



MISSION REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BusinessTRACK

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MAY 2022

The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce Appoints New Executive Director

Newly appointed Executive Director, Jesse Sidhu, brings a passion for connecting community and open-innovative thinking to his new role.

The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the appointment of Jesse Sidhu as the new Executive Director to lead The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce. Jesse brings to the role more than two decades of experience working in both the private and not-for-profit sectors.

"I have a lot of respect for Chambers of Commerce – their resiliency and ability to innovate – and am beyond honoured and excited to lead The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce," said Sidhu. "The COVID-19 pandemic has reminded us of the importance of the local business community,

especially in relation to their COVID-19 response and recovery initiatives."

As former Executive Director of The Ridge Meadows Chamber of Commerce, understanding the challenges members face is nothing new to Sidhu. "It comes down to listening to and acting on the needs of the community. Our members just need to be heard and need to be part of the solution"

"Our Board of Directors, staff, and network are pleased to welcome Jesse Sidhu as our new Executive Director," said Manny Deol, board chair, Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce. "Jesse not only embodies a spirit of collaboration, which is in the DNA of Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade, but he brings extensive executive leadership

experience, understands the power of our network to advocate for business, and has a proven track record for courageous and innovative change. With Jesse, we enter an exciting new chapter with sound leadership that will further strengthen our network as we work together to emerge stronger after what has been an incredibly challenging year for so many of our members."



Jesse-Sidhu
Executive Director

I'm excited to connect with everyone, hope you can join us at our Network Mixer on May 26th at Hubco Brewing, 5-7:30 PM!

Benefits of Being a Chamber Member

Don't forget that your membership with the Mission Chamber includes some great benefits towards your business and employees including comprehensive medical, dental, and disability employee benefits through the **Chamber of Commerce Group Insurance Plan**. This plan is Canada's #1 plan for group benefits enabling you to customize an employee benefits plan that matches your needs.

You also get discounts on local marketing and advertising! For example, the **Mission Record** is offering 50% off ads for Chamber members and

What's On! Mission is offering 15% off standard advertising rates on your first commitment. Reach up to 12,000 readers and save money through these local publications!

Many of the other benefits are through our membership with the BC Chamber of Commerce. For example, BCCC offers members a **travel discount program** for average savings of 10-20% and up to 50% off of hotel and car rentals around the world. Simply input your destination city and travel dates

into the member-exclusive website to access all the hotel and car rental discounts.

Members can also access the **Staples Professional program** to receive reduced costs on business supplies with no minimum order requirements. We offer many more benefits which can be found on our website: www.missionchamber.bc.ca/member-benefits

To learn how you can access these benefits and more, please reach out to us at 604-826-6914.



Thank you for your service

The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce says good-bye to a long-time board member, Sean Melia, who retired from the board after 17 years of service. The announcement was made at the Mission Chamber Luncheon AGM back in March, where Sean was presented with a commemorative photo collage of his time at the Chamber over the years.

Sean joined the Mission Chamber board in 2005. From there, he served as president and treasurer on multiple occasions, setting the Mission Chamber up in a financial position to start growing.

Sean has been part of several Mission Chamber milestones such as when the Mission Chamber celebrated its 125th anniversary and underwent a huge rebranding in 2018. Sean was also on the board when the Visitor Centre operations were transferred to the District of Mission in 2019. Most recently, Sean moderated the All-Candidates meeting in 2021 – the first-ever virtual All-Candidates meeting. Furthermore, when Sean was president in 2013, the Mission Chamber had launched a Pay it Forward Campaign to raise \$4500 for the Mission Christmas Bureau.

The Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce thanks Sean Melia for 17 years of hard work, dedication, and service from 2005 to 2022 on our board.



2022/2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Customer Service Excellence Award – Arnold's Shoe Repair

Long-time Mission cobbler plans to retire at the end of the year

Robyn Roste, Robyn Roste Communications.

Since 1983, Arnold's Shoe Repair has been a staple of downtown Mission, and owner Arnold Atsma is a constant and friendly presence in the shoe repair shop.

On February 18 at the Clarke Theatre, Atsma was recognized with the Customer Service Excellence Award at the 2021 Business Excellence Awards.

"I've really appreciated Mission and all they have done for me. I've had a wonderful time serving them," he said.

This award, from the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce, caps a busy and fruitful time as a sole proprietor.

