

# **BIZ MATTERS**

The official newsletter of the Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce

# Chetwynd Chamber to partner with Big Spend Event this coming April

The Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce is announcing their partnership with The Big Spend – a national shop-local campaign designed to give a boost to the Canadian economy. First launched in 2020 during the first wave of the pandemic, the event promotes partnership with chambers of commerce and community sponsors while driving marketing value for small businesses. Naomi Larsen, Executive Director for the Chetwynd Chamber says they hope the partnership will offer more support to the local business community.

"By shopping locally, you're keeping money close to home," Larsen said. "The local economy benefits from your support of neighbours and friends, and you help create meaningful jobs and ample public services. Small businesses in BC are the backbone of our provincial economy.

"An uncertain economic future and unprecedented challenges were faced by these businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. It's never been more critical to support local businesses and our local economies as they

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REQUEST TO
CHETWYND



emerge and grow once again."

Though shop-local campaigns are not new, event organizers say that more needs to be done to help small businesses recover from the pandemic.

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THE BIG

# Chamber's Canfor employee transition page goes live

The Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce recently met with the Canfor transition team to lay out what the next steps are after the announcement of the mill closure. The transition office is staffed with people who can help and answer questions about topics such as benefits, severance packages, and other employee supports.

"The Chetwynd Chamber will also ensure information is available regarding resources and supports for Canfor employees on our website: A one-stop shop, so to say, with links and info," Naomi Larsen, Executive Director of the Chetwynd Chamber explained.

The link which went live last week is: <a href="https://www.chetwyndchamber.ca/transitions">www.chetwyndchamber.ca/transitions</a> Also, Work BC in partnership with the Canfor Transition Team will be hosting a Job Fair on March 28 at the Chetwynd Rec Centre. If you would like to get involved or if you're an employer and would like to book a booth, contact Work BC at info-chetwynd@workbc.ca or call 250-788-1025.

# It's time to make progress in recovery

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"Everyone wants Canada's economy to recover," says founder and former Kamloops Chamber of Commerce President Tim Schindel. "And there are shop-local campaigns in many cities. But we need something that generates national momentum. We need to show people how we're all making progress, not just doing something nice. That's what The Big Spend is designed to do."

Over the three-day event, people are encouraged to shop local and report their purchase on the campaign website. Schindel says that results from the 2020 campaign tallied over \$100 million in economic impact. He believes the reporting feature is a key difference between The Big Spend and other shop-local campaigns.

"A lot of people don't think their actions make a difference. But they do. While government policy certainly affects our economy, it's ultimately local people shopping locally that determines the economic health, stability and prosperity of their community."

Businesses can sign up to be part of The Big Spend for a fee. Community sponsors can partner to promote the event locally in exchange for revenue-sharing. Details are provided on the website at www.thebigspend.com.

The Big Spend will be coming to cities and towns across Canada on April 28-30.

# **Trade Show Door Prize requests**

The Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce would like to take this opportunity to invite you to contribute and be a part of the success of Chetwynd's annual Trade Show. The Trade Show is back after three years and is being held March 31 to April 2, 2023.

Throughout the weekend door prizes will be given out, and these items are historically donated by the local businesses. Providing a door prize is an excellent way to gain recognition for your business, as well as support this great community event.

Door Prizes can include items such as gift certificates, hats and mugs with your company logo, gift items from your store, bouquet of flowers, coupon for mechanic and shop time, t shirts, 9 holes of golf, pizzas, load of gravel etc. Please contact us by phone 788-3345 or email manager@chetwyndchamber.ca to let us know what you can contribute and we can make arrangements to have someone come to your business to collect any items at your convenience.

## Thank you so far to:

Yummy Donuts, Tansi Friendship Centre, The Flower Shop, KPA Oilfield Services; NAPA, Sakawinow Music Festival, Duz Cho,



# BOOTHS ARE SELLING OUT FAST! BOOK TODAY!

Registration forms can be downloaded from our website at <a href="https://www.chetwyndchamber.ca/trade-show">www.chetwyndchamber.ca/trade-show</a> OR you can email manager@chetwyndchamber.ca to request forms.

