



Mission Chamber of Commerce **Business**TRACK

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FEBRUARY 2018

CELEBRATING CHAMBER WEEK FEB 18-24TH with special guest Naomi Horsford of the Port of Vancouver

FEBRUARY 18TH, 2018, marks the beginning of Chamber of Commerce Week, an opportunity for B.C.'s more than 125 Chambers of Commerce to showcase their hard work on behalf of businesses across the province.

Every day, Chambers actively strengthen local businesses through networking events, mentorship opportunities, professional development activities and other unique programming. Whether hosting events and business awards, supporting young entrepreneurs through mentorship programs, providing community-tailored support such as hospitality training in tourism communities, or organizing unique travel experiences for companies interested in learning more about different international markets, Chambers are sharply focused on empowering each and every member business to succeed.

Simultaneously, the Chamber network—B.C.'s largest business organization—is advocating for policy changes to further drive local businesses' success.

At the local level, the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce has a strong reputation

for policy development and advocacy efforts within all levels of government. Examples of this can be found on the chamber website and through their monthly Business Track.

So as B.C. celebrates Chamber Week, don't miss the opportunity to swing by the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce to learn about all the programs, benefits and services they have available to you. This year the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating with a special Chamber Luncheon with guest Naomi Horsford of the Port of Vancouver on Feb 22nd. This unique event will be the first time a representative of the Port has visited with the Chamber members in the Mission area and presents a great opportunity to discuss how business can work together with the Port in future. To register for this event please contact the chamber directly at 604-826-6914.

For more information about the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce, to become a member or to attend an event, please visit us online at missionchamber.bc.ca

LOCATION: Mission Golf and Country Club,
7983 Nelson St., Mission,
BC V2V 4P4

DATE: February 22nd 2018

TIME: 11:30 am–1:30 pm

Biography— Naomi Horsford

Naomi Horsford is the Municipal Executive Liaison at Vancouver Fraser Port Authority where she is responsible for managing and developing local government and community engagement programs for Canada's largest and most diversified port. Naomi has over 15 years of experience in the field of public engagement with a focus engagement programs, issues management, and project communications. She has spent the majority of her career in the marine transportation sector working on large scale infrastructure projects and initiatives. Naomi has also worked extensively with community-based health care, environment and safety organizations to deliver local services, communications and engagement programs.



Naomi holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from Simon Fraser University. She is an accredited business communicator with the International Association of Business Communicators and a member of the International Association of Public Participation.



DISTRICT OF MISSION LAUNCHES BUSINESS LICENSE REVIEW

The 2016-2018 District of Mission Strategic Plan puts forward Council's corporate vision for the municipality. In late 2017, Council directed staff "to review the existing business licence fees and relate them to the costs driven by each category of business". This particular goal is identified in Council Objective Number 3—Excellence in Financial Management and Planning (page 13 of the Plan).

The Business Licence Regulation and Fee Review Project will analyze existing business licence fees in conjunction with current business licence regulation to support positive and sustainable municipal operations and economic growth. The District of Mission currently charges individual businesses the same licence fee (\$148), regardless of the municipal costs to

service the business category. It is believed, that in many instances within the broad range of categories, (i.e., industrial, large retailers, hotels, pawn brokers, fast food restaurants, banks etc.) the District's current licence fees do not justify the actual service costs to the municipality.

"It is imperative that local governments regulate business in a manner that is sustainable to their operations and services levels" says Steve Simmonds, Manager of Inspection Services with the District of Mission. "Business licence fees support municipal operations and economic development, preliminary research indicates that business licence regulations, fees and associated categories vary across the Lower Mainland, which means the District of Mission cannot rely solely on how other jurisdictions regulate their businesses

in order to understand "the costs driven by each category of business" adds Simmonds.

Detailed research is being undertaken now, along with a jurisdictional review, to assess the District's costs. As part of the review and research, district staff are actively reaching out to various stakeholders including the Mission Chamber of Commerce to gather feedback.

There are currently two initiatives to engage the business community, an online survey and an open house planned for Feb 20th.

Once this research has been documented in draft, it will be discussed with stakeholders. The District expects to then report back to Council with stakeholder feedback, recommend adjusted fees, and then update the regulations to reflect necessary rate changes.

Online Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete the online survey

http://ca.research.net/r/DOM_bizlicence

The District ensures the anonymity of all respondents and all information is stored securely within Canada. The survey is open now and closes March 9th, 2018.

February 20th Open House

Join the District at the Best Western on February 20th at 7:00 pm for an open house to discuss the Business License Review Project. District staff and Council to present on the project, answer questions, and take your comments.



