subsidiary of Weyerhaeuser Co. Ltd., one of the world's largest forest product companies, a position she was promoted to after joining the company as a lawyer. Her mother is Canadian Pulitzer Prizewinning author Carol Shields.

NITYA IYER

Lawyer, Heenan Blaikie

A former law faculty member at the University of Toronto and associate professor at UBC, Nitya Iyer spent much of her academic career focusing on constitutional law and human rights before being called to the B.C. bar in 1994. Since joining Heenan Blaikie in 2001, Iyer has consulted on numerous equality cases and appeared before the B.C. Court of Appeal and B.C. Supreme Court. From 1997 to 2000, she was a full-time member of the B.C. Human Rights Tribunal.

ALISON LAWTON

Film Maker; Mindset Innovation Foundation

Alison Lawton of the Mindset Innovation Foundation is a documentary film maker who's chronicled abuses suffered by children in Africa. Her films include Uganda Rising, which depicts the struggles of people in northern Uganda where 20,000 children were abducted and forced to become soldiers. Lawton, who made her money during the Internet boom, is a recipient of UNICEF Canada's Champions of Children Award. In her student days in Montreal, she volunteered to be a companion for people with AIDS.

WENDY LISOGAR-COCCHIA

Entrepreneur, Philanthropist

The president of Century Plaza Hotel and Spa, Wendy Lisogar-Cocchia has received numerous awards for her philanthropy and community service. She was the first woman elected to the Vancouver Police Board Foundation and is senior vice-chair of the Vancouver Board of Trade's Spirit of Vancouver program. In 1987 she founded the Century Plaza Hotel and Spa Women's Media Golf Classic, which has raised more than \$2.6 million for various children's charities, including the Variety Club.

PATRICIA GRAHAM

Editor-in-chief, The Vancouver Sun

Patricia Graham is editor-in-chief of The Vancouver Sun, the third-largest English language daily in Canada. A lawyer and award-winning 30-year journalist, she's on the Pacific Newspaper Group executive board and was named one of Canada's Top 100 most powerful women of 2006 by the Women's Executive Network. A media lecturer and mentor, she sits on various professional and charitable boards. Under her leadership the Sun has transformed into a 24/7 multimedia newsroom whose website is the fastest growing newspaper site in Canada.

MARY LYNN YOUNG

Director, UBC Graduate School of Journalism

The work of journalist, professor and media analyst Mary Lynn Young probes the gender politics of news coverage, in particular media portrayals of female victims of crime, newsroom sociology and media credibility. Spurred by coverage of the trial of serial killer Robert Pickton, Young co-launched FeministMediaProject.com in 2007, a website that provides analysis of journalism from a feminist perspective. Under her leadership, UBC this year became the first Canadian school to be nominated for, and win, an Emmy.

VIRGINIA GREENE

Businesswoman

Virginia Greene has been a leader in the business community for years. The former president and CEO of the Business Council of B.C., who retired last month as she fights ovarian cancer, was president and CEO at Connect@ JWT North America and served in the B.C. government as deputy minister of intergovernmental affairs and deputy minister of tourism, sports and the arts. Greene also devotes time to worthy causes, founding the Streethome Foundation to tackle homelessness and co-chairing the Task Force to End Breast Cancer by 2020.

JASWANT JOHAL

Activist and broadcaster

Jaswant (Jay) Johal was born in India, moved to England at seven and settled in Vancouver with her husband in 1989. Noticing Vancouver's Indo-Canadian community was almost 85 per cent Punjabi but lacked a local radio station, she started the show Punjabi Beat in 1992. While becoming one of the most influential women in B.C. media, Johal endured threats and intimidation -- much of it from men who didn't want to see a woman in charge -- and went on to launch Punjabi World Television on Shaw Cable.

