



MISSION REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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MARCH 2020

PROVINCIAL 2020 BUDGET

In February we saw the release of BC's Provincial 2020 Budget. Past budgets have brought the elimination of Medical Service Plan (MSP) premiums (which took effect January 1st, 2020), Ferry travel fares frozen, restoration of Monday - Thursday senior's ferry passenger fares discount, and the elimination of the tolls for the Port Mann and Golden Ears Bridges.

As a non-partisan organization, the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce works endlessly to provide opportunities for the local community to be informed and engage in discussions around government updates. With the release of the 2020 Budget the Mission Chamber of Commerce has hosted two roundtables in the past week for its members, and the Mission community.

March 6th – MLA Bob D'Eith and the Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction Shane Simpson

March 10th – MLA Simon Gibson joined us at the Mission Chamber of Commerce Boardroom for debriefing.

In addition to hosting these events, the Mission Chamber provides a synopsis and shares important announcements such as the Provincial Budget. Therefore based on "Budget 2020: A balanced Plan to Keep BC Moving Forward" released by the Provincial British Columbia Government we have collected the following "Cole's Notes" of budget targets for the 2020 year;

800 additional supportive homes for people without current housing.

Limit on yearly allowable rent increases to match inflation – 2.6% for 2020.

More than 4 billion investing in housing over the next three years.

BC Child Opportunity Benefit (announced in 2019) will take place this year.

ICBC to deliver lower rates for BC Drivers (saving an average of \$400 on insurance).

Increase of minimum wage to \$14.60/hour; Liquor servers to \$13.95/hour.

Investment of over 1 billion to additional health care funding.

Additional \$339 million over three years to improve BC schools.

A new additional investment of \$195 million over three years to help communities better respond to and recover from wildfires, floods, and other emergencies in BC.

A new needs-based grant program that focuses to support more than 40,000 students in degree, diploma, certificate programs, and skilled trades.

An additional investment of over \$400 million to support CleanBC.

New funding to open Indigenous justice centres

Increase earning exemptions for individuals and families receiving an income of disability assistance

*with these being the "Cole's Notes" of the 2020 Budget, the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce encourages individuals to participate in discussions and

conduct their own research to be well informed

BC Budget as it Relates to Business

The BC Chamber of Commerce published a news release on February 19, 2020, on the effects of the Budget on BC Businesses.

Meaningful line items for BC Businesses were noted as:

The new BC Access Grant which will complement the federal Canada Access Grant, as many members are telling their Chamber that skilled labour is lacking.

PST will be removed on machinery and equipment that is used for pollution control and waste management.

A new exemption from additional property transfer tax for certain Canadian-controlled limited partnerships will help ensure adequate land is available for development

The province committed an additional \$419 million over three years under CleanBC, including \$155 million for a program that will help industries move toward low-carbon solutions

With these points, there were also noted several competitiveness measures – proposed as part "The BC Chamber's 2020 Budget Submission" – that were absent from the Budget 2020. Therefore, with the release of a balanced budget with affordability at its core, BC Business is left wondering about the absence of a clear "competitiveness strategy" and the impact this will have on BC's economy.

*To read more on the BC Chamber of Commerce's February 19th News Release visit www.bcchamber.org



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President's Report **MARCH 2020**

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As I reflect on the past year, I have to say it's been an exciting one. We have seen a whole community come together and support the District's work with local development. We've seen businesses re-look at what this could mean for the future of their business, and we've watched new businesses want to be a part of the future in Mission. We are a proud and mighty business community.

In my tenure as the President of Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce, I have had the most valued and humbling experience in my business-life thus far. I've increased the knowledge from my fellow

directors and our board has worked together to achieve many successful objectives as set out in our strategic plan.

By advocating for a liaison position for a representative from the Leq' a: mel Nation, we've started a deeper communication with the local community for future business collaboration. There is a lot we can learn from the original inhabitants of this beautiful land.

As I move into my role as outgoing President, I'm looking forward to the new board that is coming into a time of change and look forward to watching them embrace their roles.



Raj Patara
PRESIDENT

Thank you for allowing me to represent you as your President of the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce.



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Spotlight on Business

What's On! Mission captures heart, soul

By RICK RAKE *Click Media Works*

Through the magic of her camera lens and the text and glossy images of What's On! Mission Magazine, Ellen Nguyen beautifully captures the heart and soul of Mission.

Through social media – Twitter, Facebook and Instagram – Nguyen shares her content even further to keep as many people as possible in touch with what is happening in the community.

To know Nguyen is also a testimonial to passion, positivity and tenacity.

For those reasons and more, What's On! Mission is the 2019 recipient of the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Marketing and Communication Award.

"I look for strengths in the people and business community around me," said Nguyen, adding that working with her is like helping a neighbour, presenting truth not spin and feeling like you are working with a person not a corporation.

Nguyen said she sees the diversity, inclusivity of Mission, and as a parent of children here she offers a wider view of the community where she has lived for 17 years.

An SFU graduate, Nguyen worked in direct marketing in Vancouver, was a teacher at a Surrey Khalsa School, served customers at Jimmy's Lunchbox in Mission before becoming owner/publisher of the magazine which produces an average of 48 pages every two months, highlighting local events, entertainment and business.

A Clarke Theatre testimonial on the magazine's website at whatsonmission.ca says: "I know the minute the magazine hits the streets, because the theatre phone starts to ring off the hook."

Nguyen is potentially the next president of the Mission Chamber, is with Mission Mid-Day Rotary, Mission Figure Skating Club, Mission Minor Baseball and Mission Sports Council. Last year she was on the organizing team for the B.C. Culture Days launch in Mission.