Remember we have two big arenas so there's lots of room for everyone!

We take etransfer to the above email address, Visa, Mastercard, Cash and Cheque for booth payment. Or you can give me a call at the number below and we can do payment over the phone too.

For updates on the show, check out our Facebook page at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ChetwyndTradeShow">https://www.facebook.com/ChetwyndTradeShow</a>. Updates will be shared to our Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce social media as well.

We look forward to hearing from you all and see you at the show!

# Businesses need help – the budget must reduce business costs

By BC Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Fiona Famulak

As the provincial government prepares to release Budget 2023, the BC Chamber of Commerce, its 100 member chambers and boards of trade and the province's business community will be looking for a plan that does not add to the already high cost of doing business in British Columbia.

Over recent years, the government has implemented measures that have increased costs and made it even harder for B.C. businesses to thrive and grow, particularly the small and medium-sized businesses that are the backbone of our provincial economy and support urban and rural communities in every region.

These measures include new and increased taxes, mandatory five paid sick days, increases to the minimum wage five years in a row and the recent introduction of a new statutory holiday. Faced with the ongoing challenges caused by high interest rates, inflation and supply chain challenges, B.C. businesses need help.

Through its member chambers of commerce and boards of trade, the BC Chamber represents more than 36,000 businesses of every size, and from every sector and region of the province. We know firsthand the challenges they are facing. In a recent survey of members, 87 per cent of respondents confirmed the "costs of doing business" have gotten worse over the past year and 78 per cent said "costs of labour" have also gotten worse.

Faced with the ongoing challenges caused by high interest rates, inflation and supply chain challenges, B.C. businesses need help.



**FAMULAK** 

Now is the time for decisive actions from government to reduce the cost of doing business in B.C. and create conditions that attract new investment to our province.

So, what can the government do to help businesses and our economy?

To help B.C.'s smallest businesses, it can amend the Employer Health Tax by increasing the base payroll exemption threshold from \$500,000 to \$1.5 million. This would ensure B.C.'s tax is more competitive with other provinces, allow for more businesses to be exempted from the tax, reduce the cost of hiring for more businesses and encourage job creation and wage growth.

It can make changes to the PST to make it less cumbersome and reduce the administrative burden on businesses of all sizes. Over the long term, government should also engage with British Columbians on our existing tax structure and look for ways to develop a structure that enhances the province's competitiveness and productivity.

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# Featured **◆** LOVECHETWYND.COM Member The Pencil Box/Coffee Talk Express



Main: 250-788-3422 4753 51 St Chetwynd, BC V0C 1J0

Hours
Monday to Friday
8:30 am - 5:30 pm

When owner Ramona Davidson found herself between jobs, she decided to make something happen rather than wait for something to happen. She started the Coffee Talk Express, a local newsletter, in 1998. What began as a small operation out of a spare bedroom in her home soon outgrew its space, eventually prompting her to lease a downtown store front space.

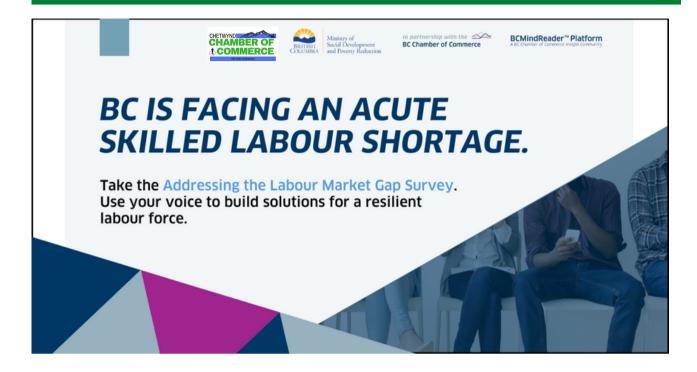
The Pencil Box is Chetwynd's comprehensive office supplies store. Inside, customers will find everything needed to run a business and stock an office from basics like paper and writing instruments to health and safety items and apparel, cleaning supplies, break room supplies and safety work wear (coveralls, shirts, jackets and reflective gear).

