

# Excellence in the Alberni Valley



# We LIVE Here



# We MAKE noise



# We RIDE the rails



# We WORK our Mills



# We FISH our Waters



# We LOVE our Water



# I see it! Do you see it?





# We HARNESS the Breeze



# We enjoy the Calm



Well, Hello Pam! And thanks for the flowers!



# Photo Credits

- Heart of Vancouver Island
- Great Central Social Company
- Sandy McRuer
- Russ/Brenda Widdess
- Bill Collette
- Dan Fredlund
- Lyndon Cassell

**THANK YOU!**



Wine Today Courtesy of:



**THANK YOU!**

# Title Sponsor 2016

© *Our THANKS to....*



# Cheryl MacLean

- Insurance Services
- Pension and Retirement Planning
- Investments
- Mortgage Protection
- Critical Illness products
- Disability
- Group Insurance Plans
- Life Insurance Options
- Visit Cheryl at: [www.sunlife.ca](http://www.sunlife.ca)

# Chamber of Commerce



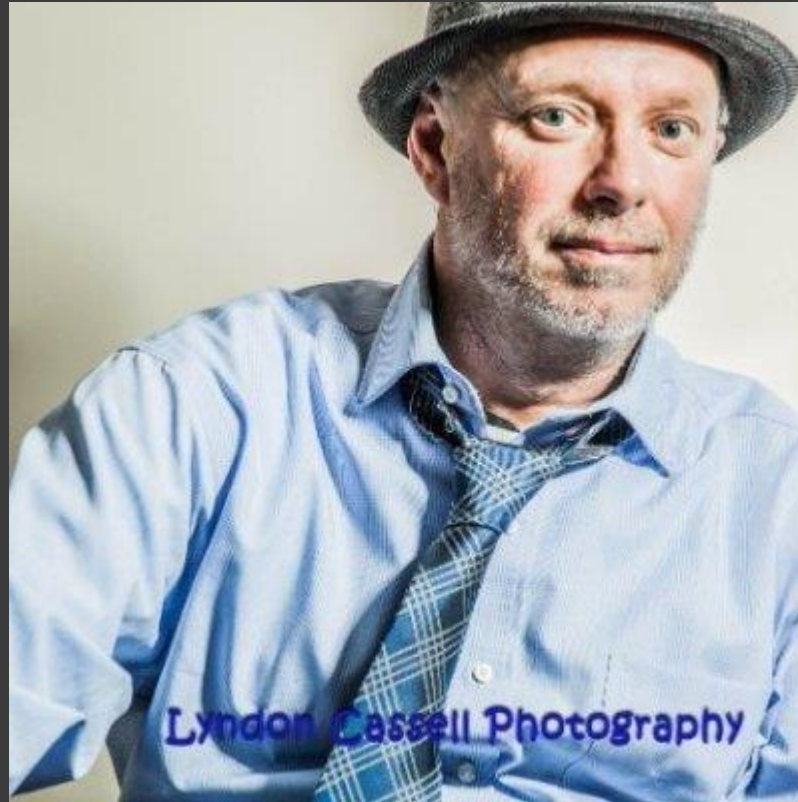
- *> 300 members*
- *Work with Local, Provincial and Federal Governments*
- *Creative Shop Local Programs – Unique to the area admired by many*
- *Fee for Service with City of Port Alberni – Visitor Centre*
- *Adventure Maps*
- *Tear Off Maps*
- *Way-Finding Signage*
- *Mobile Visitor Centre*
- *Ambassador program*
- *Restaurant Guide – Coming Soon*
- *Events Promotions – No. 7 Challenge / Tri-Conic Challenge*
- *And much more!*







# Photography today by...



Lyndon Cassell Photography

Video today by....

**bDigital**  
Professional Video Production

***“Beth is an accomplished producer, camera operator and video editor. She knows what is required from start to finish.”***

Annette Lucas Blonde Ambitions Communications.