To connect with What's On! Mission Magazine, send an email to whatsonmission@live.ca.



What's On! Mission owner/publisher Ellen Nguyen is recipient of 2019 Mission Chamber of Commerce Marketing and Communication Business Excellence Award sponsored by Mission Record.

Magnolias: Amazing flowers, customers

By RICK RAKE *Click Media Works*



Magnolias on Main owner Tami Klassen accepts 2019 Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Established Business of the Year Award sponsored by Bridgeview Dental Clinic.

Tami Klassen, owner of Magnolias on Main, sees the beauty not only in the artful arrangements she and her staff create, but in the customers she serves and in the community of Mission to which she so willingly contributes.

"We are everybody's florist here for the last 15 years, from the youngest to oldest . . . little girls for their first birthday or for 80-year-olds who have always cherished beautiful bouquets," said Klassen.

Passionate about fresh flowers and worldwide floral designs and trends, Klassen was

a University of the Fraser Valley floral instructor when she took over the business. At the same time she was suffering major back ailments and her customers became her personal support group.

"I love my customers. When things get busy here, they bring sandwiches and doughnuts and encourage us," said Klassen.

For being a prominent business in Mission and making significant contributions to the community's economic health, Magnolias on Main is the recipient of the 2019 Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Established Business Award.

Klassen has served on Mission Hospice, Chamber and Downtown Business Association boards and was active in maintaining and creating downtown hanging baskets and banners for years.

"Every year we are upgrading, educating ourselves on new flowers and techniques at workshops around the world."

Klassen said young people now want sustainable floral products, and the world trend is towards natural berries, seeds and grasses which last longer. Her team of five employees deal with thousands of stems every week and buy as much local floral products as they can.

In terms of the Mission Chamber, Klassen said it gets people from all types of businesses and organizations together as a community voice. And again she maintains Magnolias' customers are the best in the world.

To explore and order Magnolias on Main floral products, click on www.magnoliasonmainflowers.com/.

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Upcoming Events

March 12
Chamber Annual General Meeting



May 14
Dinner Networking Event at the Mission Golf Course

Do you have to give yourself a pep talk before you walk into a room of strangers? Can you lead a discussion in a room full of people with confidence? If there is room for skill development in this area make sure to join this dinner event.

Place: Mission Golf and Country Club
Time: 5:30pm-7:30pm
Price: \$32 members / \$40 non members

March 26
Coffee with Chamber Staff - We are here to listen



"Table Talk" is a small group of business owners joining the Chamber for coffee in our boardroom. We will be participating in an informal discussion. Topics could include challenges, success stories, and anything that the District, Province or Fed Government need to know.

FREE EVENT
Place: Mission Chamber of Commerce Boardroom
Time: 8:30am - 9:30am

March 16
This vibrant, after-hours business social event provides an excellent opportunity for members and prospective members to meet face-to-face, establishing or renewing valuable business relationships.

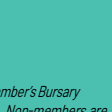


FREE EVENT
Place: Vohora LLP & Jonathan Fowler Law Corporation
Time: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Price: \$5.00 *

April 23
Place: Pressland General
Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Price: \$5.00 *

* Business After Hours revenue is donated to the Chamber's Bursary
* Chamber Business Mixers are a member benefit. Non-members are welcome to attend one mixer as our guest while you consider joining The Chamber

April 8
Early Risers Edition - Topic Inbox Zero



Join the Chamber Staff, enjoy coffee and perhaps a meal with other business leaders in the community. A great start to any day!

Learning Outcomes: What is Inbox Zero, and why is it THE electronic communication skill we all need?
Businesses now get hundreds of emails to the point of distraction. Does your organization have a system in place to manage your inbox, if you do is it effective? If you don't are you being effective?

Place: Galley Girls Coffee House
Time: 7:30 am-8:30 am
Price: \$7.00 Member Rate
\$10.00 Guest Rate

April 21
Chamber Academy with Changewerxs - Thinking Traps



Thinking Traps & Errors - how these cognitive distortions affect us in the workplace.
Sometimes we wonder how past experience influences our judgment, or make us feel cautious or on edge. These unhelpful thinking styles are called thinking traps or errors. This workshop helps us to recognize these thinking flaws and provide important steps to help us rectify them by changing our language and behaviours.

Place: Chamber Boardroom
Time: 10:00am-12:30pm
Price: \$50 members / \$60 non members
Limited Seats

Welcome to our New Members

LLWG Learning Solutions
32705 Fraser Crescent Unit 4
Mission BC
604 832 2778
Contact@llwglearning.com

LifeVantage - Wynne Smith
Abbotsford, BC
wynnes@telus.net

Abbotsford Agrifair
32470 Haida Drive
Abbotsford, BC
604 852 6674
agrifair@telus.net

Taylor Doors & Gates
Abbotsford, BC
604 615 4099
Ashleypickett86@gmail.com



Travel from the north of Vietnam in the capital of Hanoi, to central Hoi An and Danang, all the way to the south where hot vacation temperatures are in Hoi Chi Minh (Saigon) city. Visit World Heritage sites like "My Son Sanctuary" and enjoy and overnight stay on a cruise boat in Halong Bay.

Some aspects included in this trip:

- Round-trip international airfare & Vietnamese domestic airfare & Tax
- 3 meals each day
- 4 and 5 star hotel accommodations
- Deluxe Bus Tours
- Fluent English-speaking tour guides
- Entrance fees to attractions

10-Day Package at just \$2,499USD with Citslinc International

Find out more at the Mission Chamber of Commerce's Vietnam information session April 9th from 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm in the Chamber of Commerce's Boardroom.

Reservation is required, please reserved your seat by calling Janessa at 604 286 0113

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