



[Find the Chamber here](#)

Our Mission: We support and promote our Business Community through advocacy, education and communication

Yikes! It's almost.....September!

Are you ready for our Major Events? Ready for the onslaught of Electionism....? It's coming! So is rain....

A Salmon Festival Near You!



47th Annual!



Join everyone this coming Labour Day Weekend to celebrate Port Alberni's Annual Salmon Derby!

With Entertainment all weekend long, delicious Salmon BBQ's, and of course some wonderful fishing along the Alberni Inlet you can't go wrong.

Volunteers are still required so please consider helping out if you can. Let's make it the best yet!

[Click here to help out!](#)

Friday, August 31 through
Monday, September 3 @ TYEE
LANDING

26th Annual! Yup, that's right....now read the fine print....

The [Fall Fair](#) Celebrated its 26th Annual Event during the first year of the Salmon Derby!



Okay....so these next dudes have some catching up to do (it's only their 34th annual). They'll hit 73 Years (like the Fall Fair does this year) in 2057

— I'll be 100



September 15 - 16 - 2018

Last year more than 1300 Motorcycles clogged up our streets. That's a lot! And, they're looking to have more this year! We'll need wider streets if they keep this up!



Mr. Wiwchar - Chair of the Toy Run Society won the Chamber's Volunteer of the Year Award in 2018. Well - Deserved! This is a wonderful organization that does amazing things for Port Alberni. Special thanks from the Chamber of Commerce for supporting us in our development of the Breakfast With Santa Event in 2017. The Toy Run folks were major contributors for that event because of this event! ps: to Mr. Wiwchar's left is the Citizen of the Year for 2017 - another Award by the Chamber of Commerce. To his right is Todd Flaro who is part of the team at Alberni Teens Can Rock -

Ready or not.....

Coffee with the Mayoral Candidates

Between September 12 and October 17th we will host Mayoral Candidates at SMITTY'S RESTAURANT. 10:00AM TO 11:30AM Each Wednesday. These events hosted courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce and will include Coffee/Muffins etc. by our Co-Hosts - Smitty's. Chamber Members will have seating priority. N/C but pre-booking is recommended.

[Book your seat here](#)



Our Guest for September 12th is current Mayor - [His Worship Mayor Mike Ruttan.](#)

These events will include a short introduction by the Chair or President of the Chamber of Commerce followed by an open forum with the Candidate.

Chamber Members will have seating priority.



Wednesday, September 12 10:00am



This date is being held for
a pending candidate
announcement.

Wonder who???

[Book your spot here](#)



Wednesday, September 19 - 10:00am



Once again we meet at Smitty's for Coffee/Muffins courtesy of the Chamber of Commerce (and Smitty's).

Wednesday, September 26 @ 10:00am



Featured guest today is former Mayor and current candidate - Mr. John Douglas.

As per all weeks for this program Chamber Members will receive priority seating. Email us to book a spot.

[Book your seat here](#)



Current Councilor and Mayoral



Visit with us at Smitty's on

Candidate [Ms. Sharie Minions](#) takes the lead during our October 3rd Coffee with the Candidate forum. Ms. Minions has been the Council Representative on the Chamber Board and we thank her in advance for her hard work and commitment over the past four years. Well done and thanks Sharie!

[Book your seat here](#)

Wednesday, October 3rd @ 10:00am. As per all events priority seating will be given to current Chamber Members. Space is limited.



A poster for the Vancouver Island's Largest Business Expo. It features the text "BUSINESS EXPO" in large yellow letters, "Vancouver Island's LARGEST BUSINESS EXPO" in blue and yellow, and "OCTOBER 4, 2018 FROM 10 - 5 PM VI CONFERENCE CENTRE FREE ADMISSION". It also includes the Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce logo and the text "BOOK YOUR BOOTH TODAY!". Below this, there are three sections: "CONNECT" (Reach new customers, network with potential business partners, and catch up with clients.), "GROW" (Cultivate relationships, expand your database, and advance the awareness of your products or services.), and "SELL" (Showcase your products and services to generate leads and build your sales funnel.). At the bottom, it lists membership fees: "Member \$295 | Non-profit member \$195 | Non-member \$395", the phone number "250.756.1191", the email "info@nanaimochamber.bc.ca", and the website "www.NanaimoBusinessExpo.ca".

October 4, 2018

The Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce proudly presents the 11th anniversary of Vancouver Island's LARGEST Business Expo. On October 4th, 2018, the public is brought to you! Celebrate BC Small Business Month, and join 100+ booths and hundreds of attendees.

[Register your business here](#)

All Candidates Forum (Mayoral) hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and District Labour Council

Tuesday, October 9 @ 7:00pm - 9:00pm Italian Hall - 4065 - 6th Avenue Port Alberni



Your [Chamber of Commerce](#) is here to support and promote local



PADLC

means

Port Alberni District Labour Council

by acronymsandslang.com

THE Port Alberni District Labour Council is your way of connecting to the



A wonderful local facility that we often use - including for our annual Community Excellence Awards (coming to you. 04.26.19)

[Find them here!](#)

business. Community Excellence Awards, #TryHomeFirst, the Paper Chase, Networking Meetings, Business Training Programs, Tri-Conic and No. 7 Challenge, Visitor Centre, Light-Up Alberni, Breakfast with Santa - 2017, Member Spotlights, Member Benefits Programs, Policy Initiatives and Development, Civic Affairs, Proponent of MRDT (ask us how to help with that one). And much more. PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

benefits of membership.