# Video Sponsored by....



- **Since 1986**
- **Thousands of Customers**
- **Experienced Insurance Experts**
- **Work with the Insurer for the Insured.**
- **Many products available**

Awards today by....



**Ms. Connie Watts**

# Engraving by...



*Ladybird*  
*Engraving*

(250) 723-5239 1-85Ladybird 1-855-239-2473

*Ladybird*  
Engraving & Web Creations Ltd.

# Other Major Sponsors



# Serving you today



**ADSS – CHEERLEADERS  
THANK YOU!**



Dinner by....



# Your Emcee tonight....



***“I may have lived the better part of my life in Ontario, but I have lived the best part of my life on Vancouver Island.”***

Bruce Williams – CTV Vancouver Island

# Agenda for Tonight

- ✓ Welcome Address – Jan Lavertu – President Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce
- ✓ Introduction and welcome to Ms. Jane Jones – Tseshaht First Nations – Traditional Welcome
- ✓ Chamber update – Bill Collette – Executive Director Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce
- ✓ Introduction and welcome to Mr. Gord Johns MP Courtenay/Alberni



# In Attendance tonight...

- ◉ Mr. Gord Johns MP Courtenay/Alberni
- ◉ Mr. Scott Fraser MLA Alberni/Pacific Rim
- ◉ Ms. Jane Shin MLA Burnaby/Lougheed
- ◉ Mr. Mike Ruttan Mayor Port Alberni
- ◉ Ms. Sharie Minions Councillor – City of Port Alberni
- ◉ Mr. Jeff Cook – Former Chief Council – Huu-ay-aht First Nations
- ◉ Ms. Jolleen Dick – Councillor – Hupacasath FN
- ◉ Mr. Ken McRae – Former Mayor of Port Alberni
- ◉ Mr. John Douglas – Former Mayor of Port Alberni
- ◉ Ucluelet Chamber of Commerce Representatives
- ◉ Tourism Tofino Representatives
- ◉ And all of you. Thanks for attending this evening!

# Guest Speaker



**Mr. Gord Johns – Member of  
Parliament –  
Courtenay/Alberni**

# Green Award

Sponsored by:

The logo for Alberni Valley News is presented within a white rectangular box. At the top, the words "Alberni Valley" are written in a red, serif font. Below this, the word "NEWS" is written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. Underneath "NEWS", the text "Every home ♦ Every Thursday ♦ Every day online" is written in a red, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the box, there is a red horizontal bar containing the phone number "250-723-6399" and the website address "www.alberniavalleynews.com" in white, sans-serif font.

**Alberni Valley**  
**NEWS**  
Every home ♦ Every Thursday ♦ Every day online  
250-723-6399 [www.alberniavalleynews.com](http://www.alberniavalleynews.com)



# Haven Living



A small sample



Ms. Desja walker

# Haven Living

- Haven Living is a lifestyle store that layers an eclectic blend of new, salvaged and handmade wares from across BC, as well as a hand curated collection of all natural Body and Baby skin care. Located in Port Alberni on the majestic Vancouver Island.





children. A line that looked great, smelled great, with ingredients you could pronounce.

Haven Living



# Haven Living

- ◎ ***“This store is a hidden gem, full of amazing treasures. It makes me so happy every time I go in.”***
- ◎ M. Cross – via Facebook
  
- ◎ ***“Purchased Haven Living's Grounds Body Pumice recently. It's AMAZING and I can't get enough of it.”***
- ◎ A. Necka – via Facebook

# Green Earth Woodworks



# Green Earth Woodworks

◎ So most of us would....

- a> Toss it
- b> Burn it
- c> Cut it up
- d> Sell it
- But not Rob Gentleman – Owner  
Operator of GREEN EARTH  
WOODWORKS

greenearth  
WOODWORKS

# Green Earth Woodworks



The Black Hat



Nice eh!

# Green Earth Woodworks

- Green Earth Woodworks specializes in using old salvaged wood to create beautiful custom furniture.
- Using recycled wood is an environmentally friendly approach to building that takes advantage of the unique character that is only found in old wood.



