

## Home the nerve centre for busy CoO/mother

National Post  
Mon 01 May 2006  
Page: G3  
Section: Joint Venture: Entrepreneur  
Byline:  
Source: Special to the National Post  
Edition: National  
Story Type: Business; Series  
Length: 804 words  
Illustration: Black & White Photo: Cybele Negriz of Webnames.ca.

Cybele Negriz is a founding partner and chief operating officer of Webnames.ca, a Vancouver-based Internet domain name registrar. Ms. Negriz began the company with several partners in 2000. The company serves more than 40,000 customers and enjoys 20% annual revenue growth. She also serves as president for Wired Woman Vancouver, a networking and education organization for women in technology, and as editor-in-chief of The Server Room, The Internet & Technology Newsletter for Canadians ([www.theserverroom.ca](http://www.theserverroom.ca)). The following journal was kept on April 20.

6 a.m. Wake up and stare at my sleeping 18-month old-son Miles. Face of a little angel!

6:30 a.m. Miles wakes up and cuddles with me. Get his diaper changed, then play our little game of Where's Cody? Cody is one of our little dogs. I feed Miles early. He watches Baby Einstein.

8 a.m. Hand Miles off to Marge, our nanny, but he's not happy. He seems to have a bit of a cold. I feel very guilty but there's a busy day ahead. Feed the dogs and the fish. Forget to feed myself.

Start catching up on e-mails in my home office from the night before. I typically work out of my home but the rest of the Webnames.ca staff are in Vancouver's Gastown district. Check systems to determine if any issues have been reported as the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) was doing a systems upgrade starting 6 a.m. EST.

8:15 a.m. Get a call from Ed Toy, CIRA's manager of registrations services, to report that all upgrades have gone according to plan and ahead of schedule. All functions seem fine.

8:30 a.m. Request input from staff on changes to some reports; plan and provide items to office administrator to put together agenda for staff meeting later today; work out details for donating a domain/Web site for the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs' Student Internship Project.

9 a.m. Run out to mail letters and buy a new nipple for son's bottle.

9:15 a.m. Co-ordinate gift for Rick Thorpe, B.C.'s Minister of Small Business and Revenue, our guest speaker at the Wired Woman 10th Anniversary Celebration in Vancouver May 4.

9:30 a.m. Correspond with Angus Livingstone, managing director of the University Industry Liaison Office at the University of British Columbia and member of the Webnames.ca board, regarding policy issues.

9:45 a.m. Address more e-mails and phone calls before heading into town. Start the 45-minute drive, eat a few strawberries and catch up on more phone calls.

10:50 a.m. Meet Jason Mackay, station promotions co-ordinator for The Beat 94.5 FM. It is a media sponsor for the Wired Woman anniversary event and I am there to pick up a silent auction item the station donated.

11:15 a.m. Stop by Brioche Urban Bakery to pick up gift certificates it has donated for the silent auction. We have well more than a dozen other donors as well.

11:30 a.m. Run Webnames.ca staff meeting, pay for pizza (part of our weekly staff meeting tradition). I announce a three-way

tie for our Q1 Employee of the Quarter Award. Congratulations also goes to John Demco, one of Webnames.ca's founding partners, who is a finalist in the Canadian New Media Awards.

John founded the .CA domain registry in 1987 and managed it as a volunteer for 13 years before transfer of the registry to CIRA in 2000. At that time John, Stephen Smith, Matthew Lane and I partnered to improve .CA registry functions and were highly involved in the transition to CIRA. We started Webnames.ca as a side business.

12:45 p.m. Meet with a few staff about developments on recruitment of two new positions. Meet a recently-hired developer. Discuss ongoing projects and recent deployments with our development team. Return phone calls.

3 p.m. Stop by Stargarden office, where Marnie Larson, Wired Woman networking co-team lead, works, to drop off silent auction items.

3:30 p.m. Return phone calls during drive home.

4:15 p.m. Catch up on about 50 e-mails received while I was away from my computer. Review and approve schedule for May's issue of The Server Room.

5:45 p.m. Start letter of support for John Demco's nomination for the B.C. Innovation Council's Chairman's Award for Career Achievement.

6 p.m. Nanny leaves. Play with Miles. Head out to a friend's place for dinner. They have two girls -- Madison, almost four, and Jessica, about 16 months. The kids have a blast colouring and running around.

9 p.m. Bedtime for Miles, so head home and put him to bed. Watch TV, fall asleep.

2:30 a.m. Can't sleep, so back down to the office to catch up on e-mails.

3:45 a.m. Hear Miles crying. He's not feeling well. Finally get him to sleep by 5:45 a.m. He sleeps until 8:30 a.m., but I doze for only about 45 minutes -- more sleep than I used to get when we started Webnames.ca.