



Connect. Engage. Achieve.

Stronger Together with the Chamber of Commerce



We're thrilled to see your interest in the Duncan Cowichan Chamber of Commerce! Our journey began in 1908 as the Duncan Board of Trade, and ever since, we've been committed to nurturing our business community and fostering development for over a century.

As a vibrant organization driven by its members, we're a diverse group encompassing businesses of all sizes, government agencies, professionals, and organizations from every sector. We're proud to be the largest Chamber in the Cowichan region with a robust community of more than 600 members.

Our mission is to provide you with a platform to connect, grow, and succeed. We offer networking events, marketing prospects, and professional development opportunities, all while ensuring cost savings and an abundance of benefits. One of our prime features includes access to our Chamber Group Insurance Plan.

In our pursuit of excellence, we host the Black Tie Awards every other year, shining a spotlight on remarkable business achievements and commendable volunteerism. Remember, our members are the heart of the Chamber, and our dedicated team at the Chamber offices is always here to bolster your success.

The Chamber of Commerce plays a pivotal role as an advocate for business. Our directors, staff, and members are actively involved in municipal committees, local Boards, service organizations, and more. Plus, with our affiliation with the BC Chamber of Commerce, your voice is heard at the provincial level too.

Our operations are funded through membership investment, fundraising, and grants. You can find us at the Cowichan Regional Visitor Centre located at 2896 Drinkwater Road, right next to the BC Forest Discovery Centre.

This package has been put together to give you a comprehensive overview of membership investment, marketing opportunities, and a list of the numerous benefits that come with being a part of our community. Membership with the Chamber not only strengthens the business community but also helps elevate your profile, broadens your network, and keeps you updated. We are known as a very active Chamber, and we are looking forward to welcoming you on board!

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The Duncan Cowichan Chamber of Commerce

The Perks of Membership

Let's delve into the multitude of ways we can help you flourish as a member of our thriving community.

Networking

Our platform opens up opportunities for networking on a grand scale. With more than 50 events annually, you can mingle with business owners, professionals, clients, and prospective customers from all sectors. Our Chamber Mixers and Events further allow you to showcase your products, services, and operations. Post job opportunities on our website to get the best people.

Marketing & Promotion

Boost your visibility and market reach through our comprehensive marketing avenues. Leverage the power of social media with our presence on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn. Make the most of our Online Business Directory, preferred advertising rates, and free member news space in our weekly eNews. You can also list your events and promotions on our Chamber website and display your materials at the Cowichan Regional Visitor Centre.

Resources & Support

Through our dedicated Chamber office and Visitor Centre, we support our members with regular referral requests. You can grow your client base and connect with fellow Chamber members via our Member-to-Member Discounts. Remember, our members go mobile with MyChamberApp, a handy tool to locate and promote businesses on the move.

Discounts & Benefits

Who doesn't love savings? A notable feature of our membership is access to the Chambers of Commerce Insurance Plan, Canada's leading group benefits plan for small to mid-sized businesses. Take advantage of BC Chamber benefits, enjoy savings on everyday essentials, such as fuel, office supplies, payroll services, credit/debit card processing fees and more. You can avail yourself of exclusive Member-to-Member discounts and specials. We also offer free Certificates of Origin, reduced admission for our events, and exclusive hotel and car rental discounts.

Representation & Influence

Our Advocacy Committee is your voice at the table with local government and the business community. We work tirelessly to make sure your interests are represented and heard in influential circles through our membership with the BC Chamber of Commerce, BC Chamber Executives, Better Business Bureau, the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance, Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, and Green Business BC.

Education & Training

Get on the fast track to professional growth with our diverse range of development events. Our Luncheon Speaker Series, Lunch 'n Learns, seminars, and workshops offer ample learning opportunities. You can even share your expertise as a featured speaker at our educational events, and gain access to discounted rates on workshops and webinars through Small Business BC.

Business Advocacy

Our Chamber is committed to championing the business community. We review submissions from businesses, collaborate with local/regional governments, economic development organizations, other Island Chambers, and the BC Chamber of Commerce all to facilitate growth and positive change.

