



Mission Chamber of Commerce Business TRACK

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MAY 2016

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS ARE CHANGING

The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors recently voted to change the timeline and structure of their "Annual Business Excellence Awards." To prevent competition with other events within the community and to create more of an opportunity for nominees to participate, a new layout for the event has been developed. In addition, a new award will be added this year, sponsored by UFW to recognize a leader in the community who encourages employees to continue lifetime learning. "Overall these changes will bring more opportunity to

highlight our nominees and create more recognition to the value the Business Excellence Awards bring to our local community." – David Sawatzky, President, Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The 2016 Business Excellence Awards will begin with the "Nominate Me" program launching in May. The public will be encouraged to participate in this part of the program to bring recognition to local businesses and organizations that go above and beyond. Once the nominations are closed on July 31st, all entries will be gathered and packages will be sent out to the nominees for

acceptance. In September, the Mission Chamber will announce the nominees to the public and all nominees will be invited to attend the first ever "Mission Chamber of Commerce Nominees Luncheon" on October 20th, 2016. This new additional event will give nominees a chance to be recognized for their achievement with no cost to them.

Then comes the judging process.... Mission Chamber will be keeping with the current model of having 6 judges and engaging the community for their votes online as the 7th judge. This process will take place over the month of November.

The finalists in each category will be announced in early January 2017.

The winners of the 2016 Business Excellence Awards will be honoured at the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Gala in February 2017. "Connect with your local business owners and celebrate their success at this spectacular event that will focus on the success of all the finalists with an opportunity to network with many of our local business owners." Says Sawatzky. Contact the Chamber for more information or to purchase tickets.



BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS TIMELINE

May 1 – July 31 2016.....Nominate Me program launched
August 1, 2016.....Close nominations
September 2016.....Announce Nominees
October 2016.....Nominee Luncheon – October 20
November 2016.....Judging Process begins
Public On line voting (2 weeks)
December 2016.....Ticket Sales open
January 2017.....Announce Finalists
February 2017.....Business Excellence GALA

CALLING ALL BUSINESSES!

It's that time of year where we want to start recognizing the wealth of businesses in our neighborhood that have highlighted innovation, exceptional customer care, a support of our local community or that entrepreneurial spirit.

All you need to qualify: Operate a business in Mission BC and receive one nomination in any of the following categories:

THE BIG BANG – An established business that continues to have a strong presence by developing or creating new business programs, platforms and opportunities while continuing to be a contributor to the local community.

POWER OF SMALL - An emerging or existing innovative small business that exemplifies entrepreneurial spirit and vision with new products, services or process

LOCAL FOCUS - A business with significant local focus in their enterprise; be it through manufacturing product locally, or retailing/utilizing products and/or services produced locally and community involvement

CUSTOMER FIRST - A business that demonstrates special consideration for their customers; ongoing employee training and a high level of

understanding and commitment to service excellence. The hallmark of this award is to offer a friendly, honest, innovative, approachable customer service on a consistent basis

COMMUNITY BUILDER - A nonprofit, club or organization that is active in the local community by making a positive difference, involving active collaboration and engagement with others beyond who they serve.

EDUCATIONAL LEADER AWARD - **NEW FOR 2016** - The University of the Fraser Valley presents this award in recognition of a business or leader who

exemplifies educational leadership, encouraging employees to participate in on-going lifetime learning.

So get those highly valued customers to tell us why they keep coming back. The nomination process is simple, just hand in a completed copy of the form to admin@missionchamber.bc.ca or direct them to our website at www.missionchamber.bc.ca "Nominate Me". For further information or to arrange a "Nominate Me" package delivery contact Allison Jack at 604-826-6914 or email: admin@missionchamber.bc.ca
Nominations are open until July 31, 2016.

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MAY 2016

President's Report

To begin this month's message I would like to put a spin on a short quote from Abraham Lincoln;

**"Whatever you are,
be a great one!"**

We are fast approaching our Business Excellence Awards, kicking off this month with our "Nominate Me" program. As business people this is our time to shine! As Mission's residents or consumers, we are very fortunate in Mission to have many high quality businesses and non-profit organizations, capable of great innovation and unparalleled service. Please remember to nominate these businesses, organizations and entrepreneurs for a Business Excellence Award. Let us remind everyone why it is great to do business in Mission!