DEBRA HEWSON

CEO, Odlum Brown

Thirty years ago, Debra Hewson was a bank teller. Then, she started investing in the stock market, became a junior accountant and joined Odlum Brown Ltd. in 1991. She worked her way up in the company's executive ranks until she reached the top in 2007, succeeding Ross Sherwood as

president and CEO. She's also served as chairwoman of the Pacific District Council and the National Advisory Committee of the Investment Dealers Association of Canada, and supports many groups, including BC Women's Hospital and the Harmony Arts Festival.

MARY JORDAN

Chairwoman, Vancouver Airport Authority

Mary Jordan is the first woman to chair the Vancouver Airport Authority board, taking the job in June after six years as a director. Jordan has spent more than 20 years in the airline industry, including stints with American, Canadian and Air Canada. She joined Laidlaw International as executive vice-president of human resources and internal communications in 2006 and also served as provincial executive director of the BC Centre for Disease Control and as a director of the Vancouver Board of Trade.

ANNALISA KING

Vice-President And Cfo, Best Buy Canada

Annalisa King joined Vancouver-based Best Buy after working as a senior vice-president with Maple Leaf Foods in Toronto. King, who also held senior positions at Kraft and Pillsbury Canada, oversees Best Buy's strategic planning, budget, reporting, accounting, auditing and financial analysis. A three-time recipient of The Women's Executive Network's Top 100 Most Powerful Women award, her company profile says King also enjoys mentoring junior associates.

KAZUKO KOMATSU

President And CEO, Pacific Western Brewery

Kazuko Komatsu became the first woman in Canada to own a brewery when she bought the Prince George-based Pacific Western Brewery in 1991. Since then, she's turned the once-failing company around, expanding operations in Canada and abroad. She's worked previously at a Japanese gas company and, in 1997, founded Natureland Products Ltd., which develops and markets specialty health products and beverages. She was awarded the Order of B.C. in 1998.

CARLA MAURO

Vice-president and assistant

GM, Nintendo Canada

Accountant Carla Mauro left KPMG for Nintendo Canada in 1990 to establish accounting systems for the gaming company, which had just opened its Canadian headquarters. Today, Nintendo is Canada's market leader and Mauro is Canadian vice-president and assistant GM. A key focus for Mauro is company culture, and Nintendo Canada has been named a top employer in several surveys in the past two years. Mauro's also on the boards of New Media BC, North Shore Youth Soccer Association and the Elizabeth Fry Society.

NANCY MCKINSTRY

ICBC

An Order of Canada recipient, Nancy McKinstry became the new chairwoman of ICBC earlier this year. She's held a high pro-file in B.C.'s business and nonprofit communities for decades, serving on corporate, university and non-profit boards. She also spent more than two decades with Odlum Brown Ltd., where she became the first woman to be appointed as director. McKinstry's board experience includes work with Simon Fraser University, where she was also chancellor, and the Minerva Foundation for BC Women.

CINDY LEE

Founder, T&T

Cindy Lee founded T&T Supermarket in 1993 with an idea and drive but business or grocery industry experience. With her husband Jack, who sold meats and imported foods before becoming a real estate developer in the 1980s, Lee learned as she went, borrowing library books and renting videos on how to train service people and hold meetings. Seventeen years later, T&T is Canada's No. 1 Asian grocery chain, with 18 locations across the country. In 2009, Loblaw's, Canada's largest food distributor, purchased the chain for \$225 million. "Nobody had done an Asian supermarket like this [in Canada] before," Lee said last year.

SARAH MORGANSILVESTER

Chancellor, University

of British Columbia

Sarah Morgan-Silvester graduated from the University of B.C. in 1982 and is now chancellor of the province's largest postsecondary institution. The busy North Vancouver resident also is chair of both the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority and the B.C. Women's Hospital & Health Centre Foundation, a

director of ENMAX Corporation, the C.D. Howe Institute and Women in the Lead, Inc., and a member of the David Suzuki Foundation National Business Advisory Council.

