



President's Report MARCH 2022

The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce was excited to be celebrating the 21st Business Excellence Awards, which took place at the Clarke Theatre on February 18, 2022. It felt like a touch of normalcy was returning as we all dressed up to celebrate our local business community in person. An evening of Hollywood glam, with comedian MCEE Cliff Prang, the night was a great success, with much laughter and celebration for our business community. Nominees were honored and videos showed to highlight who they are and all that they do. Small Businesses represented this evening and were highlighted by being the recipients of the many awards that were given out. Congratulations to all the nominees and the recipients of the awards.

Congratulations to Vik Gill, who received the prestigious Presidents Award. A well-deserved award for a community-minded small business owner who gives so much back to the Community.

The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce will be hosting our AGM on March 10, 2022. For more details and to register to attend this please go to the chamber website www.missionchamber.bc.ca

Last but not least I wanted to thank my fellow Board of Directors and the staff at the Chamber for a great year. My term as President will come to an end after our AGM and it was a privilege to work alongside everyone. The Chamber is a great organization and I encourage all businesses big or small to get involved and join the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce.



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Have you ever wondered how to access federal and provincial grants? Ever been in a situation where you found a grant but had difficulty in grant writing? Wished for someone to research and find you the grants relevant to your business? We have something exciting for you.

Mission Regional Chamber of commerce is excited to partner with a local Canadian business Pocketed, to help you access billions of dollars in untapped non-dilutive funding available every year. The chamber's partnership with Pocketed can provide you exclusive access to their platform. It is completely FREE to sign up for an account

Pocketed simplifies access to government funding for businesses across North America. The company aims to give entrepreneurs the power to build businesses, without financial barriers. Rather than spending hours of your time finding programs that are right for you, and then even more time writing applications, Pocketed is designed to do all the heavy lifting for you!

Since launching in 2021, users have applied for over \$80 million through Pocketed's free platform. On top of this, Pocketed's team has awarded over \$10 million to start-ups and small businesses through their risk-free application support – that's one less thing for you to worry about, so you can focus on scaling your business! Upon creating an account, the platform connects you with a list of grants, tax credits, and competitions eligible for your business. Then, you can access the support you need to get funded through grant writers, legal experts, and more!

Chamber members can get a free consultation worth **50\$/session and 25% off on the Pocketed+ membership**. Sign up today and enjoy non-diluted funding.

MISSION REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PROUDLY HOSTS

21st Business Excellence Awards



It was short and sweet but we are happy to have hosted the 21st annual Business Excellence Awards in February at the Clarke Theatre! There were a total of 8 awards that were presented to various businesses in Mission.

This year's theme was Hollywood, so guests were dressed in their red carpet best! Finalists were donned with blue diamond pins and given a glittered red rose. Emcee Comedian Cliff Prang kicked off the awards show with a hilarious comedy skit involving tales of sky diving, singing, and even interpretive dance. After the show, each guest received their complimentary swag bags from Community Futures North Fraser and a goody box from Wild Forager Catering filled with delicious hors d'oeuvres like smoked salmon, brie, bacon jam, and much more.

Congratulations to all winners of the 21st annual Business Excellence Awards! Their commitment to the Mission community has not gone unnoticed!

These businesses have made significant impacts on the community representing a variety of amazing strengths whether it is in their marketing efforts, resiliency throughout the last year, contributions to the community, innovation, or customer service.

Here are your 2021 Mission Businesses of the Year!

Customer Service Excellence Award – Arnold's Shoe Repair

Exceptional Business of the Year Award – Lacey Developments Ltd.

Marketing and Communication Award – Mission City Farmers Market

Non-Profit of the Year Award – St. Joseph's Food Bank

Small Business of the Year Award – Alderwood Apparel

U40 Entrepreneur of the Year Award – Art of Alchemy Hair and Beauty Salon

Resiliency and Recovery Award – Arch-Way Dance

President's Award Winner Vik Gill

The Mission Chamber of Commerce President's Award was bestowed on a business or business leader who tirelessly supports and contributes to the development of Mission. Often unsung, these businesses and leaders do their work not for recognition but for the betterment of all.

We are excited to announce that this year's President Award winner for the 21st annual Business Excellence Awards is Vik Gill, owner of The Fitness Lab. Vik constantly contributes to the community. If there is a cause to be had, you can be assured that Vik is either starting it, working it, or knows about it.

Congratulations to Vik Gill on this achievement! It is well deserved and the community thanks you for your constant support and contribution to the development of Mission.





RESILIENCY AWARD

WINNER: ARCH-WAY DANCE

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MARKETING & COMMUNICATION AWARD

WINNER: MISSION CITY FARMERS MARKET

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EXCEPTIONAL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

WINNER: LACEY DEVELOPMENTS

SPONSORED BY
MANNY DEOL PERSONAL
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION

MannyDeol  ROYAL LePAGE
PERSONAL REAL ESTATE CORPORATION WHEELER CREAM REALTY



CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD

WINNER: ARNOLD'S SHOE REPAIR

SPONSORED BY
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PROSPERA
CREDIT UNION



SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

WINNER: ALDERWOOD APPAREL

SPONSORED BY
DOWNTOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



U40 ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR

WINNER: ART OF ALCHEMY

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