Small Business Walks

On **Tuesday October 9,** 2018 our MP - Gord Johns will be hosting a Business Walk through Port Alberni. We're looking for 12-16 volunteers to join us for this fun and productive day of interviews. Please call our office to join the team! 250.724.6535.

I'm on this team....



On October 10th we'll see you once again at Smitty's to learn what Mr. Wright's platform is.

Remember: 10:00am. Preferred seating for Chamber Members.



Mayoral Candidate and local Businessman Mr. Kevin Wright will be our guest on the 10th of October. Mr. Wright is a former Board Member for the Chamber of Commerce and a winner of a past Community Excellence Award.

[Book your seat here](#)



Chamber Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, October 10

**Hospitality Inn 5:30pm - 8:30pm.
Seating will be limited. Click the link below to
access your seat.**



The British Columbia Economic Development Association (BCEDA) is the leading professional association of economic development practitioners in the Province of BC. BCEDA currently has over 420 members from communities throughout the Province. BCEDA provides services that help member communities grow and expand new and existing businesses, attract new business investments, and work towards strategic infrastructure investment, land use planning, and



Dale has 26 years of economic development experience. Starting out as an economic development officer in a rural BC community he received a number of awards including for his economic development website,



Also at this Dinner Meeting we plan to have a representative from both sides of the upcoming PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION ISSUE speak. We've invited guests to speak and fully expect to have quality speakers on both sides of the argument. Each will be given 20 minutes to present their viewpoints at which point our audience

community enhancement.

community profile and investment attraction marketing. From there Dale moved on to Chilliwack, BC, with a population base of 80,000, where he was Director of Economic Development for the Chilliwack Economic Partners Corporation. [Read more here](#)

can make a more informed decision.]

BOOK YOUR SEAT SOON FOR THIS EVENT.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2018

5:30PM - 8:30PM

HOSPITALITY INN

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Oh and by the way....if you register for the above Dinner Meeting you ALSO register automatically for the November 7th Dinner Meeting. That's right TWO for the price of ONE!

Date being held for the Mayoral Candidate Coffee Sessions. Stay tuned!

So....who is it?



[Book your Seat Here](#)

**Dinner Meeting - Wednesday, November 7
5:30pm**

Chances RimRock

**Hosted by the BCLC and
Alberni Valley Chamber of
Commerce - join us!**

This meeting is currently under development but expect it to be at Chances on November 7th. One guest speaker is the BC Lottery Corporation.

This meeting is FREE to attend for



Chamber Members who attend the October 10th Dinner Meeting.

Two for the price of ONE!

Watch upcoming newsletters for more information. Mark your calendars regardless



Our Thanks!

This summer the Chamber of Commerce through its Visitor Center had FIVE Students working for us. The two pictured above were here for the second straight year and led the team. Their primary focus, at least initially, was the Tri-Conic Challenge. They then helped us set up a satellite visitor center at the Train Station and both helped tremendously with our everyday functions. Complementing Val and Dara was Denae who led the charge, start to finish, with the Market on Margaret. And last but not least we enjoyed the presence of our two High School Students Olivia and Teyah. Val has returned to Kingston to finish her schooling in Political Science; Dara heads back to Capilano University end of the month to continue her studies in Business with a major in Marketing while Denae is already off to Victoria (Camosun) to continue with her studies in Sports Management. Olivia and her family have recently accepted a move to Victoria (Paul was the Save On Foods Store Manager) so she will finish High School in the Colwood area and Teyah will stay with us on a PT basis while finishing off high school at ADSS. **THANK YOU ALL FOR A GREAT JOB THIS SUMMER!**

The Chamber welcomes two new people to our team! They are: Jennifer Richardson formerly of Valley Vision Optometry and Reana Miller who had relocated back to Port Alberni from Thunder Bay Ontario where she co-owned a unique business there. Jen takes on a new role with us as OFFICE MANAGER and Reana takes on the lead for our upcoming ENTREPRENEURIAL BUSINESS TRAINING PROGRAM that will start up in October.

photo courtesy of [Lyndon Cassell Photography](#)

[Jen can be reached here](#) [Reana can be reached here](#)



Member Spotlight

AVCOC is working hard on our Member Spotlight Program. Our Spotlights are featured on our [FACEBOOK Page](#) and then copied over to our Website to link back over to the Member. This [one](#) was conducted a couple of weeks ago and saw a significant number of visits, comments, likes and tags resulting in more awareness of the organization. Watch for [DRAW GALLERY](#) and [Hybrid Chiropractic](#) hitting your FACEBOOK feeds next week! Both are impressive local organizations.

[Visit our website](#)