SUE PAISH

CEO, Pharmasave Drugs

For Sue Paish, work ethic, leadership skills and a knack for networking have carried her from the role of corporate lawyer to the top of the corporate world as CEO of Pharmasave Drugs. A UBC law grad, Paish rose through the ranks in a legal career that saw her earn a Queen's counsel appointment and become managing partner of Vancouver's biggest law firm, Fasken Martineau, in 2000 for a term that lasted until 2006, when she was recruited by Pharmasave. Paish has also led the Women's Leadership Circle initiative of the Vancouver Board of Trade.

ELIZABETH WATSON

Lawyer, Consultant, Author

Elizabeth Watson is widely credited with transforming the public board-selection process nationally and internationally. Under her leadership, heading the province's board resourcing and development office from 2001-2005, members appointed to public-sector boards now face a selection process where skills and competency outweigh political loyalty or affiliation with special-interest groups. In 2003, Watson received Queen Elizabeth's Golden Jubilee Award for public service in Canada.

TRACY REDIES

President and CEO,

Coast Capital Savings

Before joining B.C.'s second-largest credit union, Tracy Redies was executive vice-president of personal financial services and wealth management at HSBC, where she worked in a variety of positions and locations around the world over a 20-year career. In addition, she's a director of the Vancouver Board of Trade, the C.D. Howe Institute and CHILD, a foundation that combats liver and intestinal disorders that affect children. The Women's Executive Network of Canada named her one of 2008's 100 most powerful women in Canada.

SUSAN YURKOVICH

Executive vice-president ,

BC Hydro

Susan Yurkovich is on the cutting edge of green energy on the coast as BC Hydro's executive vice-president responsible for the Site C Clean Energy project. Yurkovich also played a key Olympic role for BC Hydro as senior vice-president, corporate affairs responsible for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Prior to joining BC Hydro, Yurkovich spent 10 years at forest-products giant Canfor Corporation, where she was vice-president, corporate affairs. Yurkovich is a UBC governor and a director of the Vancouver General Hospital and UBC Hospital Foundation.

NANCY GREENE RAINE

Senator, former

Olympic skiing champion

Winner of alpine skiing gold and silver at the 1968 Olympics, Greene Raine's 17 World Cup victories are still the standard for Canadian skiers. A tireless promoter of ski tourism (she and husband Al Raine were instrumental in the development of Whistler-Blackcomb), she's director of skiing at Sun Peaks Resort, chancellor of Thompson Rivers University and a senator. She's also honorary chair of the Nancy Greene Ski League, which gives kids across Canada their first start in competitive ski racing.

TAMARA VROOMAN

CEO, Vancity

Tamara Vrooman has held the top job at Canada's largest credit union since 2007, leading it to its second-highest net income on record last year. Her resume includes three years as deputy minister of finance for B.C. from 2004 to 2007, where she oversaw the government's annual \$100-billion borrowing and cash requirements and developed its \$36-billion fiscal plan. In 2003, she was awarded the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for outstanding contributions to B.C.'s public service.

CHRISTINE SINCLAIR

Soccer Player

Whenever Canadian soccer fans lament the state of the beautiful game in this country, they can lift their spirits by remembering this nation produced Christine Sinclair. The 27-year-old Burnaby South grad has captured almost every accolade possible in soccer, including back-to-back Player-of-the-Year awards in U.S. college soccer and MVP of the FIFA U-19 World Cup. A four-time FIFA World

Player of the Year nominee, Sinclair captains the national team and is the country's all-time leading scorer, with 101 goals in 134 international appearances.

MICHELLE STILWELL

Wheelchair athletics,

Paralympic champion

A double gold medallist in wheelchair track at the Beijing Paralympics, Stilwell, 35, is also the world record holder at 100 metres and 200 metres. A quadriplegic since the age of 17 when she fell while being piggybacked by a friend, Stilwell maintains a busy schedule that includes training and competing, marriage and a son, and motivational speaking. In her talks, she emphasizes perseverance, overcoming barriers and chasing dreams. She also is an ambassador for the Rick Hansen Foundation and ActNow B.C.

