



[Find the Chamber here](#)



Arrowsmith View Market -  
Every Wednesday Evening  
Late June through August



Dan from the BC  
Conservation office showed  
up one evening with an  
awesome display! Thanks  
Dan!

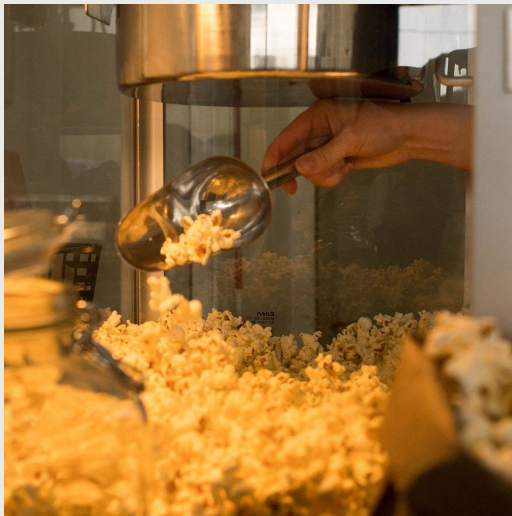


Here is Gordon Blake with  
Gordon's Kettle Corn. See  
Gordon at every market!  
He almost always sells out!

Join us for the last two  
events of 2019.  
Wednesday, August 21st  
and Wednesday, August  
28th 6:00pm to  
Sundown ~ 8:15pm



