Kim Stegeman-Lowe
Vice President Administration at Squamish Terminals Ltd.

In 2015, both inbound and outbound cargo volumes grew.

"She is a creative, passionate and successful entrepreneur. For a number of years she was a single mother, but no matter the challenges at that time she was always there to support and encourage me, to believe that I could do anything I set my mind to."

For young women who are aiming for top jobs in the private or public sector or as successful business owners, Kim says her advice is to take risks, learn from your mistakes, be inquisitive and seek out mentors along the way.

"With any opportunity you take on in life, even if it is not ideal, give it your best effort and learn from it. Build on your strengths, don't focus on your shortcomings, and surround yourself with good people," she says.

Sounded by good people can help overcome any challenge, and Kim faced the biggest one last year: The Terminal Dock Fire. She remembers she had left the office and reached home when the phone call came. As the dock burned, Kim spent three sleepless nights at the Terminal along with her colleagues, to support the fire department, the district and the media do the job they needed to do.

"It was a devastating event but the entire team worked together and the emergency responders as well as the community rallied for a unified approach to fight the fire and protect our environment," she says.

Once the fire was under control, the Terminal was back in operation out of its second dock. In fact, there is another way to remember 2015: It was also one of the best years for business as cargo imports and exports grew. The next challenge, Kim says, is to rebuild the dock and the Terminal is investing $30 million, which speaks to its bright future, and economic importance to the community and beyond.

Corporate social responsibility has always been a big part of the philosophy at Squamish Terminals through hosting events such as the Annual Great Canadian Shoreline Clean Up, working with the Squamish Streamkeepers to improve herring habitat, and contributing to its newly established Youth & Environment Endowment Fund (Squamish Community Foundation).

Meanwhile, the rebuilding work for the dock continues and Kim can oversee it, quite literally, from her corner office. The dock will be rebuilt and complete late summer.

For more information and dock rebuild updates visit www.sqterminals.com.

**CAN INDUSTRY and tourism co-exist?**

Well, ask Kim Stegeman-Lowe, the vice-president of administration at Squamish Terminals. The answer is "YES" and she has a unique perspective having worked in both sectors. "What Squamish needs is a diverse, sustainable economy - to do that we need a clear vision and to work together - there is no question in my mind that we can be world-class in this regard," she says.

After a degree in hospitality and tourism from Ryerson University in Toronto, she started as a front desk agent at Delta and worked her way up the corporate ladder to be the director of operations in the Marriott chain of hotels. From hotels to ships, Kim has been a big part of the philosophy at Squamish Terminals and Greg Star to teach me the business and I am still learning.

"I certainly knew how to clean a hotel room but didn’t know what a bale of pulp was," she says, laughing.

"I had quite a steep learning curve coming from the hotel industry to the world of shipping. Although my experience in marketing, operations and administration was certainly transferrable, I was fortunate to have great mentors at Squamish Terminals and Greg Star to teach me the business and I am still learning."

From hotels to ships, Kim has happily embraced the change and her focus is now on building and being part of a great team at the Terminals.

"I’m a dedicated individual and for me it’s about developing a team, as well as mutual trust and purpose. I see myself as facilitator driven to sharing our vision, establishing goals, coaching the team, and watching the results," she says.

Finding the right balance between home and work is never easy and likely an unattainable feat, she says, but perhaps are artificial boundaries that need to be questioned, she feels.

"I read once that we should drop the idea that ‘work’ and ‘life’ are somehow separate. They’re not. And I believe that, I want my daughters to be proud of me and be inspired to find their own way in life. I tell them that I work because I love it, which spills into other areas of my life, including being the best mother and wife I can be."

The Terminals’ $30 million dock reconstruction is well underway.
Squamish Terminals, in cooperation with ILWU Canada locals 500 and 517, is pleased to recognize the talented and dedicated team of women that work at Squamish Terminals and on the waterfront.

The team of women that work at Squamish Terminals...

• Are skilled in a variety of operations and represent 25% of the Squamish Terminals’ workforce... today this represents a higher percentage than the waterfront industry as a whole; and

• Hold positions from non-traditional occupations to management, including the following disciplines: heavy equipment operator, safety, purchasing, inventory, logistics, security, accounting, marketing, community relations and administration.

Squamish Terminals is a deep-water, break-bulk terminal located at the north end of Howe Sound. Since 1972 we have been efficiently and safely handling forestry, steel and special project cargo for loading to or from ocean vessels, rail and trucks. At Squamish Terminals we succeed through our PEOPLE and our VALUES...sustainably, responsibly, safely, with quality and integrity.

For more information visit us at www.sqterminals.com or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/squamishterminals.