In addition to office and business supplies, The Pencil Box also offers a wide range of essential business services. Supplement your own office with professional printing, laminating, faxing and photocopying.

The Pencil Box can also tackle all of your printing and promotional challenges and needs, giving you and your printed media fresh appeal and strong advertising power.

This amazing business is also for sale! What a great opportunity! Contact The Pencil Box for more information.





# HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD Deadline extended to March 3

Is your business struggling to attract and retain workers? Or are you the one looking for a job? We want to hear from you

BC is facing an acute labour shortage that challenges bothemployers and job seekers. The **Addressing the Labour Market Gap** project [<a href="https://www.bcmindreader.com/c/r/Addressing-the-Labour-Market-Gap-Survey">https://www.bcmindreader.com/c/r/Addressing-the-Labour-Market-Gap-Survey</a>] will help us to better understand the disconnect between employer and job seeker needs so that we can build solutions for a resilient labour force.

The project is led by the BC Chamber of Commerce and funded by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction.

The Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce wants to hear from businesses and their employees in Chetwynd and the South Peace. We invite all employers to complete the survey [https://www.bcmindreader.com/c/r/Addressing-the-Labour-Market-Gap-Survey\_] and share it with their employees. Your feedback will inform the development of appropriate solutions to improve and innovate employment practices, as well as inform future program and public policy decisions in BC.

The survey deadline is February 24, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. PT. Please take the Addressing the Labour Market Gap Survey [https://www.bcmindreader.com/c/r/Addressing-the-Labour-Market-Gap-Survey\_](~10 min) and use your voice to build solutions for a resilient labour force.

# Government must commit to greater investments says BC Chamber

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Government must address the permitting delays that our natural resource sectors face – delays that hinder the investment, employment opportunities and revenue growth that help pay for the health and social services that British Columbians rely on. Government must put a greater priority on creating a business climate that attracts investment and generates well-paying, family-supporting jobs in our communities.

Our province is experiencing a heartbreaking mental health and addictions crisis that affects families and communities right across B.C., as well as businesses and the economy. Government must commit to greater investments in mental health and addictions services, especially in smaller and rural communities where, all too often, no such services are readily available.

These are just some of the measures that government can take to improve the business environment.

We know that we cannot have healthy communities without healthy businesses. If businesses struggle, their communities will, too. It is time to address the barriers that are preventing our economy from reaching its full potential.



February 13 to 17 was "Chamber of Commerce Week" across BC - a time to celebrate and recognize local Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade across the province! Here, Chetwynd Mayor Allan Courtoreille proclaims this week as Chamber Week in Chetwynd by signing an official proclamation as Executive Director Naomi Larsen looks on. The Chetwynd Chamber of Commerce has a membership of more than 135 businesses!

SO much fun...
Thank you for
asking me! It truly
was an honour to
hang out with our
community's elders!
So much wisdom
and such a great
crew! And lunch
was fantastic! I can't
wait to do it again





# TO THE CHETWYND COMMUNITY FROM THE BC HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

The BC's Office of the Human **Rights** Commissioner has launched the Baseline Project that aims to map the state of human rights in B.C. From 2002 to 2019, B.C. was the only province in Canada without a human rights commission. During that time many organizations, advocates and services providers were doing important human rights work. Your insights are critical in informing a human rights baseline for B.C.

Launched last week, the Baseline Community Service Organization people Survey for delivering programs and services on the Traditional Territory of Saulteau Nation and Treaty Lands, specifically in and around the community of Chetwynd.

The survey is intended for people working in community service organizations,

# Do you want to impact human rights issues in British Columbia?

BC's Office of the Human Rights Commissioner is looking to hear from you about human rights issues in your community.

#### Are you:

- Working with people impacted by human rights issues in:
  - Cranbrook
  - Chetwynd
  - Terrace
  - Chilliwack
- A leader, staff, volunteer or board member with a First Nation, community organization, member-based organization, public sector institution or government agency

#### What to expect?

- Participation is voluntary
- Your responses will be kept confidential and anonymous
- The survey will take around 20 to 30 minutes to complete



Visit bchumanrights.checkbox.ca/survey to participate in the survey by March 10, 2023.