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Mission Chamber believes BC/Alberta conflict could hurt all of Canada

FEBRUARY 8, 2018, MISSION, BC. — Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce is calling for the Province to consider the affects their on-going conflict with Alberta will have on the BC Business community and future trade across Canada and abroad. The conflict between the two provinces and their premiers revolves around Kinder Morgan's Transmountain Pipeline expansion, which would run far larger amounts of crude oil and bitumen from Alberta to BC's coast than is done right now.

BC Premier John Horgan recently declared he is opposed to increasing the amount of diluted bitumen that is shipped between the provinces and off the Pacific coast.

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley fired back, announcing that the prairie province would stop all talks of buying electricity from BC, later adding that the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) would boycott all wines from BC.

Notley says the power embargo would cost BC upwards of \$500 million per year, while CBC estimates the drop in wine exports would result in a \$70 million loss to BC's economy.

Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce President David Sawatzky says the ongoing "trade war" is not only bad for both provinces, but Canada as a whole. "We have already received approval from the federal government for a federally-regulated project.

Having two neighbouring provinces, who are of the same political stripes, fighting each other in such a way is sending a message to the rest of the world that if we can't work well amongst ourselves, how will our provinces work with other trade partners across Canada and abroad."

Sawatzky adds that Canada is a trading nation, and without being able to move goods back and forth between BC and Alberta, the two provinces really only have the United States to look to for trading partners.

While Sawatzky does not believe the trade embargoes will last for long, he says more than enough damage will have been done by the time the conflicts are resolved.

Chamber AGM to bring Bylaw changes and new board members

MARCH 15TH, 2018 the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC) will be holding an Annual General Meeting to bring together their membership to review their annual reports and financials, vote on changes to bylaws and bring forward a slate of nominees for 5 board positions that will be up for election to the Board for Directors.

The Chamber's success is dependent on an active growing membership that sees value in Chamber membership, and Board governance that has a full understanding of policy and positions that can be developed within the purpose of the Chamber.

These two pieces are key to the continuing success of the Mission Chamber. Democratic in organisation principles, the MRCC represents the entire Business community, with membership reaching to every phase of community life. The Board of Directors is the elected policy body of the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce and its members represent the business and professional leadership of the community.

Nominations for Director positions are now open! Director positions are a two year commitment with an opportunity to move into the Executive after the second

year. Members of the Chamber for over one year may be nominated. Email member_services@missionchamber.bc.ca for a nomination package.

Where: Mission Golf & Country Club
When: March 15, 2018
Time: 11:30-2pm
Cost: \$25 Members
 \$35 Non-Members

*Seats are limited,
book your spot today!*

Your adventure begins with your local Chamber of Commerce's

IRELAND TRIP

Mission Chamber Boardroom
34033 Lougheed Highway Mission BC

Next Information Session

February 20th, 2018, at 5pm

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Elyssa Lockhart of sponsor McQuarrie Hunter, presents 2017 Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence President's Award to Gordon Ruley of Taylor, Tait, Ruley and Co.

Spotlight on Excellence: When Gordon Ruley calls, things get done: 2017 President's Award for exemplary community service

by RICK RAKE,
Click Media Works

When Mission lawyer Gordon Ruley picks up a phone, his reach into the community is amazing.

From his comfortable chair at the offices of Taylor, Tait, Ruley and Co. on First Avenue, the busy father, grandfather, partner and Rotary volunteer with deep roots in Mission has accomplished so many things, it is difficult to list them all.

"By virtue of my job, I know a lot of people, and I can get things done," said Mr. Ruley, recipient of the prestigious Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence 2017 President's Award for exemplary community service.

"I had no idea I was the award recipient that night," said Mr. Ruley, who was asked by colleague John Tait if he would

be there. "If Tait says something you seriously consider it. My family was there because my daughter Rachael was going with Hospice as one of the nominees for Community Builder award. When I won, I was kind of floored actually," he said.

"I have done a lot for the community over the years. With various agencies I raised a lot of money, done pro bono legal work, supported seven foster children with my late wife Shelly, was heavily involved in sports, helped raise \$160,000 for the seniors' Busy Bus, sold 57 seats at \$250 each for Clarke Theatre, and helped my son-in-law Nathan set up the ongoing Mission Association for Community Living (MACL) gala that initially raised \$25,000."

Mr. Ruley, who was born in Nelson, remembers being 'Mission Grade 6 student of the year' for participation. He

obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1979 from SFU, obtained his law degree at UBC and was called to the Bar in 1983.

