



# What's Up Doc?

## Charles and Nancy THE FUN SAIL INTO POWELL RIVER

**Powell River**  
Division of Family Practice  
A GPSC Initiative

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A four-year romantic adventure transported Charles and Nancy Van Zyl (pronounced “fun sail”) from South Africa to Canada and Powell River... It all began in 2006, when Charles went to practice in Fort Saint John. Nancy and he were just Facebook friends back then (although they did date from 2001-2003). As his love for Canada grew, so did the romance with Nancy. Visa complications and her own Occupational

romance going”, Charles moved back to South Africa to be with her in 2011. He had already applied for permanent residency and was just six months shy of a permanent license.

Charles and Nancy’s romance grew in South Africa. In the background, the immigration process continued. Some time later, an email from immigration was received congratulating him on completing the process – provided his family composition hadn’t changed. Charles and Nancy got married during that year, so he had to reapply. Emily was born. Reapply. Lukas was born. Reapply. Five years later, Charles, Nancy, Emily, Lukas, and Katryn (their dog) – have all immigrated to Powell River.



Charles, Nancy, Emily, & Lukas Van Zyl

looking to come back to Canada, Charles contacted him to learn more about opportunities here. The temperate coast of Brit-

ish Columbia had always appealed to him. Nancy did some online searching to find out more about the place, and came upon

**Charles changed his personal status 4 times in 4 years, delaying his immigration each time**

Therapist practice made it difficult for Nancy to visit for extended periods of time. And so, “to keep the

While working in Fort Saint John, Charles had met Dr. Alan Donkin, who used to practice in Powell River. When