Questions? Contact us at research@bchumanrights.ca or call us at 1-844-922-6472 (toll free)

Learn more about the Baseline Project at baseline.bchumanrights.ca



First Nations, member-based organizations working in human rights related fields, or people who are working at all levels of government and other public sector institutions in the Chetwynd area. We are interested in hearing from leadership, staff, board members and volunteers in these organizations through this survey. We encourage different members of your organization to fill out the survey as they are likely to play different roles and hold diverse perspectives on human rights issues.

The survey will be open until Mon March 13, and it can be accessed through this link https://Bchumanrights.checkbox.ca/survey.

The survey typically takes about 15-20 minutes to complete.

# Take Advantage Of Your Chamber Benefits - including your BC Chamber Health Plan

Given the impact of COVID-19, now, more than ever, is a good time to ensure you leverage the benefits of your chamber membership. One of the most exclusive benefits for chamber members is Chambers of Commerce Group Insurance Plan employee benefits.

A bit of background: Chambers Plan is Canada's number one employee benefits plan for small businesses. The Plan is also a not-for-profit, with ALL surpluses staying in the program to help control premiums and provide stability — something we could all use right about now.

Protecting you and your employees is easy. The first step is to get a free quote. There are no industry restrictions or minimum company sizes, so a YES to these questions means you could benefit from Chambers Plan:

#### 1. "Do you have 1 to 35 employees?"

Chambers Plan offers guaranteed coverage for small businesses with 1 to 35 employees.

#### 2. "Could you and your employees make use of group benefits?"

When you and your employees are on Chambers Plan, you get full, free access to many health and wellness services including:

- Teladoc Health, an online care provider that connects you with a doctor from the comfort of your own home
- Business Assistance Service (consultations with professional accounting, counselling, legal and human resource experts who understand the challenges faced by small business owners),
- My-benefits health (health and wellness resource site for all employees provided through Chambers Plan's online benefit management platform)

#### 3. "Would you like me to connect you with our local advisor for a quick and easy, free quote?"

Chambers Plan engages local advisors to help chamber members determine if Chambers Plan is the right fit for them. If you're interested in getting more information about the Plan, reply to this email and we'll get your free quote started right away.

Our chamber is committed to offering businesses incredible value for their membership — that includes Chambers Plan and so many more benefits. To see how else you can take advantage of the chamber's programs, contact manager@chetwyndchamber.ca TODAY!!!



#### Your annual membership includes ALL Chamber Benefits

The benefits listed below have been negotiated by the Canadian Chamber and the BC Chamber! Simply Contact your Chamber to find out how to access these benefits



# BC BUSINESS MAGAZINE: SUBSCRIPTION

Chamber members can access a one-year subscription to BC's premiere business magazine for only \$12.



# CHAMBERS PLAN: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

More than 30,000 small-to-midsize businesses choose the Chambers Plan Group Insurance to protect their employees with comprehensive group benefits, including Health and Dental insurance, making it Canada's #1 employee benefits plan for small business.



# CONSTANT CONTACT: ONLINE MARKETING TOOLS

From email marketing to event management, to social sharing and more, members save up to 25% on these easy-to-use marketing tools.



# KUBERA: PAYMENT PROCESSING SYSTEMS

Kubera provides a preferential rate package for credit and debit processing and dedicated relationship managers to help serve your needs.



# PAYWORKS: PAYROLL SOLUTIONS

Payworks provides workforce management solutions, including real-time integration of payroll and benefits for members on the Chambers Plan.



# POCKETED: GRANT FUNDING ASSISTANCE

Receive a 50% discount on your first grant, waive a grant consultation fee, and receive over 25% off upgrades to Pocketed+ to explore non-dilutive funding that fits your needs.



# PUROLATOR: SHIPPING

Earn volume discounts starting at 25% on Purolator Express<sup>®</sup> and Purolator Ground® services.