He has been a partner at Taylor, Tait, Ruley and Co. since 1983. He is a founding member of the Mission Foundation, a two-time Paul Harris Fellowship recipient, Chairman of the Mission Rotary fundraising committee for 17 years, Chair of the Mission Home and Leisure Show committee and a sponsor and coach of the Mission Minor Softball Association.

His living heroes are Mission's sports volunteers and palliative care doctors and nurses.

"I volunteered because I like giving back. I enjoyed a challenge and raising money for worthwhile charities and community associations. When you need to get something done, ask a busy person," he said.

CHAMBER EVENTS

February 20th CHAMBER GOES TO IRELAND INFO SESSION

Take traveling to Ireland off your bucket list this year. Join us for our 3rd and final info session and learn about this incredible 9 & 13 day all inclusive, full guided holiday to Ireland leaving May 2018. Space is limited for the trip; deadline to book is Feb 28th. This amazing tour is open to EVERYONE!

Place: Mission Chamber of Commerce Boardroom
Time: 5pm-6pm

February 22nd CHAMBER WEEK LUNCHEON

Join Naomi Horsford from Port of Vancouver. This year the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating CHAMBER WEEK with a special Chamber Luncheon with guest Naomi Horsford of the Port of Vancouver. This unique event will be the first time a representative of the Port has visited with the Chamber members in the Mission area and presents a great opportunity to discuss how business can work together with the Port in future.

Place: Mission Golf and Country, 7983 Nelson St., Mission
Time: 11:30-2pm

Price: \$25.00 for members
\$35.00 for non-members
SPACE IS LIMITED
Register TODAY

March 15th SAVE THE DATE CHAMBER MONTHLY LUNCHEON ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Join us for the year's round up, covering financials and election of new members to the Board of Directors.

Place: Mission Golf & Country Club
Time: 11:30am-2pm

Price: \$25 members
\$35 non-members

March 28th CHAMBER 101

A training program designed for new and existing members to learn how to get the most out of their Chamber Membership.

Place: Mission Chamber of Commerce Boardroom
Time: 11:30-1:00

Price: FREE!
Seats are limited!

To REGISTER for these events visit our website at missionchamber.bc.ca or call 604-826-6914 or e: events@missionchamber.bc.ca



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Phone: (604) 814-2188
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Email: zack@mergedigitalmarketing.com
Website: mergedigitalmarketing.com

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Phone: (604) 768-5998
Email: m1maintenance@outlook.com

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Email: info@missionfolk.ca
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Business Excellence Awards Nominations for 2018 will be open May-July 2018. Visit the Missionchamber.bc.ca to learn more about the Nomination process or to sponsor this amazing program!

"Membership has its benefits!"



Kristin Parsons
Executive Director



Jo-Anne Chadwick
Office Administrator and Tourism
Services Manager



Donna Gibson
Event Coordinator



Kara Pavitt
Membership Engagement
Coordinator

MISSION CHAMBER GOES TO IRELAND

Coming off a very successful trip to India in late September 2017 which saw 25 local chamber members travel together for a trip of a lifetime, the Mission Chamber has booked their next exciting destination!!

Enjoy unique business networking and a fabulous vacation in the stunning country of Ireland on this 9 or 13 day tour. Guests will have the chance to tour the culture-rich cities of Dublin and Galway and explore some of the beautiful countryside. From scenic County Kerry to the lunar-like Burren region and the wilds of Connemara, Ireland will captivate and impress the well-travelled visitor.

Escape to the 'Emerald Isle' the land of lush green grasses and of course, shamrocks.

*"May the luck of the Irish
Lead to happiest heights
And the highway you travel
Be lined with green lights."*



The Chamber is offering 2 options for the May 2018 trip, travelers can choose between a 9 day "Discover Island" package and a 13 day "Explore Ireland" package.

Some highlights of the tours include, visiting the medieval Blarney Castle and kissing the famed Blarney Stone, viewing the mountains and lakes of the Ring of Kerry, getting to see the majestic Cliffs of Moher and exploring the capital city of Dublin.

*"These Chambers trips are great.
The last two were beyond
expectation! If you ever were
thinking about it, it's time
to go! Check it out, peeps of
Mission!!!"*

— Carlo Billinger, Rex Cox

To learn more about this amazing travel opportunity, attend our final information session to be held at the Mission Chamber of Commerce upstairs in the boardroom on February 20th at 5pm. To register for the information session call 604-826-6914 or visit missionchamber.bc.ca

This trip is limited to only 25 travellers and filling up quickly, call today to get your spot booked!



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