



NEWSLINE

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January Luncheon



Join us on **THURSDAY, January 15th** at the Coast Bastion Hotel for the first luncheon of the new year . Our Guest Speaker is Dr. James Lunney, MP Nanaimo-Alberni who will bring us up-to-date on the happenings in Ottawa.

We will also be presenting Honourary memberships to 4 long-time Chamber members in recognition of their support and service to the Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce.

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Business Awards Nominee Celebration

The Chamber's 2015 Business Achievement Awards will be based on Successful Cities' five community pillars: the Natural Environment, Cultural Vitality, Economic Development, Social Considerations, and the Built Environment.

Nominations are open to the entire business community including Lantzville south to Cedar and Yellow Point. Join us in celebrating all the nominees in a casual, upbeat ceremony on Friday, February 20. The Gala Awards Evening will be held Friday, March 20. Find more nomination information online at www.nanaimochamber.bc.ca or call the Chamber to see how you can nominate a worthy candidate. Deadline for nominations is Friday, January 30, 2015. See Page 5 for ticket information.

Did You Know...

A Polar Bear "Swim" or "Plunge" is a tradition that goes back more than 100 years. It originated with the Scandinavian sauna tradition as a way to rapidly cool off after the heat of a sauna.



Office Closure

Just a reminder that the Chamber office is closed from noon December 23rd to January 5, 2015.

Happy Holiday's everyone!

Christmas Luncheon

Festive and fun! The Christmas Lunch and Auction was held on Wednesday, December 10th. Packed with over 400 people, it was a party to remember.

The Wine Ring Toss was a huge hit. As was the Lotto tree. People also out did themselves with bidding on some of the great auction items that were available.



We would like to thank Block Design for help with décor, our always helpful ambassadors who assisted with the auction and to Katie, Janice and Gord for making the Wine Ring Toss such a success.



2014 / 2015 Executive

Marianne Turley, Chair

Turley's Florist chair@nanaimochamber.bc.ca

David Littlejohn, Chair Elect

Living Forest Campground & RV Park

Mike Thompson, Treasurer

Impact Studio

Wally Wells, Executive Secretary

Wells Infrastructure Group

Mike Delves, Past Chair

MNP

Kim Smythe, Chief Executive Officer

ceo@nanaimochamber.bc.ca

Decorating Contest Winners

Sponsored by Able Recognition

Business up to 5 Employees

FIRST Place – Supreme Self Storage

SECOND Place – Genesis Hair Design

Business 5 to 10 Employees

FIRST Place – Zorkin Insurance Brokers Inc.

Banks

FIRST Place – RBC – Woodgrove Centre

SECOND Place – Coastal Community Credit Union

– Bowen Rd.

Seniors Living Facilities

FIRST Place – Nanaimo Seniors Village

Centre Mall – Administration

FIRST Place – Woodgrove Centre Administration

Hotels

FIRST Place – The Grand Hotel

SECOND Place – Inn on Long Lake



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Contact us for more information: (250) 716-1550

rjc.ca

Celebrating 15 years of service in Nanaimo

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Chamber RRSP

10 Ways Chambers Group RRSP Serves Small Businesses

1. It's a high-value benefit that can attract and retain key employees
2. Easy to set up and launch
3. Quick and easy to manage
4. No cost to employers (unless they choose to contribute)
5. Flexible eligibility, contribution formula and withdrawal rules
6. Tangible way to express interest in employees' life after work
7. Employer contributions are tax deductible
8. Low investment management fees (IMFs) for members
9. Contributions made by employees reduce their taxable income
10. Employees' savings grow tax free until withdrawn (ideally at retirement)

Statistics show less than 38% of employers offer a Group Retirement Savings Program. How many of your Group Benefit clients have a Group RRSP for their employees?

Helping help Canadians save for retirement. Talk to us at 250-756-1191 for more information.

2015-2016 Board of Directors Nominations

The Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization made up of local businesses, professionals and community groups who strive to enhance the quality of life in our community by providing opportunities for businesses to succeed. The Chamber is led by a Board of Directors, nominated from within the Chamber membership, and representing Nanaimo's diverse business community.

Nominations are now open for the 2015-2016 Board of Directors. If you have the time and are committed to working to improve the quality of life in Nanaimo, please contact Kim Smythe, CEO, for more information.

Boardroom Available for Rent

The Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce Boardroom is available for rent for your next meeting or seminar. It features comfortable executive style chairs and seats up to 20 people; includes LED projector and screen.

Contact the office for rates.



Newsline Advertising

To book ad space contact
info@nanaimochamber.bc.ca

Prices do not include GST.

Business card size (2" h x 3.5" w)

1 insertion	\$49 each
3 insertions	\$44 each

Banner (2" h x 7" w)

1 insertion	\$99 each
3 insertions	\$89 each

January 2015 Chamber Events

For events requiring payment, pre-registration and pre-payment are required. Refunds will be issued with 48 hrs notice.

