

*“To create a united business community  
that works together for the well-being of Gold River”.*



## **GOLD RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

PO BOX 39, GOLD RIVER, BC, V0P 1G0  
goldriverchamber@gmail.com

Greetings Members,

March 4, 2021

What a year we have had! From the start of COVID 19 launching a global pandemic we have persevered to keep the Chamber of Commerce moving forward. Having a new Board, we held strategic planning sessions to help us establish our framework for the next few years. As we are no longer at ‘The Vault’, we are currently looking to find a new home in another location from which we can brainstorm and plan our future as a successful Chamber of Commerce in advocating and supporting our local businesses and community.

Our website has been reallocated to [destinationgoldriver.ca](http://destinationgoldriver.ca) to be affiliated within the ‘Destination BC’ umbrella, with great success. Social Media Director Anita Lawrence, along with webmaster Paul Smith, have been working together to keep the web site current and relevant in our area. Anita also manages our Facebook and all our social media platforms. Please contact her with items you might want to share.

With the direction of Vice President Diane Lloyd, we have updated our by-laws which will be adopted at the 2021 AGM in March. She has also revised our bursary process with the assistance of Anita. Both ladies then met with the high school principal to create a working relationship with students interested in business. We are also proud to say that two local 2020 grad students were awarded the April Holmes Memorial Bursary for continuing education.

Some networking with North Island Chambers, regarding how they operate within their respective communities, has helped us to establish our footprint in our own Village. We have had meetings with Mary Ruth Snyder, Campbell River Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, who has been a wealth of information. She has helped us create a newsletter format, which we will be implementing, helped us get in touch with the contacts for the BC Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. As well, in the future she has invited us to participate in a “Gold River: Planning your Perfect Day” spotlight video which she will also share on the Campbell River Chamber website in addition to their video, creating a great partnership opportunity.

We have members working with the Gold River Economic Development Committee, Recording Secretary Cathy Nesbitt and the Gold River Tourism Committee, Treasurer/Membership Secretary Linda Vandenberg and Director Suzanne Trevis. We have participated in the ‘Gold River Gold’ Shop Local campaign with great success and executive and directors have also participated in two business walks connecting with our members and non-member businesses. The Village of Gold River has developed an Ambassador Program through the Economic Development Committee of which we also have a couple of members on that listing. In addition, we are currently working on a local business advertising map which will be created locally and will reflect the new Gold River Branding, creating a cohesive new look to our community.

In closing we are looking forward to the upcoming year and encourage all our members to come out to the AGM on March 18, 2021. Get involved and share your ideas and concerns so that we can continue to be your voice in business.

Respectfully ,

Veanna Johnston  
President  
Gold River Chamber of Commerce

*“Our mission is to support and promote our business community, through advocacy,  
education and communication”*