

## **Rapture and Ruin**

*January 2009*

I was at the Vancouver Art Gallery on the weekend with my hubby Les. We caught a couple of exhibits that were wrapping up, namely prominent Vancouver photographer *Jeff Walls'* collection, and the landscape collection featuring famous Canadian artists including the Magnificent Seven and Emily Carr. The latter, entitled *Rapture and Ruin*, was an experience in contrast: *rapture* in this case meaning a mystical experience in which the spirit is exalted to knowledge of divine things, compared to *ruin* implying a falling down, collapse or destruction.

While I don't profess to be an art connoisseur, I am a creative junkie always in search of a fix. I see leadership as an art, something to be practiced and developed, with each experience adding depth and dimension. My own leadership journey has taught me many lessons, none richer than learning to know myself better. For me, engaging in creative activities creates positive energy and inspiration, leading to increased focus and results. It's like getting my batteries charged. And boy with the contrast we are experiencing in the marketplace today, I need to stay charged!