# Green Earth Woodworks



Find this at Swept Away Inn



This is in Victoria

# The PLACE





# The PLACE



**Owner – Sarah Williams**



**Hand Made**

# The PLACE

- ◎ ***“Loved everything about this beautiful store. The owner is incredibly friendly and exceptionally talented as she makes absolutely everything in her store.”***
- ◎ Via Facebook - Randi C.
- ◎ ***“Oh my days.... Vintage style and glorious sparkle!! Everything is so ridiculously beautiful!! Sarah, is as beautiful as her creations!”***
- ◎ Via Facebook – Terra J.

# The PLACE



## Crowns

*Hand beaded in Canada  
no two are the same.*

# The PLACE



Winner – GREEN AWARD

HAVEN LIVING

# Business Investment Award

Sponsored by:



# Pot Luck Ceramics



# Pot Luck Ceramics

- Pot Luck Ceramics is owned and operated by the Port Alberni Fundraising Co-op.
- Through sales of affordable and beautiful terracotta ceramics the Co-op sets out to make profit for non-profit programs and services that improve the quality of life in the Alberni Valley (BC).
- Pot Luck Ceramics is staffed with co-op members and volunteers who want to make a difference in life by changing the way of fundraising in their community.



# Pot Luck Ceramics

- ◎ This way non-profit organizations can focus on their goals and mission to do what they do best, while Pot Luck Ceramics provides the funds for them through donation of their profit

Pot Luck has donated over \$110,000.00 to local charity since 2012.



# Pot Luck Ceramics

- ◎ The Port Alberni Fundraising Co-op is known to be the first Community Service Co-op in Canada that operates a for profit business with the purpose to donate the profit towards Charity.

Pot Luck Ceramics donates \$30,000 to TY WATSON HOUSE  
in March 2016



-Dear Pot Luck Volunteers -

On March 18 it was my pleasure to present a \$30,000 cheque to Jan Cole, chair of the AV Hospice Society, Chris Mellin the new manager of Ty Watson House, and Gail Koehle the wonderful kitchen manager at the house.

This pleasure needs to be shared with all those who made this incredible donation possible. This is our reward for doing what we love to do at Pot Luck Ceramics!

Therefore I like to share this moment with you by sending you this picture taken by Susie Quin of the AV News.

Since 2012 the Port Alberni Fundraising Coop has donated over \$110,000 and this would not have been possible, if we did not have our amazing volunteers to create the sales revenue at Pot Luck Ceramics.

Its because of our volunteers we can donate these high dollar amounts towards quality of life in our community!

**Thank you all for your hard work, dedication & support of Profit for Non-Profit!**

**This is our better way to fundraise for the wellbeing in our Alberni Valley!**

Canada's First

\$30,000.00 donation 2016

# Pot Luck Ceramics

- In 2015 Helma Swinkels and her partners decided to relocate from their existing 'Barn' in Beaver Creek.
- After searching for a suitable property they eventually decided on 4473 Gertrude Street where they took a old uninhabited house and fully restored it to its look today.



# Huu-ay-aht First Nation



# Huu-ay-aht First Nation



**East dock - bamfield**



**The market - bamfield**

# Huu-ay-aht First Nation

- The HFN purchased 11 properties in and around Bamfield in January.
- The purchases include Rance Island, the Bamfield Airport and the Kingfisher Lodge and Marina.
- The Huu-ay-aht, who have talked about investing in culture-based tourism in their traditional territories, are gearing up to provide a full visitor experience in Bamfield.
- Purchases of restaurants and hotels meshed well with the Huu-ay-aht's current properties in the area.

