



MISSION REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BusinessTRACK

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VOTING is now live for Business Excellence Awards 2018!



The polls have opened and the votes for the 2018 Business Excellence Awards are pouring in. Over 95 nominations were received for this year's seven awards categories that include the Power Of Small, The Big Bang, Local Focus, Educational Leader, Community Builder, Media & Communication and Customer First Award.

In total, 50 local businesses have been recognized and will be invited to accept their nomination at the 2018 Business Excellence Nominees Celebration on October 18th, 2018, where nominees and members of the business community are treated to a social evening out featuring guest speaker Scott Armstrong.

Judging and community voting for the final award winners will run from October 1st-November 15th. After the judging and community vote closes, the top nominees in each category will be announced with the final award winners to be announced at the Business Excellence Awards Gala on January 18th, 2019.

Take this opportunity to support your favourite local businesses and show them some love. There are many avenues to participate! Find the voting portal on our Facebook page, on www.MissionChamber.bc.ca, or you can come in to vote at our office. You have the opportunity to vote for one business in each category per submission.

And here are your nominees!

The Big Bang Award

Sponsored by Bridgeview Dental

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.

1. Mission Raceway Park
2. Oxygen Yoga
3. The Stage
4. Vancity Credit Union Community Branch

Power of Small

Sponsored by Rona FVBS

An emerging or existing innovative small business that has been operating for a minimum of two years and exemplifies entrepreneurial spirit and vision with new products, services or processes.

1. Beautiful U Boutique
2. Galley Girls Coffee House
3. Game Changers Buy and Sell
4. Hottiesfoods Emporio
5. STS Guiding Services
6. Tikal Construction
7. i-Open Technologies

Local Focus

Sponsored by District of Mission – Economic Development Department

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.

1. Arch-Way Dance
2. Evoke Wellness Centre
3. Inspire Me Fitness
4. Mission Hospital Auxiliary, The Cottage Thrift Store
5. Nutek Signs
6. Save N Shop Food Stores
7. Spark Art Collective

8. Ultra Fuels
9. VIP Soap Products
10. What's On! Mission Magazine

Customer First

Sponsored by Chances Casino Mission

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 be friendly, honest, innovative, approachable, customer service on a consistent basis.

1. Belles Sports
2. Bridgeview Dental
3. Downey Transmission
4. Envision Financial
5. Heritage Park Pharmacy
6. Jackass Towing
7. Noble BC
8. Panago Pizza
9. Perfect Piece Optical Boutique
10. Picturesque Clothing Company Ltd
11. Prospera Credit Union, Mission Branch
12. Reds Grill
13. Swing Optical
14. Symons Tire & Automotive Centre
15. Urban Valley Transport

Community Builder

Sponsored by Fortis BC

A non-profit, 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.

1. Emma's Acres
2. Flow Yoga & Fitness
3. Fraser Valley Mountain Bike Association
4. Mission Literacy in Motion
5. Mission Minor Baseball Association
6. Mission Soccer Club
7. The Clarke Foundation Theatre
8. Wonder Women Society

Education Leader Award

Sponsored by University of the Fraser Valley

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.

1. Mountain Healing Homes
2. Riverside College
3. XLRator, formerly SRCTec

Marketing & Communication Award

Sponsored by The Mission City Record

A business or organization who are innovative in their approach to marketing and promoting their product or service effectively utilizing media and communications on all levels to grow and enhance their business.

1. Community Futures North Fraser
2. Mission City Farmers Market
3. Storage for your Life

Nominees Recognition Event

Come meet your nominees for the 2018 Business Excellence Awards! Celebrate the amazing businesses we have that contribute to our thriving community.

Date October 18th, 2018, 7:00-9:00 pm

Address The Clarke Foundation Theatre
33700 Prentis Avenue, Mission

Cost FREE

Contact 604-826-6914
info@missionchamber.bc.ca
www.MissionChamber.bc.ca

SAVE THE DATE January 18th, 2019 for the Business Excellence Awards Gala to congratulate your finalists and winners in each category.

NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

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Business Award Winners, You Inspire.

While business success is most often evaluated in dollars, being awarded the best in your community is a reward that transcends profits and margins. It rewards the daily grinds, the extra workload, the time spent innovating or the extra community involvement. Business Excellence honors what can't always be measured financially, the elements of business that build and shape our community.

10 years ago when I first ventured out on my own as a small business operator, I found inspiration in nominees and winners. "Wow, one day I want to be on that list". It's a goal that motivates me to find ways I can have meaningful impact on my clients, my industry and my neighborhood.

Appearing on a nominees list is not just a listing. Your place on the list is not just during award season. Your win reaches far beyond our gala evening. This is a legacy inspiring more business owners to go above and beyond, to innovate and to shape our region.

