

## **Zoë Royer –Biography**

A dedicated volunteer, Zoë donates a large portion of her Council salary each year to support local causes. "Inclusion and volunteerism are part of our family philosophy", she says. "Inclusivity builds bridges, creates lasting relationships and the cultural sharing that comes from it is truly extraordinary." When her own daughters were growing up, she and her family welcomed international exchange students into their home from countries around the world, who needed a place to live while studying here. Zoë also participated on the board of Access Youth Services, served meals to homeless persons on night shifts at TriCities shelters, and hosted fundraising events for Crossroads Hospice, Earth Day and the Port Moody Arts Centre. She ran highly successful fundraising campaigns for Golden Spike Days, special events and school projects.

First elected to city council in 2011, Zoë works hard to protect our beautiful natural environment and strengthen the local economy. For over a decade, she has been advocating for local employment and small business. During Official Community Plan deliberations, Zoë pushed for more employment space to promote well-paying jobs, stimulate our daytime economy and help reduce traffic congestion. She is a tireless advocate for affordable housing and better amenities throughout the community. For the past several years, she has been working hand in hand with a group of Mayors, Councillors and Fire Chiefs from Coquitlam, Burnaby, Delta, Langley and Vancouver, working to expand emergency medical support by first responders and ensure our communities are better served.

As a three-term city councillor, Zoë Royer feels her role is to listen to the community, and to set policy while being mindful and respectful of others. She separates routine administration from governance, and strives to serve all constituents equally. In government, less complex matters need to be resolved quickly and efficiently. But when it comes to profound and irreversible changes, elected representatives need to pause and listen well to their constituents. With this in mind, Zoë is actively engaged in community life, responsive and accessible to residents, collaborative, thoughtful, and leads by example.

Zoë immigrated from Scotland with her family when she was just two years old. The move was a result of her Dad, a geophysicist, in search of opportunity in Calgary's energy sector. Her mother, a young doctor at the time of immigration, went on to become Canada's very first female OB/GYN (obstetrician/gynecologist).

In 2004, Zoë met her Francophone husband Gaëtan when he was CAO (City Manager) for the City of Port Moody. Municipal management had been a second career for him after serving 22 years as a military engineer and officer with Canada's Department of National Defence, and as a peacekeeper for the United Nations. In the early years of their marriage (2007), Zoë became a Canadian citizen and so began her passion for equality, democracy, and good governance.

Soon after coming to the Tri-Cities 18 years ago, Zoë served on the Board of Directors for the Golden Spike Days Festival and was Chair of Sponsorship for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Golden Spike

Days event. In 2006, she co-founded Port Moody's Newport Village Citizen's Advisory Group, and created a television program titled Mother and Daughter Paint the Town Red that aired on Shaw Cable. The show aimed to attract tourism and commerce to the Tri-Cities by featuring local independent businesses.

As an entrepreneur and business owner herself, Zoë knows first-hand what it takes to make payroll and run a successful business. Zoë managed Coquitlam General & Sedation Dentistry for many years in Coquitlam. Following her successful career in dentistry spanning more than two decades, Zoë took a leap from healthcare to open a commercial art gallery in Port Moody. She is also the creator of a book series for children focused on friendship and resourcefulness.

With her post-secondary education in fine arts, Zoë Royer is delighted to call the Tri-Cities her home! In the four years she owned Silk Gallery, from 2016 to 2020, she curated multiple exhibitions and hosted over forty events. This gave tremendous exposure to professional and emerging West Coast artists, and attracted art patrons into the community from throughout the region.

In addition, Zoë founded and chaired KaBoom! the Art Explosion, and co-founded The Shuffle, Port Moody's Art Walk. She is the city's representative for Metro Vancouver's Climate Action Committee, and has been a Library Board Trustee for the majority of her years in public office. She serves on several Task Forces; Coquitlam's School District 43 Childcare, Fire Department, and Affordable Housing. Zoë chaired or vice-chaired several civic committees; Arts & Culture, Community Advisory and Planning (CPAC), Community Care, Economic Development, Finance, Heritage Commission, Land Use, Senior's Focus and Transportation. She serves as Council's representative to the Fraser Health Municipal Regional Committee, the Youth Focus Committee, Municipal Insurance Association of BC, TriCities Chamber of Commerce, Golden Spike Days Society, the Port Moody Arts Centre Society Board, Advisory Design Panel, and E-COMM 9-1-1.

As a panelist for Young Women's Civic Leaders, Canadian Women Voters Congress, and a supporter of the Tri-City Women's Conference, Zoë shares her experience and expertise to mentor women into leadership roles and to actively participate in our democracy.

