

Shelley Combs BScN, BFA, CD



My life's adventure began in Cumberland ... the birthplace of my grandmother, my Dad, my sister and me. I come from generations of miners on both sides. My Dad was a coalminer who quit school in grade 7 and started work in the mines to help support his family. His older brother was a logger who worked for Mr. Filberg's Comox Logging Company.

When the mines closed, we moved to Victoria, where I started school and where I grew up. I went to Oaklands School, then Lansdowne and then Victoria High School. Eventually, I attended the Royal Jubilee Hospital Nursing School and graduated after 3 years.

Always looking for adventure, I travelled to Australia to work as a nurse. On my return, I elected to join the Canadian Armed Forces Medical Service. Twenty-six years later, I retired here, in Comox, back to the start of my journey. I had served all across Canada with postings to Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Borden, Masset (Haida Gwaii) and Portage la Prairie. Victoria (to get my BScN) and overseas to Germany to learn obstetrics. Then, with two tours in a war zone (the Gulf War in the naval ship HMCS Protecteur and in Rwanda with 4 Field Ambulance out of Petawawa), I felt that this particular adventure was coming to an end.

Retiring from the CF, I went to art school and spent many years blissfully creating art of all forms. Art was my obsession for a number of years when I entered shows and sold my work. Creativity is still my overriding interest. This is why I love working as a volunteer at the Filberg Lodge ... meeting people and surrounded by exquisite treasures. Still a traveller, I continue to ramble all over the world. Still an artist, I work at weaving, knitting, felting and drawing. Still a coal miner's daughter, I relish my freedom.

My motto: Been everywhere, done everything.



Robin Ram

Robin comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience. He is currently the General Sales Manager at Vista Radio. He is intelligent, respectful, determined, and passionate, dedicated to everything he does.

Having worked at various positions in retail, wholesale, distribution, label and media partners in Canada and the US and eventually moving into radio, Robin brings excellent experience to our Board of Directors.

In 1996, Robin accepted a position with the Handleman Company to become VP/GM of Sellthrough Entertainment (Tampa), which specialized in holiday music and video, and Entertainment Zone (Detroit), which had distribution into Sears.

Robin spent time as President of Sound Revolution, which owned Charity Tunes. Charity Tunes was an online site where part of the revenue was donated to the charity of your choice. He signed up music labels and charities, including the Canadian Red Cross and Big Brothers.

Robin has been described as “genuinely dealing with integrity and fun and striving to create solutions where all partners get something out of the process. He rightly says that when you do, everyone wins, leading to better and longer partnerships”.

Above all, he is a great family man devoted to his wife, Mandy and their five kids.