RACHEL LEWIS

Vancouver Whitecaps Executive

As chief operating officer of the Major League Soccer-bound Vancouver Whitecaps, Rachel Lewis is a rarity -- a woman with extensive influence in a professional sports organization. Lewis joined the Whitecaps as director of event management in 2003 and became COO in 2007, working with president Bob Lenarduzzi to oversee day-to-day operations. Lewis, 36, began her sports management career as sponsorship coordinator for the Air Canada Championship golf tournament in 1999.

CARLA QUALTROUGH

President, Canadian Paralympic Committee

A former Paralympic swimmer, the visually impaired Carla Qualtrough is president of the Canadian Paralympic Committee and has been named to the annual Most Influential Women in Sport in Canada list five times. The Vancouver-based human rights lawyer is also the Director of Sport Initiatives with 2010 Legacies Now and an active member of the Canadian Olympic Committee, Commonwealth Games Canada and the International Paralympic Committee. She's also worked as a senior policy adviser on projects designed to reduce barriers and create opportunities in sport for women and girls, aboriginals and athletes with a disability.

MAELLE RICKER

Olympic Snowboarding Champion

In February, the West Vancouver snowboardcross star became the first Canadian woman to win Olympic gold on home soil. She competed in half-pipe at the '98 Olympics and was fourth in snowboardcross at the '06 Olympics. Described as having "a great mountain soul," the 13-year national team veteran and two-time World Cup season title winner also works as a motivational speaker and as an ambassador with KidSport Canada, creating opportunities for children to participate in organized sport.

LAUREN WOOLSTENCROFT

Paralympic skier, engineer

The golden girl of the slopes won five gold medals in alpine skiing at the 2010 Paralympic Games -- the most ever won by a Canadian athlete in one sport at the Paralympics -- raising the profile of the event in her home province. The 28-year-old, who recently announced her retirement from sports, was born without a left forearm and both legs below the knees. She moved to B.C. from Calgary in 1999 to attend the University of Victoria and now lives in North Vancouver, where she's an electrical engineer for BC Hydro.

TRISH DOLMAN

Founder And President, Screen Siren Pictures

Trish Dolman has been a fixture in Canadian film and TV for 15 years, producing films like Sook-Yin Lee's *Year of the Carnivore*, the musical drama *The Score* and the TV movie *Luna: Spirit of the Whale*. In 2003, she won the Woman of the Year award from Women in Film and Video Vancouver, the youngest recipient ever. Recently she directed a documentary, *Eco-Pirate, the Story of Paul Watson*, and produced the feature movies *Daydream Nation* (starring Kat Dennings, Reece Thompson, Andie McDowell and Josh Lucas) and *The First Movie*.

DIANE FARRIS

Owner, Diane Farris Gallery

Since establishing her eponymous art gallery in 1984, Diane Farris has introduced to the world countless contemporary Canadian and international artists. Among those who have shown their work at Farris's south Granville gallery are renowned Emily Carr graduates Attila Richard Lukacs and Angela Grossmann, and Dale Chihuly, who helped turn the Pacific Northwest into an

international hot spot for glass art. Farris is also a ballerina by training and has danced with Theatre Under the Stars and the Vancouver Opera.

NELLY FURTADO

Pop singer

Victoria-born Portuguese-Canadian Nelly Furtado is a workaholic. Beyond her four albums, which sold 20 million copies worldwide, the 31-year-old has her own label, Nelstar. Her third album *Loose*, released in 2006, saw her collaborating with famed hip-hop producer Timbaland and garnered her five Juno awards in 2007 during a ceremony she hosted. The mother of a seven-year-old daughter, Nevis, Furtado has appeared in a number of TV shows and films, including *CSI: NY*, and been honoured with a star on Canada's Walk of Fame.

