

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPOTLIGHT



The City of Mission's Economic Development department is pleased to acknowledge Mission's local businesses in honour of Small Business Month this October. We appreciate the importance of small businesses in the community and recognize them as valuable contributors in strengthening our local and regional economy.

Small businesses support local job creation, keep more money circulating in the local economy, and are a large part of building community identity. Their owners are invested in the local community, and they often give back by sponsoring community events, charities, groups and initiatives. It is estimated that for every \$100 dollars spent at a local business, \$68 stays within the community*, meaning most of the money you spend in Mission stays here.

Mission is fortunate to be home to many locally owned businesses. In fact, City business license statistics report that from January 1 to September 1, 2022 there were a total of 2,217 business licenses issued. Business licenses in Mission fit within three categories: home occupation; resident; and non-resident. There are 1,019 home occupation licenses, for businesses that are home-based, 832 resident licenses, for businesses with a physical storefront in Mission, and 366 were non-resident licenses, for businesses that are not physically located in Mission, but do business in Mission. Statistics such as these suggest that entrepreneurship is an important facet in the diverse fabric of our community.

In support of local businesses, the City of Mission co-hosted a Job Fair on October 11th to assist Mission and surrounding area businesses in addressing and fulfilling their workforce recruitment needs. Over the course of the Job Fair, over 30 local employers had the opportunity to connect directly with local job seekers and students to talk about the current and upcoming job opportunities in their businesses.

On a larger scale, Statistics Canada states that nationally there are more than 1 million small businesses in Canada, accounting for more than 10 million jobs (2019). Provincially, approximately 44% of British Columbians work at companies with less than 50 employees, proving that small is mighty.

Small Business Month celebrates the important contributions small business owners make to the BC economy and to their local communities and we extend our support and thanks to all small businesses in Mission.

*Source: Loco BC 2019 Report on the Economic Impact of Local Business – November 29, 2019



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