Collaboration & Partnerships

We believe in the power of collaboration. We liaise regularly with marketing organizations, local/regional governments, and other Island Chambers to exchange ideas, foster partnerships, and drive collective growth.



You Can't Put a Price on Belonging

Annual Membership Investments and Classifications

Welcome to the exciting world of opportunities provided by our Chamber membership. Here is a quick guide to everything you need to know.

When you invest in a membership with our Chamber, you're not just signing up for a slew of benefits, but you're also making a wise business decision. As a welcoming bonus, your investment renews annually on your join date and is considered a tax-deductible business expense, an added sweetener for your company's financial health.

In the spirit of community, part of your membership investment is allocated to our parent organization, the BC Chamber of Commerce. This unique arrangement opens up a world of benefits and preferential pricing that extends to all employees of your company. Isn't that something!

Annual Membership Investment Includes:

- Show off your business with a colorful logo in our Online Business Directory listing.
- Boost your visibility with the advantage of multiple listings on our Business Directory.
- Stay in the know with our weekly eNews, keeping you updated on all the latest business happenings.
- Expand your network and discover new opportunities with our Member-to-Member Discount Program.
- Enjoy a wider audience reach with your print materials displayed in our Visitor Centre.
- Unlock special rates and discounts through the BC Chamber, designed to add value to your membership.
- Rest assured knowing you have the opportunity to join the Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan.
- Get all Chamber events at a member-friendly rate, opening avenues for networking, learning, and growth.
- Simplify your international trade with our complimentary Certificates of Origin.
- Wear your membership with pride with an official Membership Certificate and Proud Member decal.

Membership Investment Rates:

Business 1 – 2 Employees **\$245.00 + \$12.25 = \$257.25**

Business 3 - 14 Employees **\$305.00 + \$15.25 = \$320.25**

Business 15+ Employees **\$445.00 + \$22.25 = \$467.25**

Other Membership Types **\$210.00 + \$10.50 = \$220.50**

- **Business Affiliate:** For realtors and multi-business owners associated with a primary member.
- **Chamber Affiliate:** For members of other Cowichan Region or Island Chambers.
- **Non-Profit Organizations:** Reduced rates for community service clubs, registered charities, and non-profit organizations.

Sharing is Caring with our Referral Program

Finally, we truly believe in the power of connections, and our referral program is a testament to that belief. The joy of membership is best when shared. If you refer a new member and their membership is confirmed, we reward your generosity with a free one-year Enhanced Business Directory Listing on our website. (\$25 value)

Expand your Visibility and Reach

Chamber Members Rack for Free at the Visitor Centre

Let's talk about how to maximize your visibility and reach as a chamber member! One of the best ways to do this is through the **Cowichan Regional Visitor Centre**, which we lovingly refer to as CRVC. Picture this, each year more than 25,000 visitors come through our doors and they're not just tourists, many are locals seeking information.

Now, imagine your business materials in a prime location there, where they're easily visible and intuitively organized. Our dedicated staff and volunteers do more than just display your materials - they actively endorse your business to every visitor who walks in.

The CRVC team doesn't stop at that, they're always promoting the beautiful Cowichan Region and encouraging visitors to stay longer and explore. And when these visitors need reservations at accommodations, attractions, or restaurants, our Travel Counsellors are there to recommend member businesses, like yours!

Additionally, as a member, you get access to Cowichan Vacation Guides, maps, and brochures that you can distribute to your customers, clients, and guests. Plus, you get a chance to be part of our Relocation Package. For just \$45 per year, you can promote your business or service to individuals and businesses looking to move to the area.

But we didn't stop at that! The Centre also carries a carefully curated selection of member and Cowichan-made products. Think personal care items, souvenirs, beverages, jewellery, stationery, art, and more. Your business could be part of this selection.

We have poster and display case spaces exclusively available to our members. We also have rotating promotional videos on a large display behind the counter you can add your business to. So, if you're looking to expand your visibility and reach, you know where to start - right here at the CRVC!

