

THE HISTORY OF LINDSAY KENNEY LLP

Lindsay Kenney LLP, aka LK Law, was conceived in 1974, when all of the original partners were in first year law school at UBC.

One evening, Rick Lindsay and Frank Potts met to discuss their careers. After much discussion, they decided that the best thing to do, when they finished law school, was to start their own law firm.

The law students envisioned not just their own law firm, but a big law firm—as big or bigger than Vancouver’s then largest firm, which consisted of 34 lawyers. They thought it was unlikely that they would ever manage to get that big, but they boldly agreed on that goal.

So the friends began to enlist other like-minded students to join them in their quest. By the time they started articles, a total of seven, had more or less committed to the plan.

Collectively, the group spent a good part of their third year researching what was involved in starting a law firm, reading up on all the available CLE material, and having endless meetings about whether to open downtown or in the suburbs, compensation systems, check lists for practice areas, marketing techniques, and anything else they thought would be helpful.

That research and those meetings continued all through articles.

At the end of articles, they organized a day-long meeting to come to some final decisions. They had lost a few people along the way but what emerged from that meeting was a general agreement that they would open a downtown law firm on Feb 1, 1980.

And so, on February 1, 1980, Julian Kenney, Rick Lindsay, Frank Potts and a late addition and classmate, Linda Hogg, opened Lindsay Kenney’s doors at 475 Howe Street. Kirk Poje joined as a partner a short time later. The firm was comprised of five lawyers and three support staff. Two years later, Terry Dunn agreed to give up his partnership with another firm, and join Lindsay Kenney.

Lindsay Kenney or LK Law, as it is now commonly referred to, has first-rate support staff, some of whom have been with the firm for decades. Others, having made their contribution, have left to go to law school and are now practicing law or, in at least one case, have gone to the Bench. Some lawyers who articulated here are now partners at LK. Others have gone on to be partners at other firms or are with various government agencies—and some have even banded together to set up other successful law firms.

There is simply no question that without the help and assistance of all those people, LK Law, if it existed at all, would certainly not be the firm it is today.