LEILA GETZ

Artistic and executive director,

Vancouver Recital Society

By now no one can imagine what Vancouver's classical scene would have been without impresario Leila Getz. A South African transplant, Getz started the Vancouver Recital Society in 1980. She knows her own mind and can't play it safe to save her life. Plus, she has a nose for new talent and a worldwide network of scouts that keep her years ahead of the trends. Her legions of supporters learned to enjoy the roller coaster ride long ago and have come to expect that Vancouver will hear the musical great and the great-to-be as a matter of course.

SARAH McLACHLAN

Musician

Sarah McLachlan has been an important figure on the Canadian scene since the early '90s, her albums *Fumbling Towards Ecstasy* and *Surfacing* making her a household name. *Surfacing* garnered four Juno and two Grammy Awards and sold 11 million copies worldwide. McLachlan, who lives in Vancouver with her two daughters, is involved in a number of philanthropic projects, including a children's music education outreach program in Vancouver. She was also responsible for the women-centric Lilith Fair festival, which resurfaced last summer.

MARTHA STURDY

Artist

Martha Sturdy is synonymous with clean, minimal, sophisticated and bold objets d'art. A Vancouver artist and designer, she's attracted the attention of the world's best designers and Hollywood celebs with her signature resin designs. Having begun her career making jewelry, Sturdy has long since moved on to larger sculptural pieces. This year, a line of her furniture, as well as home accessories, will be on sale at the Bay. You can also see her works at her studio or the Vancouver Art Gallery. She was inducted into the Royal Canadian Academy of the Arts in 2005.

CHAN HON GOH

Ballet Dancer And Director

Chan Hon Goh joined the National Ballet in Toronto in 1988, became a principal dancer in 1994 and danced the lead roles in ballets such as Giselle, Swan Lake and The Sleeping Beauty. She became an international guest artist who performed all over the world, co-wrote her autobiography *Beyond the Dance: A Ballerina's Life* and created with her husband Chun Che the Principal line of dance shoes and supplies. In September, she was named director of both the Goh Ballet Company and the Goh Ballet Academy.

SUSAN POINT

Artist

When Susan Point started engraving jewelry in 1981, from her base on the Musqueam Reserve in Vancouver, her designs were based on the visual culture of the Coast Salish people. Her work is now found in public and private galleries worldwide. Locally, it includes *People Amongst The People*, three Salish welcome gateways at the Brockton totem pole site in Stanley Park, the stone Salish Footprint at the entrance to the Museum of Anthropology and Flight Spindle Whorl, the 4.8-metre wooden disk in front of the waterfall at the Vancouver International Airport.

CAROLYN SWAYZE

Literary agent

Carolyn Swayze became a literary agent in 1994, when W.P. Kinsella persuaded her to leave her law practice and sign him as her first client. Back then, she was "pretty well the only game in town." Now the roster of the White Rock-based Carolyn Swayze Literary Agency includes Will Ferguson, Jen Sookfong Lee and Mark Zuehlke. With associate agents D. Barry Jones and Kris Rothstein, she helps talented new writers get published. Sometimes it takes many months. "Other times, we find the right publisher right away."

DOROTHY GRANT

Haida fashion designer

Dorothy Grant, who moved from Alaska to Vancouver as a young adult, has an international reputation for designs that merge art with fashion and link the ancient to the modern world. She incorporates Haida motifs on tailored jackets, coats and dresses. Her pieces can be found in museums and galleries throughout North America (including her own on West Sixth in Vancouver), but also on the women and men who wear them to every day or special events. Former prime minister Kim Campbell included Grant's raven cape in her official portrait.