Cowichan Regional Visitor Centre

2896 Drinkwater Road, Duncan, BC, V9L 6C2

250.746.4636 | 1.800.303.3337 | visitorinfo@duncancc.bc.ca

Facebook: [Cowichan Regional Visitor Centre](#) Instagram: [@cowichanregionalvisitorcentre](#)





Build your Profile

Promotional Opportunities for Members

Looking to elevate your business profile? We've got an array of promotional opportunities just for you!

Event Sponsorship Opportunities:

Be the star of the show at our Speaker Series Luncheons. **For just \$285, your business can shine with a dedicated display, brochures on every table, and a 5-minute presentation slot.** Plus, you get two complimentary luncheon tickets! Even better? It's a tax-deductible marketing expense.

Become a part of our heart-warming community by **donating a door prize** for a Luncheon, Mixer, or one of our annual Silent Auctions. It's a feel-good way to raise your profile and get your product into a potential customer's hands.

Open your doors and **host a Chamber Mixer!** Providing refreshments and light food, you can welcome potential customers to experience your business firsthand. Many of our hosts team up with member caterers or craft beverage producers for a memorable evening. Plus, the Chamber takes care of event promotion and RSVPs! Mixers draw 30 to 50 attendees and are a fun, laid-back way to network.

Emerge as a thought leader at a **Lunch 'n Learn**. These relaxed, bring-your-own-lunch sessions offer a platform to share your knowledge and engage with other members and potential clients.

Join us in celebrating business excellence and volunteerism at our biennial **Black Tie Awards**. With over 300 guests, this popular gala provides excellent exposure and chances for on-stage participation through various sponsorship levels.

Relocation Guide:

Every year, our Visitor Centre delivers over 300 relocation packages to newcomers or those considering a move to our region. For a minimal annual fee of \$45, your brochure or business card could reach this captive audience, making it a fantastic opportunity for service providers and lifestyle-oriented businesses.

New Member Welcome Package:

Our Chamber Ambassadors personally hand-deliver welcome packages to over 80 new members annually. For just \$45 a year, your business can gain visibility among the fresh and developing enterprises in the Cowichan. Ideal for professional service providers across various sectors.

Chamber News in the Local Newspaper and Magazines:

Stay tuned throughout the year as we partner with local print publications for advertorial features. As a member, you'll enjoy special advertising rates in these high-profile pieces, providing a valuable boost to your visibility.

Expand your client or customer base

Digital Marketing & Advertising Opportunities

Looking to grow your customer base? Let us introduce you to our world of Digital Marketing & Advertising Opportunities!

With our **Basic Business Directory Listing**, which is included in your membership, you can present your business to the world. This listing includes a colourful logo or image, links to your social media and website, a concise 500-character business description, operational hours, a Google map for easy location, and eight keywords to optimize online searches.

If you'd like to go the extra mile, you can upgrade to the **Enhanced Business Directory Listing** for just an additional \$25 per year. Here, you get to include even more photos, five Linked Highlights that show off your unique offerings, and a link to a YouTube video. This package also features a prime rotational listing in your primary category and an expanded 1,600-character description.

Our **Member Information Centre (MIC)** acts as your personalized online hub. With an individual login, you can update your Business Directory Listing, review your company profile, handle invoices, and register for Chamber events right from your dashboard. Plus, you can post job listings, member events, and sizzling deals which are showcased on our website.

As part of our welcome wagon, we feature every new member in a special **New Members Spotlight** edition of our eNews. With over 1,400 readers and over 5,000 social media followers, your services, contact information, and website link will gain maximum visibility. We continue to spotlight member news with engaging, educational, and inspiring content that resonates with our community.

To keep your business in the limelight, we have **Banner Advertising Options** on our website. You can keep your banner fresh with monthly updates. There are 5 rotation banner placements available on each of the following:

Home Page:	6 months \$200 12 months \$350 (plus GST)
Events Landing Page:	6 months \$150 12 months \$250 (Plus GST)
Business Directory Landing Page:	6 months \$150 12 months \$250 (Plus GST)

Connect directly with our community of over 1,400 subscribers via our **Member eBlasts**, which are also shared with our Facebook and LinkedIn followers, amounting to a combined audience of over 5,000. Tailored for ticketed events, sales promotions, offers, fundraising initiatives, and educational campaigns, these communications are a fantastic way to keep your audience updated.

