



**Name:** Wilbur Turner

**Tell us about yourself:** I lived in Kelowna from 2011 – 2017. I returned to live in Kelowna from Calgary in the fall of 2020. I have always loved being involved and contributing to the community where I live. From 2012 – 2015 I was president of Kelowna Pride, helping to grow the annual festival from a few dozen attendees to the thousands. Being involved with Swinging with the Stars allowed us to create a fashion show and an elegant 5 course New Years Eve dinner at the wine bar that I owned in Kelowna at the time. It was incredibly rewarding knowing we were contributing not only financially to COHA, but also raising awareness for the incredible organization.

**What year did you dance?** 2017

**What was your style of dance and why did you choose that one?** I chose disco because it is fun and upbeat as well as being nostalgic for many people. The song Disco Inferno was recommended by our choreographer and dance instructor Carley Bailey.

**How did you first learn about Swinging with the Stars?** I heard about Swinging with the Stars from Debie MacMillan who I had worked with previously when my home was part of Homes for the Holidays in 2012.

**What is your favourite memory from your performance?** The shock of being named Audience Choice winners. My partner and I were the first gay couple to win at the annual competition.

**Are you still dancing today?** Only in my dreams.:-} I was never a dancer, feeling like I have two left feet, however this changed my ideas about taking on a challenge, and with lots of practice, succeeding.

**What backstage moments stand out to you today?** The camaraderie among the performers and cheering everyone on.