



Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of the Ridge Meadows Chamber of Commerce staff and Board of Directors, we want to express our sincere gratitude for the opportunity to speak at your January 28th council meeting. Our partnership with the City of Pitt Meadows means a great deal to us, and we truly appreciate the chance to update you on the progress we've made over the past few years.

Entering into a fee-for-service agreement with the City of Pitt Meadows last year was a significant milestone for our organization. This support allowed us to expand our efforts and provide meaningful programs for our business community. As a non-profit organization, partnerships like these are critical to our ability to serve local businesses, and we feel incredibly fortunate to have agreements in place with both cities we represent.

In 2024, the City of Pitt Meadows provided \$12,000, enabling us to successfully deliver:

- A Pitt Meadows Job Fair, connecting businesses with local job seekers.
- A New Business Welcome Package to support and encourage new enterprises.
- A Pitt Meadows Business Directory, which we are finalizing with Colin, ensuring businesses have greater visibility and connectivity.

As we near the end of our current agreement, we would love the opportunity to continue working together in 2025 through a renewed fee-for-service agreement. In March 2025, we plan to hire a Membership & Community Coordinator, a part-time role dedicated to growing our organization and strengthening community ties. This individual would:

- Spend one day per week in Pitt Meadows, promoting both the Chamber and the City.
- Collect valuable economic and business data to support local initiatives.
- Advocate for Pitt Meadows businesses, providing outreach and support.
- Distribute City and Chamber materials.

We recognize that Pitt Meadows does not currently have a formal economic development office or a BIA. We would love to fill this gap and act as a strong partner in fostering business growth and engagement in the community.

To support this initiative and enhance our collaboration, we are requesting an \$18,000 fee-for-service agreement. This funding would allow us to:

- Hire and sustain a dedicated staff member to serve Pitt Meadows businesses.
- Continue to manage and update the business directory.
- Host a Pitt Meadows job fair.
- Distribute business resources and promotional materials on behalf of the City.
- Ensure strong Chamber and City representation in the local business community.
- Keep the City of Pitt Meadows business directory up to date.
- Provide new business packages to individuals looking to open a business in our community.



This funding would be an ongoing commitment from the City of Pitt Meadows to ensure that staff wages are partially covered, allowing us to maintain stability and consistency in this role. The agreement would be assessed annually and fully re-evaluated after a five-year term—however, this timeline is not set in stone and remains open for discussion. Due to the nature of this funding, we rely on these contributions to keep this position stable and secure for the person we hire.

We are always open to discussion and collaboration and would love the opportunity to explore how we can best serve Pitt Meadows businesses together. We sincerely appreciate the City's ongoing support and look forward to an exciting year ahead. Please feel free to reach out with any questions—I would be happy to discuss this proposal further.

Warm regards,  
Kristi Maier  
CEO, Ridge Meadows Chamber of Commerce