HEATHER REDFERN

Executive director, Vancouver

East Cultural Centre

Since taking over the Vancouver East Cultural Centre in January 2007, Heather Redfern has transformed the "Cultch" -- the beloved theatre at Venables and Victoria -- and energized its many and varied youth programs. A major rebuild on the site has essentially created a whole new complex within the framework of what was once a church. Redfern, the Mallory Gilbert Leadership Award recipient in 2009, now casts an eye down the street to the old York Theatre on Commercial Drive, facing its own Cinderella story.

NETTIE WILD

Filmmaker

Documentary filmmaker Nettie Wild likes to tackle controversial subjects. *A Rustling of Leaves: Inside the Philippine Revolution* (1988) and *A Place Called Chiapas* (1998) are portraits of revolutionaries in the Philippines and Mexico, respectively, while *Blockade* (1993) deals with a native logging blockade in B.C. She picked up a Genie Award for *Chiapas*, and won another Genie for *Fix: The Story of an Addicted City* (2003), a look at Vancouver's drug problem. She is now working on the second draft for her first feature film, *Hunger*.

CATRIONA JEFFRIES

Owner

Catriona Jeffries Gallery

Since it opened in 1994, Catriona Jeffries has built her gallery into the top private art space in the city and maybe the country. One of only a handful of Vancouver galleries with an international reputation, the Catriona Jeffries Gallery has focused on showcasing Vancouver artists and is a big part of the reason why this city is considered one of the contemporary art hot spots in North America. Her roster of artists include Geoffrey Farmer, Kevin Schmidt, Brian Jungen, Germaine Koh, Judy Radul, Ian Wallace and Jerry Pethick.

KATHRYN SHAW

Artistic Director, Studio 58

For 25 years, Kathryn Shaw has helmed Studio 58, the theatre training program at Langara College. It was a good school when she arrived; Shaw has made it one of the best on the continent. With an MFA in acting from Columbia in New York, Shaw set out to act, direct and teach across Canada. She has not only championed generations of young talent, now to be found working around the world, but put her own directorial mark on some outstanding productions. She was voted into the B.C. Entertainment Hall of Fame in 2005.

DIANA KRALL

Jazz singer, pianist

Nanaimo-born jazz chanteuse Diana Krall has sold more than 15 million albums worldwide, more than any other female jazz artist in the '90s and 2000s. She was playing the piano by age four and performing at her local restaurant at 15. A recipient of the Order of British Columbia, Krall has performed with the likes of Tony Bennett and Barbra Streisand, not to mention Elvis Costello, whom Krall married in 2003. Krall and Costello, who have twin boys, spend a good portion of their year living in West Vancouver.

HELEN SLINGER

Filmmaker

Helen Slinger's filmmaking is all about taking a grabber of an event and turning it on its head. The documentarian deliberately digs deeper, looking for real meaning beneath surface shock, and has covered a broad range of issues over three decades, from school bullying to environmentalists to polygamy. Most recently, audiences at this year's Vancouver International Film Festival were fascinated by *When the Devil Knocks*, in which Slinger examines a therapist's attempt to deal with the multiple personalities of a woman who has 35 people living in her head.

ANNABEL LYON

Novelist

Annabel Lyon soared to fame with *The Golden Mean*, her 2009 debut novel about the tutor-pupil relationship between Greek philosopher Aristotle and the boy who became Alexander the Great. It's been praised by some of the world's best writers and is being published internationally. Lyon, who lives in New West, says she is a "philosophy geek" who turns to "my Aristotle" for guidance in times of stress. She's also published a story collection (*Oxygen*), a book of novellas (*The Best Thing for You*) and a young-adult novel (*All-Season Edie*).

ALISA SMITH

Co-author, *100-Mile Diet*:

A Year of Eating Locally

It began as an experiment in 2005, chronicling a 12-month diet of eating only food produced within 100 miles. But what began as a series of articles for Tye.com and then a co-written blog struck a chord with readers, and Alisa Smith and husband J.B. MacKinnon became the poster couple for local eating. Random House approached them in 2007 with a book deal and *100-Mile Diet: A Year of Eating Locally*. It's a compelling read imbued with their personalities and the human struggle.