Membership Luncheon

When: THURSDAY, January 15, 2015—PLEASE NOTE THE DAY CHANGE
Time: Buffet lunch begins 11:30 am
Guest Speaker: Dr. James Lunney
Sponsor: TBA
Where: Coast Bastion Hotel, 11 Bastion Street
Cost: Members: \$34.00 (+GST); Non Members: \$50.00 (+GST)

Business before Business

When: Wednesday, January 21, 2015
Where: Academy of Learning - 1551 Estevan Road, Suite 7
Time: 7:30 am—8:30 am

Spark Session— SEO for Business with Fraser Paterson

When: Thursday, January 22, 2015
Where: Chamber office—2133 Bowen Road
Time: 7:00 am networking. Session starts promptly at 7:30 am until 8:30 am
Cost: Free for members

Lightning Talks 4—Deal With It

When: Tuesday, January 27, 2015
Where: SquareOne, 38 Victoria Crescent
Time: 5:00 pm- 8:00 pm
Cost: \$19.00 (+GST)

Business after Business

When: Thursday, January 29, 2015
Host: Splitsville—171 Calder Road
Time: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Spark Session Webinar—Getting more out of Facebook

When: Friday, January 30, 2015
Time: 10:00 am– 11:00 am
Cost: Free for members



TO PREPAY - VISA & MASTERCARD ACCEPTED (fax to 250-756-1584), registration@nanaimochamber.bc.ca

EVENT: _____ NO. OF TICKETS? _____

NAME _____ COMPANY NAME: _____

VISA # _____ M/C # _____

NAME ON CREDIT CARD _____ EXP. DATE _____

*The Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce maintains a **48 hour minimum (2 business days) cancellation policy** for all Chamber events. Cancellations made with less than 48 hours' notice are not eligible for a refund. Unpaid registrations will be invoiced. If you are unable to attend an event for which you have registered, consider offering your spot to a colleague, staff member or customer. There is no additional charge to transfer your registration to someone else. Simply notify the Chamber by calling 250-756-1191.*

Business Achievement Awards

For events requiring payment, pre-registration and pre-payment are required. Refunds will be issued with 48 hrs notice.

TO PREPAY - VISA & MASTERCARD ACCEPTED (fax to 250-756-1584),

reception@nanaimochamber.bc.ca

Business Awards Nominee Celebration

The nominations are all in, the judges have done their work and now we celebrate the great nominees! Join us and them at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre on Friday, February 20th.

All the nominees are winners; someone has thought so highly of their service/product that they took time out from their busy lives to nominate them for an award. This is worth a party for sure!

On **Friday, February 20, 2015** at the Coast Bastion Hotel from 5:00—8:00 pm we will be hosting a reception for all nominees to recognize their important contribution to our community. Invitations will be sent to all those nominated; tickets are \$25.00 (plus GST).

NAME _____ NO. OF TICKETS? _____

COMPANY NAME: _____

VISA # _____ M/C # _____

NAME ON CREDIT CARD _____ EXP. DATE _____

Gala Awards Evening

The Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce has been honouring outstanding organizations and individuals in Nanaimo for 15 years. The Business Achievement Awards, formerly the Sterling Awards, brings our community together to celebrate the accomplishments of individuals, businesses and organizations across all sectors in our city

Thank you to our sponsors and to the nominees for making Nanaimo a great place to do business. We hope you are able to join us in celebrating the achievements of our business community. The gala awards ceremony, with entertainment and a buffet dinner, will take place on **Friday, March 20, 2015** at the Coast Bastion Hotel. Tickets are \$80.00 (+ GST).

NAME _____ NO. OF TICKETS? _____

COMPANY NAME: _____

VISA # _____ M/C # _____

NAME ON CREDIT CARD _____ EXP. DATE _____

New Members December 2014

Brave New Niche

Lantzville, BC
Contact: George Plumley
Ph: # (250) 933-4340

Ruttan, John

Nanaimo, BC
Contact: John Ruttan
Ph: # (250) 616-9411



SuperGreen Solutions

Nanoose Bay, BC
Contact: Brian Onushko
Ph: # (250) 882-8308
www.supergreensolutions.com

TBS Construction Ltd.

Nanoose Bay, BC
Ph: #(250) 618-7112
www.tbsconstructionltd.ca

Residential Decorating Contest

Every year, our intrepid former President Marilyn Sullivan and her team of volunteers tour the City making a list of all the beautifully decorated houses in Nanaimo. Our thanks to the **Nanaimo News Bulletin** who help promote and publish the list and many thanks to Steve Laird from **Laird Wheaton** for lending their courtesy vehicle for the tour. Fill up the thermos, crank up the Christmas carols and take a drive.

First Place: 2251 Belwood Road (off Westwood Rd)

Second Place: 921 Cadogan – Townsite area

Third Place: 6425 Dover Road

1205 Townsite (at Bush St.)

2172 Duggan Road

4311 Jingle Pot (corner of Labieux)

3930 Rock City Road

1836 Latimer Road

520 Churchill Road (Townsite area)

5922 Tasha – whole street

1755 Harvest Place – Country Hills off Extension Rd

6148 Somerside Place – off Montgomery – whole street nicely done

McGirr Road – Candy Cane Lane

6247 Olympia Way

6060 Nelson Road

5152 Sams Way

2320 Whitney Road – off Bowen across from Beban Park

449 Renfrew Street – off Howard Ave

435 Fourth Street

491 Howard Avenue

Cardinal Way (off Boundary Rd)



Member Profile: Kim Strynadka, Integrity Mortgage



Buying a mortgage is more than just getting the best interest rate. Kim Strynadka, of Integrity Mortgage, makes sure clients understand all mortgage features. Depending on a client's circumstances, prepayment options, renewal options, or potential 'fine print' restrictions, could impact mortgage decisions.

