



Prosperous Times

Prosper: to be successful or fortunate, to thrive, to flourish

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Update

February – was, well, busy. And busy is good. I really like busy. And it has been a kind of busy that has called me to be constantly be reviewing what I am doing in any given moment and whether it is the best thing for that moment. This also has the side benefit, once I have chosen what the best thing is for a moment, to be calm and peaceful about my choice. Not feeling vaguely as if I should be doing something else.

I have also discovered (again...I know I have discovered this before!) that I do really well when there is more to do than it seems I can possibly get done. Under those circumstances I become a hyper-organized, efficient, effective machine. Now to bring that to my life at all times.

Simplicity

I have become aware recently of how complicated my life is. To be more accurate, how complicated I have made my life. I would actually like it to be simpler. A lot simpler. And once something has been made to be complicated, it isn't so easy to simplify. It takes a fair effort.

It takes a lot of energy to maintain a complicated life. It often happens subtly, over a long period of time. You don't realize how much it costs you – in energy, effort, time and peace - to keep it all going.

Having too many choices is a form of complexity. Research shows that when people are in a store to make a purchase, and are presented with too many options, they tend to leave without buying anything. Too much complexity overwhelms us.

Take this awareness and turn the lens to where you work. How complicated are the processes and systems that keep your business working? How much of that complexity really needs to be there? What is it costing?

This applies to pretty much anything...project management systems, computer systems, filing systems, business processes. Things should be only as complex as they absolutely need to be, and starting from simplest is usually best. More complex is rarely better. It costs more to build and maintain. And it leaves a legacy of extra time and money to keep it going. Einstein had it right.

I also think there are two considerations in any decision about whether to implement a system or a process. The first is how simple or inexpensive it is to put in place (or to purchase) in the first place. The second is how simple or inexpensive is it to keep it going or maintain. Next time you have a decision to make, you could consider the answers to both of these questions.

This is the tenth edition of *Prosperous Times*. I hope you enjoy it.

Between newsletters, I share thoughts a few times a week in my blog at www.donna-horn.com.

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Quote of the Month

'Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler.' Albert Einstein.

Feedback

I would love to hear from you! Send your ideas and feedback to me at donna@inspircity.com or call me at 250-514-0153.

If you'd rather not receive this newsletter, please let me know. And...if you know someone who would like it, feel free to send it to them! It is also posted on my website www.inspircity.com.

