

# Legacy Looks to Attract Partners in Expansion

**Calgary Herald, Around Town**  
by **David Parker**, November 20, 2007



*Left: David Wartman. Right: Ron Prokosch.*

*This city already has a number of executive recruitment companies for a wide range of industry sectors, but a new one has emerged out of the former **PricewaterhouseCoopers'** practice.*

Most of the large accounting firms divested themselves of search and consulting practices due to the pressures emanating out of the United States and the results of the Sarbanes Oxley Act which was in part motivated by the situation around **Enron** and a number of other corporations. There was a concern about conflict with audit practices and when PWC closed its search offices across the country, **Paul Crath** and **Keith McLean**, partners in the Toronto office, bought the practice and re-established it under the name of **Legacy Executive Search Partners**.

By that time, the offices, including Calgary's had closed down and staff dispersed, but Legacy has since opened in Winnipeg and now a Calgary office is open for business under the direction of managing partners **Ron Prokosch** and **David Wartman**.

They bring to the company a unique combination of senior executive and consulting experience, including having been involved in the search process as clients, candidates and consultants.

The partners have known each other professionally for more than 20 years and, although they have never worked together before, consider their work styles and ways of doing business very similar.

Through an affiliate agreement, Prokosch led the establishment and development of leading career services firm Drake Beam Morin in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Under his leadership it expanded from a small Calgary-based office to five offices. He sold the operations back to DBM in 2000 and re-established his own consulting practice.

Outside his office, Prokosch is a past-president of the Human Resources Association of Calgary, a member of South Calgary Rotary, served on the University of Calgary senate, and is currently board chairman of the Distress Centre.

Wartman came to Calgary in 1998 as vice-president of human resources at **Canadian Occidental Petroleum** (now **Nexen**), where his responsibilities included accountability for international security, supply chain and human resources. For eight years, Wartman was a senior human resources and corporate services leader for Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, and he also ran the human resource department at McMaster University.

Wartman also has an extensive volunteer life that includes being past-chairman of the Canadian MedicAlert Foundation, director of Operation Eyesight Universal and Calgary Counselling Centre. Currently he is director and registrar of the Institute of Certified Management Consultants of Alberta, a director of the Pinebrook Golf and Country Club and sits on the business advisory committee of Light Up The World Foundation.

Together they are quite a force both in the business and community sectors of this city. They have recruited organizational behaviour specialist **Eloise Moodie** – a specialist who has worked as an internal human resources service provider as well as an external consultant specialising in organizational development initiatives.

PWC had a strong practice in Vancouver and Legacy Partners is looking to attract new partners there. The opening of an Ottawa office is expected to be announced shortly.



This article was written by **David Parker**, for the Around Town Section of the Calgary Herald, November 20, 2007.



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