



MISSION REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BusinessTRACK

advocacy • benefits • connections

JANUARY 2023

Save the Date! 22nd Annual Business Excellence Awards April 1st

The team at the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce is excited to announce that the 22nd Annual Business Excellence Awards will be taking place April 1st.

This is an event to come out and celebrate the past year of work completed by the businesses and organizational leaders of our community! Join the fun and enjoy food, music, entertainment, and more! The public voting for the nominees is underway right NOW. You can vote for your favorites here – www.missionchamber.bc.ca/business-excellence-awards/

Would you like to be a Director on the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce Board?

On March 9th the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce (MRCC) will be hosting its Annual General Meeting – the time to elect the 2023-2024 Board of Directors!

The MRCC is a member based organization that also supports all businesses and not for profit organizations in the greater area. The MRCC Board of Directors is an elected, volunteer board that governs the Chamber and is comprised of business and community leaders.

Whether you work in the corporate or nonprofit world, joining a nonprofit board of directors can be a great boost to your career. A Board of Directors sets the vision and goals for the organization and is expected to safeguard the organization, ensure its legal and financial

health, and lead fundraising efforts.

In order for the MRCC to thrive it depends on an actively growing membership that sees value in being a member, while also having a strong understanding of what the membership wants / needs to succeed in their own endeavors.

These two pieces are key to the overall success of the organization.

The nominations will be opening in February (note that only active members in good standing can apply to be on the Board). Contact us for more information and to receive a nomination package today!

Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce
34033 Lougheed Highway
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PRESIDENTS REPORT

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Miriam Bozman
DBA LIAISON



Gwen Schmidt
COMMUNITY FUTURES

Happy New year! We are excited and optimistic about the future and believe that 2023 will start to see a lot of renewed hope as we continue to navigate out of COVID-19. We know that this pandemic has taken a toll on our business community, but we will continue to act as a conduit for information and support.

The shop local movement couldn't be more important than it is right now. Local businesses strengthen our communities, build resilience, and foster innovation. They create jobs, support local charities, contribute significantly to our tax base and re-circulate the dollars they make, many times locally, by supporting their neighbours and friends. Strength in numbers, pride in membership. The Mission Regional Chamber Of Commerce has been working hard towards this goal.

The past few months have been a flurry of activity here at the Chamber. With the Municipal election this past October, our staff organized an All-Candidates Forum event for the citizens of Mission. Missions residents were able to submit questions and listen to all the candidates' responses. It was a fascinating election.

We know the world of social media can seem incredibly overwhelming, so in November, the Chamber, with the sponsorship of Community Futures North Fraser, hosted a Social media 101 seminar, which helped our members learn to leverage social media wisely and effectively.

In December, we held our annual Christmas Luncheon with the Mayor, one of our most popular events, and it was a sell-out once again.

The Business Excellence Awards voting is now underway, and the planning is in full swing for the most anticipated business event of the year. We are also very excited about all the nominees and have added a couple of new categories, including acknowledging home-based businesses. It is always rewarding for businesses to know that they are appreciated. Mark your calendars for April 1, and make sure to follow the Chamber newsletter and social media to stay in the loop!

I am honoured to be the President of the Mission Regional Chamber Regional Of Commerce and would like to personally thank our Board of Directors, who have dedicated their talent and time to serving on the Chamber. Just a reminder that these positions are voluntary and require a personal commitment to serving our business community. Most importantly, I want to thank our members, who have given us their support and confidence. We look forward to continuing to support you.

If you ever want to chat about why the Chamber is such an important organization in Mission and how to get involved, I'm happy to do so anytime.



The Group Benefits Plan Made Specifically for Small to Midsize Businesses

In today's competitive and changing labour market, organizations need to offer more than just competitive salaries to recruit, attract, and retain employees. According to a survey conducted by the Conference Board of Canada and Telus Health, Canadian employees want more comprehensive coverage under their benefits plans.

Small business owners must understand the importance of a stable and efficient workforce. Simply put, the right employees can "make" the company.

But, it can be challenging to attract and retain the right talent. By providing employees financial protection as well as fast and easy claim reimbursement, they can find and attract the best employees. The Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan® can offer a truly flexible benefit solution based on what's best for you and your employees.

The Chambers Plan was specifically designed with the products, services and administration tools to match the needs of today's small businesses. With more than 30,000 firms insured under the Plan, it is the most popular employee benefits program in Canada for small to midsize businesses.