MEERU DHALWALA

Co-Owner, Vij's Restaurant

While Meeru Dhalwala's husband, Vikram Vij, is the face and the name behind the award-winning restaurant, these days, he's the business mind while she runs the kitchens (they have another restaurant called Rangoli). About 90 per cent of the dishes are hers and she manages some 80 female cooks. Her strength, bodaciousness (she introduced cricket powder paratha once to experiment with eco-friendly protein) and vision (melding the traditional with the contemporary) have helped make Vij's a North American A-list restaurant with an international name.

SILKEN LAUMANN Former Olympic Rowing Medallist A former world and Pan-Am champion, she is one of Canada's greatest female rowers. Although she never won an Olympic gold medal, she pulled off one of the greatest comebacks in sports history in 1992 when she won bronze just 10 weeks after suffering a devastating leg injury that required five operations and countless hours of gruelling rehabilitation. The 45-year-old, who now lives in Victoria, has twice made the Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women in Sport's list of most influential women. Canada's athlete of the year

in 1991, today, she is a motivational speaker, president of her own company, Silken & Co. Productions; author of Child's Play; and involved in charities including Right to Play.

Arts and Culture

KATHLEEN BARTELS

Director, Vancouver Art Gallery

As director of the Vancouver Art Gallery since 2001, Kathleen Bartels has seen the gallery come into its own as a dynamic art space. Its endowment has increased to \$8.7 million from \$200,000, membership to 50,000 from 5,000 and the permanent collection to more than 10,000 works. Under her leadership, major exhibitions have included Vermeer, Rembrandt and the Golden Age of Dutch Art. One of her main projects now is leading a campaign to build a new VAG and double the size of the institution's exhibition space.

SUSAN CROOME

B.C. Film Commissioner

As head of the B.C. Film Commission, Susan Croome helps lure film productions to B.C., and keep them happy when they're here. It's a booming business: there were 239 productions shot in B.C. in 2009, including 56 feature films and 48 television series. All this fil-ing resulted in an industry worth \$1.3 billion. Croome has been in local film for years -- she used to head Bridge Studios -- and said after a slow start to 2010, the summer and fall have been incredibly busy: "Right now we have 35 projects in production, this time last year we had 22."

ROZEMERIE CUEVAS

Fashion designer

RozeMerie Cuevas has been designing classy professional clothing for 25 years, naming her label Jacqueline Conoir as a tribute to her mother. She has a loyal clientele who return because of the custom fitting she offers and the way she incorporates fashion trends into clothes women can wear to work. The shopping experience at her West Sixth Avenue studio in Vancouver includes mini fashion shows and champagne brunch. Cuevas also has been a mentor to up-and-comers in her field.

Chairwoman,

Sports CHARMAINE CROOKS Entrepreneur, former Olympic athlete

A five-time Olympian who won gold medals in middle distance running at the Pan Am and Commonwealth Games, Charmaine Crooks is president and founder of NGU Consulting, a sports marketing, management and corporate consulting company. A promoter of women in sport and supporter of local and global charities, including Right to Play, she worked for Vanoc and serves on the International Olympic Committee athletes commission and ethics commission.

COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA REBECCA BOLLWITT Social media consultant Rebecca Bollwitt, a.k.a. Miss 604, has been blogging about Vancouver since 2004. The co-founder of sixty4media, a Vancouver company that specializes in social media consulting and WordPress design and development, she was listed in 2008 as one of the top 10 most influential individuals in Canadian social media. She is co-author of a book, *Blogging to Drive Business: Create and Maintain Valuable Customer Connections*, a leading Twitter maven and organizer of the Vancouver Twestival.