Live Music each week - courtesy of the  
Chamber of Commerce



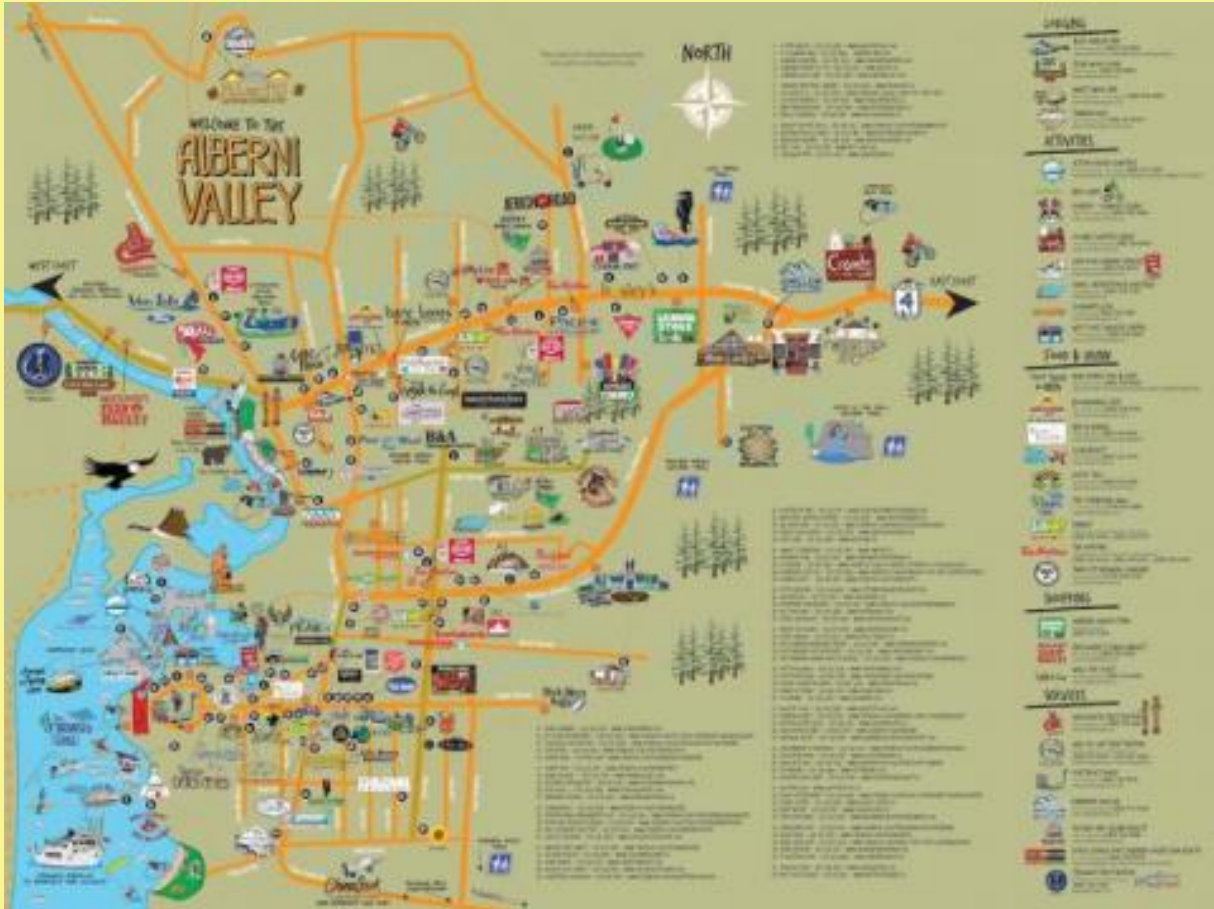
## Member Spotlight

With more than 300 Chamber Members we have a lot of interviews to do! They're fun, they're educational and they really confirm who is behind each and every business in Port Alberni! We feature the Spotlight on our Social Media Pages and then move it over to the Member Listing on our Website. Many see a significant level of interaction which of course is the purpose. Call us to schedule an appointment - we'd love to learn more about our Membership community! [Here is a link to one of our most recent ones](#)

1684 Engagements  
112 Likes  
16 Comments  
25 Shares

Our newest version of the Adventure Guide is on our website now! Hard copies available soon. Featuring more than 125 Businesses plus another ~ 50 local attractions. This product is

the favourite for Visitors to Port Alberni! Find both sides of the Guide (sort of a map...) **[RIGHT HERE](#)**



**[#ExplorePortAlberni](#)** - Check out the link for a wonderful video courtesy of ALBERNI VALLEY TOURISM



## Visitor Guide

The 2019 Visitor Guide can be found on our Website. A collaborative effort between ourselves and the Alberni Valley News it is receiving tremendous feedback for its content and presentation this year.

**[Find the online version here](#)**

\*photo credit Lyndon Cassell



Mark your CALENDARS! - Wednesday, October  
16th 9:00am - 5:00pm @ The Italian Hall

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Meet Mandy Farmer - Keynote Speaker (During lunch)  
for our [Women in Business Forum](#) scheduled for October  
16th.

Ms. Farmer is President and CEO of Accent Inns Victoria!  
She has been recognized as Hotelier of the Year by  
Pinnacle Awards, an accolade that summarizes her

decades of work within Canada's tourism industry. Highlights from Mandy's career include a commitment to the family-business, innovation through customer promotions and staff programs, rebelling against the ordinary through the creation of the [Hotel ZED](#) brand, and support of her local Victoria community and through charities that operate throughout the province.

Mandy brings a wealth of information, energy, and style to any event - she is not to be missed! She is a dynamic speaker! In addition to Mandy and our other Keynote Speaker (see below) we'll have three 90 minute forums each with four guest panelists and a moderator. You'll recognize all the names of these local leaders!

Confirmed so far as Guest Panelists and/or Moderators:

- *Ms. Terry Deakin (Winner 2019 Women Leadership Award, owner INEO )*
- *Ms. Rabinder Dhillon (Sponsor Women Leadership Award - 2018 and 2019, Mortgage Expert - Dominion Lending)*
- *Ms. Stefanie Weber (Co-Owner Tim Horton's Port Alberni - 3 locations - umpteen employees, Part Owner Keycorp Sports & Entertainment, Volunteer extraordinaire)*
- *Ms. Theresa Kingston (Former winner Citizen of the Year - well-known local leader)*
- *Ms. Sarah Jones (President AV Chamber of Commerce - Manager/Buyer - Walk the Coast, owner Coast Orthodics - Finalist Women Leadership Award 2019)*
- *Ms. Bouchra Savard (Co-owner Swept Away Inn - Extraordinary Chef, Zumba Instructor and...another wonderful venture I can't yet mention! Winner Tourism Award 2016)*
- *Ms. Carol-Anne Phillips (Manager - Italian Hall & Events Center - Co-Owner many local businesses)*
- *Ms. Debbie Haggard (City Councillor - Former Chair AVCOC, Co-Owner Haggard's Trucking - Business*