# Huu-ay-aht First Nation



**Economic vision**

**And time to relax**





# Mahoe Properties Ltd.

- Mahoe Properties is a mother company for the holdings of Danielle and Mark Marley
- Great Central Lake is the focus of it all
- Trestle RV Park is a feature waterfront destination located in what is perhaps Vancouver Island's Best Kept Secret
- Marley's Joint (a seasonal Authentic Jamaican Jerk Hut) , Rolling Homes ( Nationally certified builder of Park Models and Tiny Homes) are secondary businesses operated by the couple

# Mahoe Properties



# Mahoe Properties



On the water



Marley's Joint

Winner – Business Investment  
Award

**MAHOE  
PROPERTIES**

# Special Recognition Award



# Special Recognition Award

- ⦿ The Winner of this award is an organization that has no competition.
- ⦿ It is an organization that is unique to the Alberni Valley and well beyond the Valley's borders
- ⦿ It is an organization that is known community wide, is respected and admired by many.
- ⦿ The Chamber of Commerce is proud to sponsor this Special Recognition Award and present it to....

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Winner – Special Recognition  
Award

POTLUCK  
CERAMICS

# Rising Star

Sponsored by:



# Steampunk Café



# Steampunk Café

- ❑ SteamPunk Café & Coffee House opened August 2012. Owners Kevin Wright and Lesley O'Neill wanted to give the city of Port Alberni a great place for people to come and meet for a fantastic cup of coffee as well as something homemade to eat.
- ⦿ They have a large following of clientele who visit every day just to experience what they have to offer.
- ⦿ The addition of the outdoor deck has been something that gets people talking and helps to add to the new image of Uptown.



# Steampunk Café



Not often is this guy relaxing



Enjoying the deck





# Steampunk Café



**Kevin Wright has helped to reposition the UpTown area of Port Alberni as a vibrant and growing community within a community**



# Char's Landing



# Char's Landing

- ⦿ Since arriving in Port Alberni, Charlene Patterson has stirred up the very air with her amazing energy. After many years working in the cruise ship sector of the tourism industry, Charlene made the decision to settle in the beautiful Alberni Valley. And now, with her life-long passion for bringing people together, Charlene is realizing her vision for Port Alberni as a centre for arts and entertainment on Vancouver Island.

# Char's Landing



Live Music

M

# Char's Landing

- ⦿ Char's Landing is a Community Asset for all to enjoy
- ⦿ The Chamber of Commerce supports the concept and is excited to see so many quality events organized at Char's Landing.
- ⦿ Make sure to connect with Charlene so that you are aware of the ongoing events at Char's Landing.
- ⦿ A great place to bring visitors and friends to
- ⦿ Keep up the great work Charlene!

# Vancouver Island Limousine



**VANCOUVER ISLAND**  
*Limousine*

**Toll Free: 1-855-906-LIMO**  
**Local: 250-720-1750**

The advertisement features a white SUV limousine with a blue stripe, set against a background of a forest with purple light trails. The company name and contact information are displayed in the top left and right corners.

# Vancouver Island Limousine



A peek inside



Name your event

# Vancouver Island Limousine

- Owned and operated by Selena Van Apeldoorn of Port Alberni
- **Selena was injured in a terrifying car accident involving a DRUNK DRIVER**
- **That incident changed her life**
- **She decided not to return to her former job and instead she wanted to do something about DRINKING AND DRIVING.**
- So....she approached her band:  
HUPACASATH, she approached NEDC and  
Community Futures



# Vancouver Island Limousine

- She received tremendous support and got things going shortly thereafter.
- Opened for business in 2012 after purchasing a \$150,000.00 2011 Ford Expedition from Executive Coach in Missouri
- Selena today services the entire Mid Island Area from Tofino to Chemainus to Campbell River and all points between
- She is planning to expand the business due to strong growth ranging from 15- 20% annually

# Vancouver Island Limousine



Winner – Rising Star Award

**VANCOUVER  
ISLAND  
LIMOUSINE**

# Welcoming Workplace

**Sponsored by:**

**Port Alberni Association for  
Community Living.**



# The Starboard Grill



# The Starboard Grill

- Brad DeClercq is from Dryden Ontario – home of the PICKEREL (Walleye)
- Worked as Head Chef at Weigh West in Tofino where he met Kelly – marrying her about 4 years ago
- The Couple relocated to Port Alberni near Sproat Lake about 5 years ago
- Brad learned his trade at Malaspina College now VIU
- After moving to Port Alberni Brad took a position at a Nanaimo restaurant and commuted daily.