Atsma learned the trade from his brother, who had opened a cobbler shop in Abbotsford. After a year and a half of apprenticing, he was ready to go out on his own. It was 1980.

"I acquired knowledge on how to do this and that. New products would come out and I'd have to learn how to fix them. The lessons have been ongoing," he said.

His brother retired a couple years ago and now Atsma looks forward to following suit as he makes plans to sell his Mission storefront and retire at the end of the year.

He looks forward to getting out and spending more time with family, travelling and R&R, which includes gardening, canoeing and fishing.

"I'm just here by myself every day," he said. "I'd like to get out and do a little more travelling—finally look at BC as a whole and not just a quarter of it."



Arnold with the Customer Service Excellence Award sponsor, Prospera Credit Union.

Until then, Atsma will continue giving award-winning customer service as Mission's last-serving cobbler and keeping his hands busy.

"That's in the plan right now, but you know how plans are," he said. "I'm shooting for December, to finish off the year and see what happens."

Located at 33261 First Avenue in Mission, Arnold's Shoe Repair is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Find them on Facebook or call 604.820.1161.

Business of the Year Award – Lacey Developments Ltd

Lacey Construction is looking forward to a season of growth

Robyn Roste, Robyn Roste Communications

It's only May, and Lacey Construction is already having an exciting year. In December 2021, the Deroche-based company won the designation of Community Champion at the Builders Code Champion Awards in recognition of their work around equitable hiring. In February, they received the Exceptional Business of the Year Award at the 2021 Business Excellence Awards by Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce.

"We're super thankful for the support of Chamber and the businesses associated with Chamber. We consider them a local partner in our business success. It's lovely to be noted by your peers and your friends," said Lesa Lacey of Lacey Developments Ltd. "We have an amazing team—none of it is possible without our team and the effort they put in every day."

Since 1999, the full-service contractors and staff at Lacey Construction have helped clients build their dream homes, in addition to residential and commercial renovations and repairs.



The company is preparing for an upcoming project with Sandpiper Resort, and is working to expand the team through getting involved in job fairs at Mission Senior Secondary and advocating for trades as a whole.

"We're thankful for our long-term relationship with Sandpiper Resort and look forward to continuing working with them on the next phase of their development," Lacey said.

Lacey Construction is built on the values of trust and long-term relationships. They strive for excellence in all aspects of their work, including respect for clients, job site safety and helping their crew succeed both professionally and personally.

"We love our team and we enjoy working hard and playing hard," Lacey said. "I'm looking forward to the summer when we can go golfing with our crew and run our hiking club. We're always looking for amazing team members to join our team—really, we're like a family. It's at the heart of what we do, families building for families."

Learn more at laceydevelopments.com.



Upcoming Events

Keep Your Eye on These Events Coming Soon!

NETWORKING MIXER AT HUBCO BREWING

Thursday, March 26

5pm - 7:30 pm

HUBCO Brewing, 33211 N Railway Ave
Mission BC

Join us for a fun networking mixer at HUBCO Brewing in Mission. Network with other business owners and leaders in Mission and meet our new Executive Director, Jesse Sidhu.

Tickets include admission, 1 beer, and 2 tacos (gluten-free and vegan tacos available too). We will also have some great door prizes and HUBCO swag to give away!

\$20 for members

\$30 for non-members

Remember to bring lots of business cards!

19+ event only

Registration required

Tickets are available online at missionchamber.bc.ca

Stay Tuned...

We are currently in the works to bring more workshops and networking events that are yet to be announced.

Therefore for future workshops and events stay tuned to our events page at missionchamber.bc.ca/events

For more information on Mission Chamber events, please call the office at 604-826-6914 or email events@missionchamber.bc.ca

Welcome to our New Members

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Specializing in dangerous tree removal, pruning, hedge trimming, and stump removal
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www.skylinetree.ca

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J.J Installations Ltd.

Window installments located in Mission, BC
j.jwindowinstallations@gmail.com
(604) 375-1651

Silverdale Doggy Vacation Lodge

Providing a Vacation Lodge for dogs for the day, a week, a month or more while you're away on vacation
www.silverdaledoggyvacationlodge.ca
(604) 820-3230

NETWORKING MIXER AT HUBCO

5:00 - 7:30pm
Thursday
May 26th

Tickets

Members: \$20
Non-members: \$30

Tickets include admission, 1 beer, and 2 tacos!



Tickets available at missionchamber.bc.ca