There are no industry restrictions. All for-profit businesses are eligible while they are members of a participating Chamber of Commerce or Board of Trade, a membership that allows you to access a multitude of business resources and connect to a network of professionals like yourself. The Chambers Plan's innovative offerings and proven rate stability allow you to provide a comprehensive benefit plan to fit any budget.

To join the chamber and more information on the insurance, reach out to Rufus Pattasseril today at connect@missionchamber.bc.ca or call 604-286-0113



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PROUD PRESENTING SPONSOR OF THE BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS!

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BusinessTRACK



10 Reasons to Join the Chamber of Commerce (Although you actually only need # 1)

Are you the owner of a small business, or on your way to being one?

Are you considering joining the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce?

What a great idea!

The reason so many business owners (like you) join their local Chamber is that it makes perfect business sense. A Chamber membership is one of the most valuable investments you can make in your business.

By joining your local Chamber of Commerce, you give your business an instant advantage. Membership opens doors to new business opportunities through a variety of channels, and as a member, you can choose to participate in all of them or pick one or two that appeal to you.



As the Mission Chamber, it is our business to help your business thrive. It is what drives us.

In the following paragraphs, we outline the 10 reasons why joining the Chamber is an important step in any business journey.

"Opportunities don't happen. You create them." - Chris Grosser

#10 Build Customer Trust

- Membership in a Chamber of Commerce is considered an asset by the public and other businesses and creates credibility in the eyes of your potential customers.

#9 The Promotion and Marketing Opportunities

- At the Chamber, we work hard finding new ways to promote your business to the community through events sponsorships, joint advertising programs, and various social media strategies. We are working for your business with you!

#8 Professional Development Seminars and Workshops

- The Chamber offers members countless opportunities to take part in "lunch and learn" workshops or seminars that focus on fine-tuning or upgrading your skills and expertise in many areas.

#7 The Chamber Ribbon Cutting Ceremony can be a part of your 'Grand Opening' or anniversary

- Ribbon cuttings are a great way to bring awareness to your new business and to help you celebrate being a part of the community. They are also perfect for anniversary celebrations. A ribbon cutting formally introduces you, your company, employees, products, and services to the public.

#6 Connect with the Community

- Joining the Chamber allows you to become more active in community projects and events. Suddenly you are now engaging directly with your potential client base and this gives you the advantage of seeing their needs, first-hand. Knowing what your client's needs are can help you develop a strategy to service them. (It's sounding pretty good, right?)

#5 The Many Benefits the Chamber Offers

- Membership has its benefits, a lot of benefits actually. The Chamber's Group Insurance Program is the largest group benefits program, but we also offers gas discounts, grant finding platforms, shipping, and many other savings for your business.

#4 Become a Director on the Chamber Board

- When you become an active member of a Chamber, you have the chance to join different boards or committees. This gives you more decision-making power and allows you to assist in shaping the future of the organization. We currently have openings on our Events, Government Affairs and Membership committees!

#3 Become a Voice for Local Business

- Your ability to influence public policy on common business problems becomes greater as more voices are added to advocate on behalf of businesses like yours. Did you know that your voice becomes a part of over 360,000 businesses' voices when you are a Mission Chamber's member through our partnership with the B.C Chamber?

#2 Networking, Networking, Networking

- Finding valuable networking opportunities can be challenging for business owners. Chamber events can offer you new prospects and new connections with people who will want to do business with you. The relationships you can build through the Chamber help people know, like and trust you.

And finally, the #1 reason to join the Chamber

#1 Because You Care

- Even though there are many practical reasons to join the Mission Chamber, the most important reason is not just about money, but about caring. By joining and staying active in your Chamber, you can give back to your community. Our members tend to be the same people that volunteer in our community, mentor new business owners, and get involved with a variety of local initiatives. By being a good "corporate citizen" you'll benefit in many ways both personally and professionally.

So, are you ready to join the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce?

We would love to make that happen. In the end, the only reason the Chamber exists is to help businesses, businesses like yours.

Do you have more questions? We'd love to answer them.

Contact us connect@missionchamber.bc.ca

P.S. If you know someone else who would benefit from a Chamber membership please don't keep us a secret.

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W: www.apexhomes.ca

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Mission, BC V2V 1G5
(604) 820-9791

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W: www.windebankelectric.com

Mission City Living Magazine

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W: www.bestversionmedia.com

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meena@highpointcapital.ca

Keep an eye out for these

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

-CHAMBER LUNCHEON

March 9th, 2023 at 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Stay tuned for the venue!

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

April 1st, 2023 6:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Stay tuned for the venue!



It's time to celebrate the best businesses in Mission



VOTE NOW!

<https://www.missionchamber.bc.ca/business-excellence-awards/>

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