# The Starboard Grill

- Fast forward to October 14, 2012 – the day that the Starboard Grill opened for business under the guide of Brad and Kelly DeClercq
- They had 12 staff and by summer of 2014 that number had doubled.
- Brad fully redesigned the kitchen making a proper ‘Pass-through” and today he enjoys knowing that his customers are well looked after



# The Starboard Grill



Tom, ken and brad



The whole crew



# The Starboard Grill



Awesome views

Outside and Inside



# The Starboard Grill

- Brad acknowledges the support of his wife Kelly, his committed staff and the customer base that is clearly growing.
- 30 employees in 2016
- Always like to hire people with unique abilities
- The gentleman we hired a year ago is always ready willing and able to work. Ken brings with him a great work ethic, a positive attitude and a great sense of humor. It has been a positive experience for us.



# The Starboard Grill



# Breaker's Marine



# Breakers Marine

- ◎ Breaker's Marine Started in Bamfield 30 Years Ago
- ◎ Been in Port Alberni since 2008
- ◎ Maintain a staff of 18 people most of whom are long-term employees with the company
- ◎ The company continues with expansion plans including more service bays, boat storage etc.
- ◎ Breaker's are boat people and because of that they understand that boat people want their boat on the water; not in the shop

# Breaker's Marine (Sheldon)



# Breaker's Marine



Cleaning duties



Sheldon with Doug

# Boomerangs





# Boomerangs

- ⦿ Darren Brown – England to Sydney to Port Alberni
- ⦿ Laura Brown has lived in Port Alberni for most of her life
- ⦿ They met and married in Port Alberni and from there the goal became a reality to open up a Down Under Themed Restaurant
- ⦿ 25 Employees today
- ⦿ Future plans include expansion of current site, 2<sup>nd</sup> location in a nearby community, food truck



# Boomerang's Café

- Those are the ideas currently
- Participate widely in community events including support of the Chamber's initiatives, the Bulldogs, Christmas Hampers, People in need
- Two Delivery Trucks going full out
- Loyal staff
- Hired Chris two years ago. Hard working gentleman who is dependable and reliable

# Boomerang's Café



Darren, Laura



Some of the 25

# Boomerangs



B4 and After Shots

Is the rest of this beast on the grill?



Winner – Welcoming Workplace  
Award

**THE  
STARBOARD  
GRILL**

# Chamber Award



# Chamber Award

The Chamber of Commerce presents an annual award that is not considered part of the nomination or finalist process

The award instead is determined by Chamber Staff based on the level of support and interaction between the Chamber and someone or some business

This year's award winner is a business that **ALWAYS** supports Chamber initiatives

# Chamber Award

- The business this year has supported the Chamber with Coupons, Gift Certificates for EVERY program run by the Chamber over the past year
- The Business worked with the Chamber on a specific program early in 2015 that was a tremendous success
- The Business is one that the entire Community is proud of



# Boomerangs Café



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Darren, Laura



Some of the 25

# Boomerangs Café



B4 and After Shots

Is the rest of this beast on the grill?