CHRISTY CLARK Former politician; radio talk show host

The Christy Clark Show on CKNW is the top-rated talk show in Vancouver's afternoon radio market, providing its host with serious name recognition should she ever return to politics. Clark was elected to the provincial legislature in 1996 and named education minister when the B.C. Liberals formed the government in 2001. Clark retired from politics in 2004 to spend more time with her new baby. A year later, she lost a bid for the Non-Partisan Association's mayoral nomination in Vancouver.

JANET AUSTIN CEO, YWCA Janet Austin has overall responsibility for one of B.C.'s largest non-profit organizations, offering services to 43,000 people every year in more than 30 locations in Metro Vancouver. Austin has worked for many organizations in her career, including Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland and BC Housing, and has a long history as a volunteer with the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation, MOSAIC, the United Way, City of Vancouver's Women's Task Force and the BC SPCA. She's also a weekend puppy-sitter for assistance dogs in training with the Pacific Assistance Dogs Society.

Social Activism, Human Rights and Philanthropy

NAZANIN AFSHIN-JAM Iranian-Canadian human rights activist A former Miss World Canada, Nazanin Afshin-Jam is cofounder and president of Stop Child Executions, which aims to end the execution of minors in Iran and abroad, and in 2008 was appointed to the Canadian Race Relations Foundation's board of directors. Her "Save Nazanin" petition in 2005 garnered 350,000 signatures, saving the life of 18-year-old Iranian Nazanin Fatehi, who'd been sentenced to death for stabbing to death a man who allegedly tried to rape her.

LESLIE DIAMOND Philanthropist Leslie and Gordon Diamond have given millions of dollars to charities and institutions. Leslie supports the Friends for Life Society and Camp Hatikvah, which led

to funding of the Diamond Centre for Living (a wellness centre at Friends for Life offering free services to people with life-threatening illnesses) and The Diamond Knesset, a facility at Camp Hatikvah. The couple gave \$20 million to Vancouver General and the UBC Hospital Foundation in 2006 and \$3 million to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation and B.C. Women's Hospital this month.

LIZ EVANS Executive director, founder, Portland Hotel Society For more than 20 years, Liz Evans has lived and worked in the Downtown Eastside, representing the city's most vulnerable residents. In 1991, she began working at the Portland Hotel, a 70-room SRO, and two years later formed the non-profit Portland Hotel Society, of which she is executive director. The society provides housing, advocacy and support to Downtown Eastside residents, operating supported hotels and housing, the Insite supervised injection site, a dental clinic and a low-income community bank, among other services.

CAROLE TAYLOR Former B.C. finance minister; chancellor-designate, SFU She was touted as a possible successor to B.C. Liberal leader Gordon Campbell, but Carole Taylor has so far resisted attempts to get her back into politics since she announced her resignation as B.C. finance minister in December 2008. As finance minister, Taylor introduced the first carbon tax in North America and ended the corporate capital tax on banks -- \$100 million a year in government revenue. A former broadcaster and officer of the Order of Canada, she has chaired the Port of Vancouver, the Canada Ports Corporation and the CBC and will become Simon Fraser University's 10th chancellor next June.

Science, Medicine and Education

TYSEER ABOULNASR Dean of applied science, professor, University of B.C. Tyseer Aboulnasr earned her bachelor of engineering degree at Cairo University in Egypt and her master's and PhD at Queen's University in Canada. She teaches electrical engineering in English and French, including a course she developed about the nontechnical skills and knowledge needed by engineers and their responsibility toward society. Aboulnasr made her mark doing research about digital signal processing. She's a first-degree black belt in taekwondo.

GAIL ANDERSON Criminology professor Simon Fraser University Simon Fraser University Prof. Gail Anderson has made headlines in some of the most gruesome local cases: She testified about blow-flies attracted to dead bodies during the William Pickton serial killer trial and became an expert on the mysterious human feet that keep washing ashore on the West Coast. She is the well-respected associate director of SFU's School of Criminology, with an expertise in forensic entomology.