



GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Kathy Brandon

Kathy was born in New Mexico, USA, the youngest of three girls, and came to Canada at age 18. Following her high school graduation in Moscow, Idaho, she drove her little VW Beetle to Vancouver and immediately knew she was home. Her first career was in retail management and buying, followed by six years at UBC as a student in the School of Social Work where she earned her Masters Degree in Social Work. Kathy was privileged to work for 25 years as a Clinical Social Worker in community mental health and at the BC Cancer Agency as well as having a private counselling practice. While doing this work, Kathy started silversmithing and found this craft to be wonderfully creative and mindful. After many years, silversmithing became her business, and Kathy opened a storefront and teaching studio in New Westminister called Workingsilver. After several years, she chose to close her store and teaching studio to allow more time for study, volunteering, and being creative at her silversmithing bench. Workingsilver.com continues as an online retail store catering to artisan silversmiths, which Kathy owns and operates.

Kathy is the mother of two adult daughters and the grandmother to three. Kathy's greatest pleasures are spending time with her family and her wonderful long-term friends, being creative, Shabbat services at Or Shalom, and walking amongst the tall trees, all of which feed her soul. Her favourite Jewish food is latkes made by her daughter's beloved, and enjoyed while celebrating Hanukkah together.

Kathy began attending Or Shalom in August 2018. She feels blessed to have found a Jewish Renewal Synagogue and a congregation who welcomes and educates her in the Jewish faith and culture. Kathy studies, learns, and practices and is on a path to Jewish conversion guided by Rabbi Hannah's profound knowledge, wisdom, and welcoming embrace.

Ask Kathy about..... the exciting events in her life planned for 2020.

Kathy's vow: To see the God spark in all things, to be the best me that I can be and to witness and support others in being their best authentic selves – each new day in our human process of becoming.