Winner – Chamber Award

**BOOMERANG  
S CAFÉ**

# Tourism and Hospitality

Sponsored by:



# Blue Marlin Inn





# Blue Marlin Inn



**They brought back the Light up in 2014! Thanks! And here are the they  
Melody and Richard**



# Blue Marlin Inn

134 PORT ALBERNI	
Alcock F G Mrs r 953 River Alb.....	1366-L-4
Alexander D A r Faber Rd.....	1946-L-1
Alexander D C r 707 N 6th Ave P Alb.....	1327-R
Alexander Harold E r 1004 China Creek P Alb.....	2776-R
Alexander Robert B r 507 Melrose P Alb.....	2645-L
All Saint's Church 140 Southgate Alb.....	1566
Allan Edris Mrs r 103 S 10th Ave P Alb.....	315-R
Allan R G r 235 Pineo Alb.....	88-R
Allen Charles F r Beaver Creek Rd.....	771-R-1
Allen Charles M r 933 Johnston Alb.....	2093-X
Allen E r 235 Helen Alb.....	2246
Allen Frank W r Cherry Creek.....	252-L-4
Allen James J r 616 S 2nd Ave P Alb.....	1709-L
Allen R E r 1006 Glenside Alb.....	2473-L-4
Allen Robert P r 629 Spencer Alb.....	270-X
Allen Walter F r Cherry Creek Rd.....	273-X-1
<b>ALLEN'S SUPER SERVICE LTD</b> 5 Johnston Alb.....	535
Parts.....	740
Used Car Lot 222 Gertrude Alb.....	2644
E Allen r.....	2246
Allinott Peter r 618 N 12th Ave P Alb.....	1658-R
Allquist Mary Bertha Mrs r 716 N 9th Ave P Alb.....	135-X
Allwork R V r 149 Johnston Alb.....	1524
<b>AL'S ELECTRIC</b> 408 N 3rd Ave P Alb.....	1593
<b>AL'S GROCERY</b> 630 N 15th Ave P Alb.....	1595
Alwood C S r Drinkwater Rd.....	913-R-2
Aman G r 537 David Alb.....	688-X
Ambeault William David r 806 N 7th Ave P Alb.....	897-X
<b>AMBULANCE SERVICE</b> 210 Argyle P Alb.....	77
Ames John r 1001 Melrose P Alb.....	1644-X
Ammann J r 407 Morton P Alb.....	894-R
Anaka W F r Cherry Creek Rd.....	252-Y-4
Anderberg John r 516 Swanson Alb.....	643-Y
Anderosov Peter r Beaver Creek Rd.....	1855-R-3
Andersen A E r 418 N 4th Ave P Alb.....	2173-L
Andersen Einar r 631 S 8th Ave P Alb.....	1077-L
Andersen Hans Ib r 242 Gertrude Alb.....	2390-L
Andersen O K r 910 Margaret Alb.....	2698-X
.....	1510-X
Anshelm Carl r 400 Redford Alb.....	1715-X
Ansley M A r Strick Rd Alb.....	356-X-3
Ansley W A r 511 Mar P Alb.....	1717-L
Ansley W E r 616 Beaufort Alb.....	1315-L
<b>ANTON'S STUDIOS</b> 124 S 3rd Ave P Alb.....	919
Appelen W Van r 619 Ian Alb.....	1929-X
Arca E r 502 Helen Alb.....	1851-R
Archdekin Roy H r 510 N 11th Ave P Alb.....	2170-Y
Archer C H r 218 S 11th Ave P Alb.....	1273-R
Archer S r 630 N 17th Ave P Alb.....	649-R
Archibald Robert H r 143 Heaslip Alb.....	1688-L
Arden J W r 616 Argyle P Alb.....	2409-L
Argue C G r 112 S 7th Ave P Alb.....	954-Y
<b>ARGYLE MACHINE WORKS LTD</b> 10 Argyle P Alb.....	1071
Len Fauchon r.....	243-R
Matt Brevik r.....	1399-R
Arkwright Bevan H r 919 N 4th Ave P Alb.....	1179-L
<b>ARLINGTON HOTEL</b> 48 Johnston Alb.....	201
Armich Frank r 206 S 12th Ave P Alb.....	405-Y
Armour D M r 101 S 9th Ave P Alb.....	318-R
Armstrong A B r 346 Elizabeth Alb.....	1063-Y
Armstrong G E r 402 Elizabeth Alb.....	1336-Y
Arnet Myrtle Miss r 102 Beaver Creek Alb.....	2273-Y
<b>ARROW KIRK COAL (ALBERNIS) CO</b> Roger Rd P Alb.....	1519
<b>ARROWSMITH STORE</b> 1200 Burde P Alb.....	1367
<b>ARROWVIEW HOTEL</b> 111 Atholl P Alb.....	960
Arthur C R r 812 N Anderson P Alb.....	832-Y
Arthurs Bob r Nanaimo Hgwy.....	2072-L-3
Arts Crafts & Tennis Centre Recreation Park P Alb.....	2566
<b>ART'S SAW FILING &amp; TOOL SHARPENING SHOP</b> 622 N 3rd Ave P Alb.....	1602
Ascott A T r 137 S 3rd Ave P Alb.....	1002-F
Ashbridge John r 717 S 9th Ave P Alb.....	1805-
Ashby John r 455 Gertrude Alb.....	721-
Ashby Robert K r 503 Arrowsmith Alb.....	436-
Ashley A W R Rev r 106 S 7th Ave P Alb.....	151-
Askew J H r Grandview Rd P Alb.....	187-
.....	187-