*Consultant Community Futures, Winner Chamber Award 2019)*

- *Her Worship Sharie Minions (Mayor Port Alberni - Owner Sharie Minions Mortgage Brokers - Co-Owner Brie and Barrel, Bravocado's Tofino).*

*Ms. Minions is tentative based on her busy schedule.*

- *Several more local women have been approached! You can see that we're building quite the team!*

**Watch our FACEBOOK pages for constant updates!**

To attend the event please contact our office to have your name added to the list. Coordinating the event is: **Ms. Reana Miller** Special Projects AVCOC

**REGISTER HERE - \$45.00 PLUS gst - \$50.00 PLUS gst AFTER October 1. Lunch included**

*\*partial funds raised at this event will go to a SCHOLARSHIP for a female student at NIC.*

**And....our other Keynote Speaker is....**



We're thrilled to confirm that Ms. Josie Osbourne will be at the event as our Afternoon Keynote Speaker. Ms. Osbourne is the current Mayor of Tofino, she's a board member of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, she's a business owner in Tofino and she is very highly regarded in all circles. And here is what you find on TWITTER about Josie: *Pragmatic optimist. Eats plants. Ocean lover. Future garlic farmer. Loves riding a bicycle. Dog walker. Mayor of [#Tofino](#) (načiqs), Canada.*

## Upcoming Chamber Events



### We're looking forward to our Fall Season Events Schedule

Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available. For now here is a quick peek at our agenda!

- *September 4th - Chamber presents opinion on Welcome Approach to Port Alberni to ACRD Board.*
- *September 11th - 6:00pm - Chamber is hosting CHEK TV Evening News along the waterfront at Victoria Quay near / at Millstone Park.*
- *October 10th @ 7:00pm - All Candidates Forum - Italian Hall - Federal Election Campaign - Open to the Public - Moderated by Chamber Director - Michael Moore*
- *October 16th 9:00am - 5:00pm - Women in Business Forum featuring upwards of 15 local Women Leaders along with prominent Guest Speakers. Not to be missed.*



- *October 30th - Chamber Dinner Meeting. Agenda, Guest Speakers and Venue TBA. 5:30pm - 8:00pm*
- *November 27th - 5:30pm - 8:00pm - Chances Rim Rock - Chamber Dinner Meeting. Featuring Port Alberni Shelter Society presenting on the Opioid Crisis and how best to navigate the challenges. This event is supported by PASS.*

# The Roaring 20's Return!



## Community Excellence Awards

What better theme than the ROARING 20'S for the latest version of the Community Excellence Awards.

*Expect to see many changes to the event for 2020! It will look completely different! 04.24.20*

Watch our Social Media Pages and Website for updates as they become available!

## Port Alberni to be better represented

Chamber Member [Visitor's Digest](#) have agreed to add Port Alberni to their next issues of the Visitor's Digest



Magazine for Vancouver Island. When we received the latest copy of the magazine we were disappointed to see that Port Alberni was noticeably absent. That was quickly addressed by the company who are keen to immerse themselves into our local marketplace. They maintain an impressive Distribution Network. Check out the information on the organization



[HERE](#)

## Current Advocacy Projects

- Recreational Fishery - Working closely with Island Chambers, BC Chamber, Local Politicians and the Federal Minister of Fisheries
- Cathedral Grove - working with Ministry of Transportation
- Approach to Port Alberni - working with ACRD, Ministry of Transportation, Honourable Scott Fraser MLA & others
- EHT (Employer Health Tax) - working closely with BC Chamber on this issue - pushing Govt to change the program such that small business is not so adversely affected.
- PATH - Recent presentation to BC Govt on the value of the Port Alberni Trans-shipment Hub
- Policing - Recent presentation to BC Govt, Island Chambers and BC Chamber on the issue of funding for the RCMP. Currently Port Alberni (taxpayers) at well less than 20000 in population pay at the same formula (90%) as do cities the size of Burnaby, Coquitlam, Richmond, Surrey, Kelowna etc.
- MRDT - we continue to push for implementation of this important funding option - now estimated at upwards of 1/2 million annually for Port Alberni. Working with CPA and ACRD

## Speaking of Advocacy...



## Canada's Cannabis Opportunity: Let's Think Bigger

It has been nearly ten months since Canada became the second country and first large developed economy in the world to legalize recreational cannabis for adult use. This bold economic experiment is generating new [jobs....read](#)

[more here](#)



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