

QuickBooks Helps B.C. Company Keep Pace with Film Industry

Video production supply company thrives in “Hollywood North” with help from QuickBooks Enterprise.

One-stop accounting for one-stop production shop. They call Vancouver, British Columbia, “Hollywood North” because of its proximity to Los Angeles and the range of climates and environments it offers filmmakers. Based in Burnaby, British Columbia, HollyNorth Production Supplies “is a one-stop shop for the film, television, and special event industry” says owner Mike Kaerne, who started the company 16 years ago.

“We started with QuickBooks. As we grew, it grew along with us.”

— Mike Kaerne, owner

Kaerne and his wife, Laurie (pictured at right), rely on their QuickBooks Enterprise 10-user license to manage payroll, inventory control, accounts receivable and payable, sales orders, and daily receipts. “QuickBooks integrates really well with our web store,” Kaerne says.

Ease of use and customer insights. Though Kaerne started on QuickBooks when he launched HollyNorth and runs three other companies on QuickBooks, at one point he converted to another system for HollyNorth because he wanted to be able to handle rental inventory, which QuickBooks was not set up for.

“It was the worst two years of my life,” Kaerne says. The inventory and bookkeeping part of the system was so archaic that I had to hire two extra people to do the accounting that my wife does by herself in QuickBooks.”

Kaerne ditched that system and later stepped up to QuickBooks Enterprise, which gave him unlimited SKUs for his massive inventory along with role-based access control, which he appreciates, since he employs some part-time employees who only need access to specific functions.

“I’m a reports guy.” QuickBooks gives me the flexibility that I need to be able to explore,” Kaerne says, adding that he can dig deep into customer segments to keep his finger on the pulse of what his clients want.

HollyNorth Production Supplies

Industry:

Video production supplies

Business Challenge:

Easy-to-use accounting with inventory control for a busy, growing business.

Prior Software:

QuickBooks Premier

