



CHAMBER HISTORY

- Founded in 1889 as a board of trade
- Played a historic, pivotal role in business in Nanaimo
- Was the economic development arm of the city for many years and, until the '80's, operated Tourism & Visitor Services
- In 2014, established new boundaries encompassing Lantzville to Yellowpoint and established special relationship with Gabriola and Ladysmith Chambers
- We are 'the voice of the business community'
- Playing a more holistic role as we set our sights for a "Better Community Through Better Business"

CORE SERVICES

- Connecting members with each other through networking events like monthly luncheons and Business Before and After Business events
- Professional Development & Training
- Business Support & Marketing
- Community Advocacy
- Member Group Health Benefits for Small Business
- Merchant Services – Credit & Debit Card discounted rates
- Group Purchase Discounts (gas, accommodations, stationery)
- Member to Member Discount Program

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- CITY OF NANAIMO
- Vancouver Island University
- Nanaimo Port Authority
- Nanaimo Airport
- DNBIA
- Community Futures
- VIREB
- Innovation Island
- Tourism Nanaimo
- NEDC

COMMUNITY AFFILIATES

- Managing Partner – Inspire Nanaimo
- Enterprise Partner – Startup Nanaimo
- Organizing Partner – Social Enterprise Catalyst 2015
- Advisory Council – Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre
- Appointment – Nanaimo Airport Authority
- Appointment – DPRC
- Appointment – ACES
- Appointment – Succession Planning Committee

GOVERNMENT ADVOCACY

- Federal – enhanced by membership in the Canadian Chamber
- Provincial – enhanced by our membership in the BC Chamber
- Regional – an area that we intend to invest more time in as we develop further regional partnerships and affiliations. Large expenditures and far-reaching decisions affect commercial and industrial taxpayers within our expanded jurisdiction.

MUNICIPAL RELATIONSHIP

City of Nanaimo – Our #1 Community Partner

Our strongest suit is in working closely with YOU

-- our elected officials and senior staff –

to optimize the economic climate and

increase business activity in our community

improving the quality of life for everyone.

OUR MAJOR 2014 ACHIEVEMENTS

- Converted Community Partnerships into working partnerships
- First net gain in membership in 6 years
- More visible and effective advocacy at the provincial level
- Founding member of TEAM Nanaimo
 - LNG in BC file
 - Collective Regional Infrastructure Ask

MAJOR PLANS FOR 2015

- Focus on membership recruitment to build strength, financial resources* and critical mass.
- Match our marketing focus to NEDC's business attraction and retention efforts and design our value proposition to suit these sectors and segments
- Expand Pro-D events – Lightning Talks & Spark Sessions – to 16-20 events from 10
- Facilitate third party training and education opportunities
- Grow networking opportunities through increased special events that engage members and enliven the community

* We do not accept government grants or subsidies.

OUR 2015 SPECIAL EVENTS

- Business Achievement Awards – Feb & March
- Wine, Women & Song – April
- Social Enterprise Catalyst – May
- Sports Celebrity Golf Tournament – June
- Community Partners Sunset Cruise – August
- The Food Show – September
- Nanaimo Business Expo – October
- Christmas Luncheon - December

MUNICIPAL ADVOCACY 2015

- Support your decision-making process by providing insight and information on issues of importance to the business community
- Communicate Council's business-related issues and activities to our members and the business community in general – aid in two-way communications with the community
- Bring back our 12@12 Consultation Luncheons – a partnership with the City of Nanaimo
- Offer the Chamber's election platform philosophies as goals for Council. Themes include Leadership & Teamwork; Seeking Efficiencies; Transparency & Community Input; Responsible Decision Making; and Community Health & Prosperity.

MUNICIPAL ADVOCACY 2015

- Work with Committees, Task Forces, Special Projects, Community Consultations and alongside Staff wherever constructive:
 - Assist in Budget Planning and Review process
 - Support broad community consultation on issues such as updating the Corporate Strategic Plan and integrating the Chamber's updated Successful Cities driving principles
 - Playing a key role on task forces to help break down barriers
 - Green Tape Committee
 - Sign Bylaw Review
 - Core Review

THANK YOU!

See you again on February 2 when our
Chamber delegation to Council expands on our
Advocacy objectives for 2015 and efforts to support
you and your very challenging leadership
and governance roles.