Speaking of greatness, how about a Great Wall and an opportunity for a great game of golf? We are one month closer to our bucket list trip to China which is set to go in October. A tour of the Great Wall

is on the itinerary as well as many other excursions and cultural experiences. Please call our Chamber office to book your place with us on this amazing adventure. If great golf closer to home is more your game you are in luck too! Our annual Chamber golf tournament is being hosted and presented by Mission Golf and Country Club this month. Play a great game and have fun networking with your comrades in business. It will be the greatest work day you didn't spend in the office. To cap off the "Great" theme for this month's column, I wanted to make sure I thanked MLA's Simon Gibson and Laurie Throness and all those who attended our MLA Roundtable event last month. It was truly great to see the one to one interaction and cooperation between our members and our representatives in government. This type of dialogue and communication is what is required if a great community and government is what is desired!



David Sawatzky PRESIDENT



**MISSION REGIONAL
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Join us for our next luncheon with BC Hydro

BC Hydro is a provincial Crown corporation that owns and operates 11,500 megawatts of electricity-generating capacity. The Ruskin Dam and Powerhouse Upgrade project is a comprehensive, \$748 million dollar regeneration of the Ruskin Dam and Powerhouse located in Mission. The project broke ground in 2012 and is scheduled to be completed in 2018. The project is technically complex and one of the largest that BC Hydro has undertaken in recent years.

SPEAKER: Boyd Mason

LOCATION: Best Western Chapel Room

DATE: Thursday, May 19

TIME: 11:30-1pm

Book your spot today online

missionchamber.bc.ca

or by calling Allison at 604-826-6914



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Cam Taylor of InFocus Leadership Solutions.

PHOTO: SUBMITTED



InFocus Leadership Solutions serves clients across North America from its base in the Fraser Valley.

Spotlight on Business: The message in the mess: InFocus helps organizations bring forward opportunities

Kathleen Rake CLICK MEDIA WORKS
“Leaders in business and non-profit organizations often encounter speedbumps and roadblocks that keep them from moving forward. I like to help those leaders identify and navigate around their respective obstacles so they become more effective,” explains Cam Taylor of InFocus Leadership Solutions.

Taylor won’t tell people what to do or how to do it; rather, he helps them figure out where they want to go, develop a path to get there, and works alongside them to provide accountability, structure, support, and training.

Since 2006, InFocus has supported business, charities and other non-profit

groups, from chambers of commerce and community services to churches (big and small) across Canada, and has helped businesses of all sizes, and from within various industrial sectors, throughout North America.

Today, Taylor focusses on supporting businesses and non-profits within Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley. He helps managers, boards of directors, and sole practitioners with strategic planning, board governance and the “people side” of their respective organizations. “I like to help them tap into their own capabilities.”

And he knows a lot about tapping into capabilities; he had to find the strength and focus to identify and tap into his own after surviving a motorcycle

accident. “I was very broken up,” he explains, “and had 10 surgeries that brought on severe limits to what I can and cannot do—physically.”

Taylor managed to turn a difficult and potentially back-sliding situation into an opportunity to make a difference. Living through the accident and its aftermath helps him identify with and support leaders who suffer with transition and change.

“It’s okay if your organization is in a mess, because the mess doesn’t have to be the end of it,” he says. “In fact, there is often a message in the mess that will help bring forward opportunities.”

Connect with Cam Taylor of InFocus at (604) 866-0057 or cam@in-focus.ca; visit him at www.in-focus.ca.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 17th

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS – ALDERGROVE CREDIT UNION, MATSQUI BRANCH

The Business after Business mixer is the best way to make connections within the Mission Business community. Bring your business cards and be ready to network with your fellow members!

Place: 5824 Riverside Street, Matsqui
Time: 5:30pm-7:30pm
Cost: FREE to members

May 19th

CHAMBER MONTHLY LUNCHEON SPEAKER: BC HYDRO

Place: Rockwell's Chapel Room
Time: 11:30am-1pm
Price: \$20 members
\$25 non members

May 26th

“TEE UP FORE BUSINESS” GOLF TOURNAMENT

Place: Mission Golf and Country Club
Time: Tee off time 1pm
Price: \$140.00/player
SPACE IS LIMITED – Register TODAY

June 2nd

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP

The Emergency Preparedness Workshop will guide you through what steps you need to take to maintain your business, and guide your employees and customers when everything goes wrong. Find out how to make a plan, use a basic emergency kit, and safeguard yourself from loss of income, data, and products.