Times they change. Was the Arlington and look at the phone number!



# Blue Marlin Inn



Horse drawn carriages



Enjoying the past in the present



# Blue Marlin Inn

- The Blue Marlin Inn, purchased by Melody and Richard Magaton in 2012, is a family run community minded business.
- Using the rich history of the hotel the family strives to become a must stop location for out of town travellers as well as a proud point of interest for the local population.
- Future plans include a remodeled brew house/lounge as well as incorporating local excursions (fishing trips, guided hikes, etc.) to their hotel guests with the hopes of making Port Alberni an adventurers vacation destination.



# West Coast Edge ATV



# West Coast Edge ATV

- West Coast Edge is not a product, it's an experience.
- Blain and Patricia stand behind their belief that an adventure with them will be one that sticks with you.
- The great outdoors offers the ultimate escape from the day to day challenges of the world, in a stress free environment, leaving you feeling revitalized and rejuvenated.
- Their trips include awesome views, amazing destinations, great food and photo opportunities that will last a lifetime.



# West Coast Edge ATV

- Without error, everyone will experience it differently. Their mission is to provide the thrill of a lifetime combined with World Class service and safety as well as to cater to the difference in people's comfort zones.
- The result of going on a marvelous adventure with West Coast EDGE ATV will be continued for years to come.
- You can expect it in the form of satisfaction, fulfillment and a profound hunger for another experience.



# West Coast Edge ATV



I think I can....



Whew, did it!





# West Coast Edge ATV

- ⦿ “WOW is the only word to describe our experience. Being new to ATV'ing we didn't know what to expect nor how to dress. Blaine came prepared for us and took us on a ride of a life time. Thank you so much.”
- ⦿ *YB B – via Trip Advisor*
- ⦿ “Blaine, It was a great trip to the top of the world and to have awesome views from the Alberni Inlet, Sproat Lake, Great Central and over to the Georgia Strait from one vantage point. Cant wait to go and do the Nahmint Valley.”
- ⦿ *Dale M. Houston Texas*

*Editor's note: Trip Advisor Rating – PERFECT! #1 OF 6 OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES IN PORT ALBERNI*



# Vancouver Island Soaring



# Vancouver Island Soaring



Ready for take off



OMG

# Vancouver Island Soaring



Sproat Lake



Great Central lake

# Vancouver Island Soaring



Under tow



Awful place to live

# Vancouver Island Soaring

- ⦿ Owned and operated by Andrzej Roznowski
- ⦿ Ranked No. 1 of Things to do in Port Alberni by Trip Advisor
  - Here's one comment:
- ⦿ *“super cool!”*
- ⦿ **wow. incredible. circling above port alberni on warm thermoclines with bald eagles! spectacular!!!!**

Winner – Tourism and Hospitality  
Award

**WEST COAST  
EDGE ATV**