I'd like to invite all of our business community to come out to our Business Excellence Nominees Celebration and be energized by the stories and the successes of businesses in Mission. To all the Nominees-congratulations thank you for inspiring myself, our business community and the next generation of entrepreneurs.



Andrea Walker
PRESIDENT

Chamber celebrates Small Business Month

The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce is celebrating the vital role small businesses play in our local community for Small Business Month this October.

"Small businesses represent the turbine that powers our local economy in Mission, and they play a critical role in creating jobs at home," said Andrea Walker, President of the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce.

As a member of the BC Chamber of Commerce, the Mission Chamber is part of active advocacy to support small businesses, including:

- A call on all government departments to strengthen programs that review existing legislation and regulations, and cut the red tape that often results in unnecessary costs to small business (and ultimately the consumer);
- A call for the creation of a task force in partnership with business and government to develop and implement improved access to simplified practical information regarding proper business succession practices for SME business owners;
- A call for a dialogue towards a made-in-B.C. value-added tax (VAT), and in the shorter term, measures to mitigate the damaging effects of PST;
- The continued expansion of Mobile Business License programs across the province, with

the goal of eventually establishing a single, province wide licensing program for all businesses; and

- A call on the provincial government to remain committed to tying minimum wage increases to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to ensure certainty and predictability for small businesses.

As well, the Mission Chamber is a dedicated advocate for Mission's small businesses at the local level. "Some of our recent work includes our work on challenging Mission's proposed business license review in March, bringing our concerns and recommendations to the District," adds Walker. "The proposal has been tabled until the next Council has been elected." More details on this Mission's business license review can be found at www.mission.ca/municipal-hall/departments/development-services/business-licences/

The Chamber encourages Mission businesses to be involved in the advocacy efforts we undertake. This year, the BC Chamber launched Mindreader, a completely free member benefit inviting our local businesses partake in business-related policy surveys straight to your inbox. Mindreader was created with the goal of helping Chambers cut more red tape locally, provincially, and

federally. Be a part of the conversation and register at www.bcmindreader.com

To help in promoting Small Business Month locally, the Mission Chamber is hosting a variety of events open to all local businesses. Our Business After Hours Networking event at Chances Casino, along with the 2018 Business Excellence Nominees Celebration are both great places to network and grow your business connections. See our events calendar for more details on all of these fantastic events!

"Small Business Month is a great opportunity for our community to celebrate these hard-working businesses that bring great ideas and entrepreneurial spirit to our community," says Kristin Parsons, Executive Director, Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce, "many of these same businesses have been honoured by the community with nominations in the 2018 Business excellence awards. We are truly lucky to have such a dynamic business community."

"Promote and celebrate local small businesses this month by shopping, buying and eating local, and be sure to come out and support your favourite local businesses as they are honoured at the Business Excellence Nominees Celebration on Oct 18th" added Parsons.

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Artist's rendering of proposed 30,000 square foot Gateway casino and The Buffet and MATCH restaurants/sports bar across the highway from Mission RCMP station. Relocation project from existing Chances Mission will create up to 100 new jobs.

Spotlight on Business Excellence

30,000 square feet of exceptional Mission entertainment, up to 100 new jobs proposed as Chances plans its relocation

by Rick Rake
CLICK MEDIA WORKS

By moving Chances Mission to a new 30,000-square-foot facility, adding their signature food and beverage outlets including The Buffet and MATCH Eatery & Public House sports bar restaurant and creating 100 more jobs, general manager Kelsey Racine sees a whole new world of entertainment blossoming in the community.

"As proud members of the Mission business community for 14 years, Gateway (Chances Mission parent company) is excited to work with the BCLC (BC Lottery Corporation) and the District of Mission on a proposed relocation at a new shopping centre at the corner of Wren Street and Lougheed Highway," said Racine.

Gateway's investment in Mission follows investments in Kamloops, Kelowna, Penticton, Burnaby, Edmonton and Point Edward, Ont. as they continue to invest in the communities

where they operate to create more jobs and more entertainment experiences.

"Nearly \$700,000 from Chances Mission is generated for community initiatives each year," said Racine. "A relocated gaming facility will generate additional host local government revenue for the District of Mission to fund local projects."

To share information with the community, public sessions were held earlier this month, and a Mission Chamber Business after Business event is scheduled Oct. 25 at the existing facility in the Value Village mall.

"We are maxed out on what we can do here . . . customers are going to places with all the amenities we are proposing, including ample underground parking. Our move will help us catch up to industry standards," said Racine.

In 2017-2018, more than \$140 million helped fund community and charitable organizations across B.C. through Community

Gaming Grants. Forty-eight organizations from Mission received gaming grant funds from April 2017 to March 2018.

Among the most recent charitable donations by Chances Mission were to Mission Hospice Society, Mission Food Centre, Cops for Cancer, and Kids Sport golf tourney. Chances also sponsors the Mission Chamber Business Excellence Awards, Mission Arts Awards, and other special events.