Place: Mission Library
Time: 5:30-8pm
Free to attend



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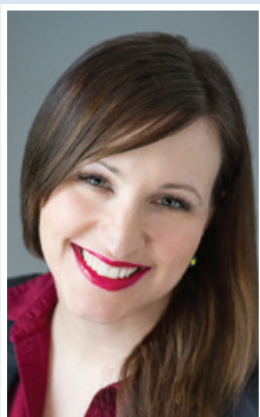
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execdir@missionchamber.bc.ca

Kristin Parsons
Executive Director



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2016 CHAMBER TEAM



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- Mission Community Profile
- Commercial and Industrial Property Inventory
- Business Opportunities

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MISSION REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PARTNERS FOR A TRIP TO CHINA!

Executive Director, Kristin Parsons of the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce has just returned from a trip to China, exploring four of the largest cities and meeting with local business. The trip offered by "Citslinc" tours is a chance for Chamber Executives to discover China and "test" the tours that Citslinc can offer their Chamber members. Nine (9) managers from all over BC and another 10 from across Canada joined together in Beijing to begin the tour. While the trip offers members an opportunity to connect with business overseas, the tour is primarily focused on pleasure with sites such as The Great Wall, Ming tombs, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City and many more.

The Mission Chamber is dedicated to providing



our members with opportunities and benefits that speak to their business needs. During the Discover China trip members are given a chance to setup an in person meeting with representatives in various industries to discuss business. This optional feature is a great way for our local business community to connect with business leaders in China to have one-on-one meetings and

research potential suppliers, investors and partnership opportunities.

The Mission Chamber is partnering with the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows Chamber of Commerce and Black Press to offer "Discover China" an 11 day all-inclusive trip, departing in October 2016. This trip is open to members and non-members and includes everything from flights, hotel, 3 meals daily, bus

tours, attractions and so much more. "There was nothing I needed to worry about, I was very impressed with the tours, the hotels were exceptional, our guides were very well spoken and knowledgeable, all I needed was shopping money!" says Parsons.

Eager to share her experience with the membership, Parsons is hosting an info session about the trip on June 8th, 2016 at 5:30pm at the Mission Chamber offices, register early to get a spot!

More information on the trip is on the Mission Chamber website at www.missionchamber.bc.ca. Space is limited and final booking date is July 15th, 2016. Or you can email Kristin directly to answer any questions about the trip directly at execdir@missionchamber.bc.ca

"If China is on your bucket list, I highly recommend you take this tour. It's everything you want to do and see in the best cities in China. The culture, history and architecture are breathtaking."

For more information contact:

Kristin Parsons,
Executive Director

Mission Regional Chamber of
Commerce

execdir@missionchamber.bc.ca
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Is Your Business Prepared?

Disasters can happen at any time, are you ready to continue your livelihood if there is no infrastructure available?

With the latest devastating fires in Fort McMurray, the windstorms knocking out power and the earthquake felt throughout the Valley earlier this year, Canadian businesses are asking how can I keep my business operational during a disaster? By taking a few simple steps you can have a plan in place to tackle any challenge nature can come up with. The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce is putting on a workshop that

will help you set up to take any action needed to keep your business viable no matter what type of disaster, natural or otherwise. It could be as simple as having a generator for extended power-outages all the way through to relocating the business functions during a time of crisis. The Emergency Preparedness Workshop will guide you through what steps you need to take to maintain your business, and guide your employees and customers when everything goes wrong. Find out how to make a plan, use a basic emergency kit, and safeguard yourself from loss of income, data, and products.

The Mission Chamber has gathered a panel of experts to discuss what you need to know and how to accomplish your goals in any emergency. Learn how to use a fire extinguisher, back up your

data externally, access your accounting during an outage, and who to contact when issues arise. Come with questions and leave with a customizable Business Continuity Plan Workbook that will help you get prepared for any situation, no matter how unexpected.

This free workshop will be held at the Mission Library on Thursday June 2nd, 2016.
5:30 to 8:00pm.

Come out and learn how to prepare your business for any emergency life can throw at us.

For more information or to register please visit:
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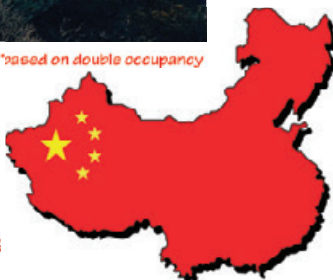
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Tee Up Fore Business GOLF TOURNAMENT



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