

City of Parksville Wins Open for Business Award

Earlier this year, the BC Small Business Roundtable invited local governments to compete for the 2014 Open for Business Awards. The announcement of winners was made yesterday at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities annual convention in Whistler and accepted on behalf of the City of Parksville by Councillor Sue Powell.

This award recognizes the importance of small business competitiveness and the degree to which small business contributes to our community. The \$10,000 award will be provided to the Parksville and District Chamber of Commerce, as the lead partner in Oceanside Initiatives, to develop a five-year strategic plan for economic development in the region. The 2014 Open for Business Award will help to ensure the next phase in economic development partnership will continue to benefit both small business and the community.

“The City of Parksville and the Parksville and District Chamber of Commerce share an enviable working relationship; one of open consultation and collaboration in support of the best possible service delivery to the community. We congratulate the Parksville and District Chamber of Commerce for their ongoing initiatives and the City looks forward to continuing as an active partner with Oceanside Initiatives.”

Award applications were evaluated based on how the communities enhance small-business competitiveness, recognize the contributions of small businesses to the community and promote the principles of the BC Small Business Accord. The Roundtable noted the 2014 applications were the strongest to date with the majority of applications coming from smaller communities. Information about the BC Small Business Accord is available at <http://www.jtst.gov.bc.ca/sbaccord/>

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About Parksville — Located on Vancouver Island's sheltered east coast, 12,000 residents call Parksville their home. Parksville offers a quality lifestyle with many activities. We are committed to being the city of choice for ourselves and future generations in a clean, safe, friendly, economically viable and sustainable environment.