Don't forget to leverage our **Chamber Social Media** channels. Follow us, tag us in your posts, and we'll share with our 4,500+ followers for free! Use these platforms for product promotions, event listings, and any exciting updates you have.

Follow us on **Facebook**: @DuncanCowichanChamber, **Instagram**: @duncancowichan,
LinkedIn: @DuncanCowichanChamberofCommerce, or **YouTube**: DuncanCowichanChamber to stay connected.

We're genuinely excited to collaborate with you on expanding your customer reach and fortifying your business operations! Our team is all set to utilize its expertise and resources to provide you with the most comprehensive support, because your growth is our shared success. Let's take this exciting step forward together in your business journey. We're ready when you are!



BC Chamber of Commerce

Member Advantage Program

As a member of the Duncan Cowichan Chamber of Commerce, you get access to a suite of benefits through the BC Chamber network. Whether you're looking for exclusive employee benefits, help with merchant processing, online marketing, payroll solutions, or travel/hospitality/fuel savings (and more) - the Chamber has partnered with top brands so you can maximize your productivity and minimize your cost.



The Chambers Plan is Canada's #1 Group Benefits Program for small-to-midsize businesses. More than 30,00 businesses choose the Chambers Plan to protect their employees with comprehensive and affordable group benefits.



Kubera provides a preferential rate package for credit and debit processing, and dedicated relationship managers to help serve your business or organization needs.



Payworks provides workforce management solutions, including real-time integration of payroll and benefits, for members of the Chamber.



Previously Shaw Sabey & Associates Ltd., Axis Insurance draws on 20+ years' experience and group-buying power, which helps secure some of the best coverage and lowest rates on insurance for non-profit organizations.



From email marketing and event management to social sharing and more, Chamber members save 25% on these easy to use marketing tools with Constant Contact.



Through the Global Advantage Travel & Entertainment Program, Local Hospitality provides Chamber members with exclusive deals and discounts on travel, hotel, car rentals, and entertainment from around the world.



Let Shell's 50+ years of card expertise work for all of your fuel and maintenance needs. Their Shell Fleet Navigator® card is accepted anywhere Mastercard® is for the best convenience. Their Shell Fleet Plus™ card has real time data reporting wherever you are.



CANADA'S #1 Group Benefits Plan for Businesses with 1-50 Employees

The Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan has been protecting Canadian firms for over 40 years. More than 30,000 small to midsize businesses choose the Chambers Plan to protect their employees with comprehensive group benefits, including Health and Dental insurance, making it Canada's #1 employee benefits plan for small business.

The Chambers Plan is the simple, stable, smart choice for business; combining accessibility, flexibility and the stability of pooled benefits. Firms choose the Chambers Plan year after year because it offers unsurpassed value and customer service.

The Chambers Plan – it's for your benefit.

SIMPLE	STABLE	SMART
Looking for an employee benefits plan that's simple to manage? Spend less time administering your benefits program with: - <i>exclusive advisor support</i> – - <i>Quick set-up</i> - - <i>Easy-to-use forms</i> - - <i>48-hour claim processing</i> - - <i>Simple administration</i> -	Concerned about rising group insurance premiums? Then you need a pooled program from the Chambers Plan. Rates are based on the average of claims from thousands of similar firms, keeping premiums manageable and predictable and providing stability year after year.	Don't add to someone else's profit. The Chambers Plan is a not-for-profit program, all surpluses stay in the Plan and help lower premiums. Give your employees more for less. Health and Dental premiums are a deductible business expense and a TAX FREE benefit for employees

LOCAL Representation and Support through Glen Naylor Financial Group

Whether you're already a Duncan Cowichan Chamber Member or interested in learning more about the Chambers Group Insurance Plan, Cowichan-based Paul Reese of Glen Naylor Financial Group is available to serve you and your employees' needs.

Paul Reese | Chambers Group Insurance Plan
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