"The plans for the new facility represent a significant investment for Gateway," said Racine. "The \$12 million capital investment into the Mission economy will create substantial construction employment and many auxiliary benefits to the economy."

While patrons wait for the big move, they can still enjoy expanded bingo seating, and taking a turn at slots ranging from *88 Fortunes* and *Dancing Drums* to *Lock It Link* at the current Chances Mission site.

Chamber Events

Oct 18 Business Excellence Awards Nominee Celebration

Come together as a community to celebrate the businesses who have had an astounding 2018 year!

This event will give nominees a chance to be recognized for their achievement, with no cost to them. Please be sure to book your spot today! There will also be special guest Scott Armstrong of Scott Armstrong Limitless. We are excited to have Scott return to the Mission Chamber to speak, he is definitely not someone you want to miss hearing in person!

Place: The Clarke Theatre

Time: 6-9pm

Price: FREE

Oct 25 Business After Hours Networking Event

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. Join us for hors d'oeuvres, refreshments and an opportunity to connect with the Mission business community.

Place: Chances Casino Mission

Time: 6-8pm

Price: FREE

Nov 15 Chamber Dinner with The Industry Training Authority (ITA)

Learn more about the programs, services and opportunities provided by ITA to local businesses and apprentices, enjoy an amazing dinner, and meet some new faces in your business community.

Place: Mission Golf and Country Club
7983 Nelson St, Mission, BC

Time: 5:30-7:30

Price: \$30.00 for members
\$40.00 for non-members

Dec 7 Candlelight Parade Santa Claus comes to Mission

The free fun rolls out at 7:30pm when the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce hosts its 34th Mission Candlelight Parade. Be there early to secure the best viewing spots!

Reminder that the roads start to close down at 5pm

Place: Horne St to Park St along the Lougheed Hwy heading West

To REGISTER for these events, or for more information, please visit our website at missionchamber.bc.ca or call 604-826-6914 or email: events@missionchamber.bc.ca

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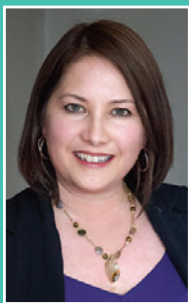
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2018 CHAMBER TEAM

"Membership has its benefits!"



Jo-Anne Chadwick
OPERATIONS MANAGER

info@missionchamber.bc.ca



Jamye Dobson
EVENT COORDINATOR

events@missionchamber.bc.ca



Kara Pavitt
MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT
COORDINATOR

Member_services@missionchamber.bc.ca

Au Revoir to Kristin Parsons

Since 2015, Kristin Parsons has been the Executive Director for the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce. Breathing new life into the local Chamber world, Kristin has brought a sense of excitement, transforming our organization into the business hub it is today.

The true passion Kristin has for evoking change, pushing boundaries, and building local economic prosperity can be seen in her policy work over the years. From the postcard campaign on proposed tax changes to local business license reviews and everything in between, her efforts for resolve have not gone unnoticed.

The winds of change rustle us all, as Kristin travels to the Kootenays to pursue a new opportunity with the Cranbrook Chamber of Commerce. We wish her all the best for her on her new role and trust that she will bring



along her arsenal of relationship building, honesty, and relentless hard work to business community there. Au revoir Kristin! And don't forget your shovel.

Welcome Jo-Anne Chadwick

The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce would like to welcome Jo-Anne Chadwick as our new interim Operations Manager. Jo-Anne previously held the administrative manager position, and is now assuming a new role fully supported by outgoing Executive Director, Kristin Parsons.

Jo-Anne has 20 years in the banking industry and 10 years as co-owner and operations manager of Mission local tourism operation, Fraser River Safari tours. She will continue to use her strong administrative, budgeting skills, HR and organizational management skills to move the Chamber through to 2019.

"Jo-Anne is a respected member of the Chamber Staff team, a previous business

owner in Mission and a passionate community supporter and volunteer. The timing works well as we build on a new strategic plan while supporting the District of Mission's new plan for Tourism and return to a business focus for our Chamber," says Chamber of Commerce president Andrea Walker.

Jo-Anne is looking forward to her new role. "I am thrilled the Board of Directors has the confidence in my skills to manage this transitional period and continue delivering excellence to our members and community."

The entire Board of Directors would like to thank outgoing Executive Director Kristin Parsons for her hard work and dedication to the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce over the past 3 years.

Welcome to the team!

Jamye Dobson joins the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce as their Events Coordinator with over 10 years of experience in Child and Youth Care Services and resource management. She is a recent graduate from the University of the Fraser Valley, specializing in hospitality and event planning and has a passion for human relations, tourism, and writing.

Jamye is eager to use her new-found expertise in a community based position, working with local businesses and the community to create fresh, exciting, and memorable Chamber events. Come by the office and meet her or register for any of our upcoming events!

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