

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPOTLIGHT



Economic Development Select Committee

All levels of government employ the use of a variety of committees to assist in the undertaking of some of their business. The City of Mission uses a structure comprised of commissions and committees, each which are directly related to topics and issues that affect the community such as traffic and transit, parks and recreation, and economic development. By utilizing these “Committees of Council” the community benefits by gaining the experience of professionals whose areas of expertise align with the mandate of these specific committees, and Council benefits by receiving optimized consultation and recommendations from these committees when making decisions. Additionally, the recommendations from these committees and commissions can influence public policy and participation in them is an opportunity for members of the community to get involved in municipal affairs.

The Economic Development Select Committee (EDSC) is one of these Council-appointed advisory bodies, or “Committees of Council”, whose purpose it is to focus the concentrated efforts of select community members on City issues related to economic development. The EDSC provides recommendations to Council on economic development priorities, policies, procedures, and matters that foster and enhance business and economic growth within the City of Mission.

The EDSC was created in 2002 and in the following year was provided with operating funds and delegated as the primary group to oversee economic development activities for the District of Mission.

The EDSC is comprised of 12 members who are residents, taxpayers, or business owners/representatives in the City of Mission who have the appropriate qualifications, work experience, community involvement, and knowledge to provide independent advice and assistance on areas such as business retention, expansion and attraction; industrial land expansion; local business partnership initiatives; policy and programs; and other economic development issues as requested or assigned by Council. Most recently, the EDSC has focused their efforts on projects such as the Employment Lands Strategy and the Waterfront Master Plan, and provided advice regarding industrial land expansion, short sea shipping, and transportation within the City of Mission. Yearly, the call is put out for applications from those interested in serving on the EDSC, and those applications are then presented to Council for their consideration. Each committee member is individually appointed by Council for a two-year term.

The City of Mission’s Mayor and Council recognize that Council business can benefit from the efficient use of these committees and is grateful for the time that each committee member volunteers to participate in matters which enhance our community. Currently, the EDSC is seeking expressions of interest from community members who would like to join the committee. Interested individuals can contact Krista De Sousa in the Economic Development department at 604-814-1281 or kdesousa@mission.ca for additional information regarding this opportunity.



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