A mortgage broker for eighteen years, Kim knows all aspects of real estate investments. She helps with the whole transaction, not just the mortgage. Kim can coordinate all parties, including realtors, lawyers, surveyors, and appraisers. With her vast experience and knowledge, she often alleviates issues that arise before

a client even knows about them.

As a mortgage broker, Kim is paid by the lenders, so has no allegiance with any one provider. If mortgage seekers go directly to a lender, they are limited by that lender's products. Kim researches multiple lenders, determines the pros and cons of more products, and finds the perfect option for each client.

Kim builds relationships to prepare her clients for long-term real estate success. Building confidence in the investor, she develops short and long term plans to help build their portfolio, or show them how to use their mortgage money in different ways. Kim even has clients that she's helped with ten of their house purchases.

To ensure client satisfaction, Kim engages the help of two other mortgage brokers, Katy Hommie, and Kathleen Dediluke. Together, they combine their efforts to support clients 24/7. They work on the client's schedule, and typically get quicker approval turnarounds.

Buying real estate can be stressful. Kim relieves the pressure by taking on the burden of the many tedious and intimidating facets of the entire purchase process. Clients feel good about their purchase. It's not just about a mortgage, the experience with Integrity Mortgage builds a client's confidence. Kim helps them build their net worth, and their self-worth.

Article by Bonnie Chomica, [Marketing Done Write](#)

Ambassador Program

Chamber Ambassadors are authorized representatives of the Chamber, volunteers who represent the Chamber of Commerce and serve as a liaison between it and its members. They come with various professional backgrounds and experiences.

The Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors meet with new members, orientate them within the Chamber and to familiarize them to its benefits and they assist new members and help with introductions to other members at the luncheon and networking events.

To liaise with new members for a period of time until they are comfortable, and to ensure the Chamber is meeting their needs.

If you would like more information on the Ambassador Program, please contact Kimberly at 250-756-1191.

Member News

~ Congratulations Kelsey and Carson McPherson on the arrival of their 2nd daughter, Harper.

~ Come one, come all to the Winter Wonderland of Frank Crane Arena! The arena will be transformed into a 'Winter Wonderland' with a Winter Carnival theme! Friday, December 26th, 2014 -Tuesday, December 30th, 2014

~**Nanaimo Search and Rescue (NSAR)** will be hosting a tree chipping fundraiser in the Country Club Mall parking lot (near the Dairy Queen) on Saturday, January 3rd from 11am to 3pm. Trees will be chipped on-site by VITree.ca by donation to NSAR.

~ Get in the action with the **Nanaimo Junior "A" Clippers** hockey team when they host Coquitlam at Frank Crane Arena. Saturday, January 10th, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

~It's Nanaimo's biggest and best family New Year's Eve event! Wednesday, December 31st, 2014. 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM at Beban Park! It's a tropical theme night and there will be skating, swimming, crafts and more! A special appearance by Aunti Bobbi the Clown and other entertainment includes The Big Mess, the Purple Pirate, Jake West, Vibe Dance Group.

~ An Evening With Stuart McLean's Vinyl Cafe . Wednesday, January 28th, 2015 at 7:30 PM at the **Port Theatre**.

~ **TheatreOne's** Fringe Flicks presents Big News from Grand Rock Jan. 4-5, **Avalon Cinema**. Tickets \$12 or \$59.60 for six films from www.theatreone.org or by phone 250-754-7587 and at the door.

~ Nicolas Bennett, a student at Wellington Secondary School is putting together the 2014 2015 annual school yearbook. He has 46 pages devoted specifically to local entrepreneurs. Contact him at 250 -802-6335 lleart2332@gmail.com to get the size of the ads and the prices.

~Tell your friends and family, come on out and enjoy a FREE educational session. All about teeth. Parksville Library, January 17th, 1pm—Don't be late. Held by Ahmed A.Omar, R.D. **Nanaimo Denture Clinic**. Ahmed: 250-755-6160 Soha: 250-713-0303.

Spark Sessions

The Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce Sparks Sessions started in the fall of 2014 and have gained some great momentum. We are excited to have these free member sessions back for 2015. Watch for all the details on the in person sessions and the webinars – for members by members.

We have a few set up for the early part of the year, but wanted to put it out to our membership that we are looking for experts in their field for more spots in 2015. We need good, solid members to chat in person or online about how we can enhance our business and the people around our businesses. People typically leave the Spark Sessions with new ideas and a group of people who celebrate and support their goals.

If you are interested in being a Spark Session presenter, please contact Kimberly Plumley at 250-756-1191 (ext 0) to discuss. If you want to know how you book your spot in the webinars or in person sessions, call the same number.