#### SPARK INSURANCE: NON-PROFIT PROGRAM

In partnership with Shaw Sabey & Associates Ltd., our 20+ years' experience and group-buying power has helped us negotiate some of the best coverage and lowest rates in the country.



# STAPLES: OFFICE SUPPLY DISCOUNT

Members access the Staples Advantage program to receive reduced costs on business supplies with no minimum order requirements.



The Pencil Box in downtown Chetwynd will match Staples pricing for our Chamber Members.

#ShopLocal #SupportLocal #SupportChetwynd



# LOCAL HOSPITALITY: HOTEL & CAR RENTAL DISCOUNTS

Exclusive deals for chamber members on hotel and car rentals around the world!



# PETRO CANADA: FUEL DISCOUNT

Petro-Canada and the BC Chamber give you 3 cents off per litre at the pump.



## ESSO: FUEL DISCOUNT

Esso and the BC Chamber give you 3.5 cents off per litre at the pump. Plus save on oil changes and more.



#### SHELL: FUEL DISCOUNT

New Shell program for Chamber members will be announced in the coming weeks!



# PARK'N FLY: PARKING DISCOUNT

Members receive up to 40% off Park'N Fly rates at select airports across Canada.



# WHISTLER 48-HOUR CLUB: TIME-SHARE CONDO DISCOUNT

Chamber members can book available time-share condos in Whistler at very attractive discounted rates within 48-hours of arrival.



#### FREIGHTCOM: CHAMBER SHIPPING PROGRAM

Members can save anywhere from 70-75% on what they would normally pay for shipping courier costs, including pallet shipping.



#### ANOVA ENERGY:

#### CARBON COMPLIANCE & SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

Anova Energy can help small businesses become more "green" and verify carbon offsets validity and ensure they are made in Canada and in compliance with regulations.



## **ELAVON:**PAYMENT PROCESSING PROGRAM

Elavon offers members the ability to accept payments from customers in a fast, efficient and secure way.



## ROI CALCULATOR: FREE ACCESS

Get free access to the Canadian Chamber custom ROI Calculator to demonstrate the value of chamber membership, at all levels – local, provincial/territorial and national.



# ROGERS FOR BUSINESS: ASSOCIATION PROGRAM

Rogers for Business brings members discounts on a variety of products and services such as wireless data, voice, wireline and Microsoft 365.



#### CHAMBER GET KLEANR PROGRAM: CLEANING AND DISINFECTING SERVICES

Kleanr is offering discounts on a variety of cleaning and disinfecting services to members in commercial building services, as well as construction services.



#### ADVERTEK: CHAMBER PRINTING PROGRAM

Members get discounts on printing services, promotional materials, bindery and finishing, digital printing services, car wraps and other forms of advertisements.



# TRADECERT DOCUMENT CERTIFICATION

Apply for certificates of origin, visa letters, representational agreements and other ad hoc documents. Eliminate courier fees and save money through our online document certification platform.



# CHAMBER IMPORT BONDS PROGRAM ENSURE IMPORT FEES ARE PAID

An import bond acts as a type of contract between CBSA, the importer and the surety company to ensure that duties, taxes and fees associated with the importation of goods into Canada, will be paid.



# E-ATA CARNET IMPORTATION PERMITS

Carnets permit the temporary duty-free and tax-free importation of goods into foreign countries, simplify customs procedures, reduce business costs and save time and paperwork.

#### **EXPOSURE**

Stand out and get noticed! Increase your visibility by becoming an active member and taking part in marketing resources.

#### NETWORKING

Build and strengthen your business network. Meet new people and get to know your business community.

#### **CREDIBILITY**

Your reputation is important! Enhance your business by showing the community you are a chamber member.

# MEMBERS GET MORE & DO MORE!

#### **GROWTH**

Take advantage of special events and advertising opportunities, as well as being involved in volunteer programs.

#### **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

Increase your competitive edge by utilizing trainings, workshops, and seminars that will help your business grow and succeed.

#### **ADVOCACY**

Stay informed and educated on advocacy efforts. Empower your business by having a voice in what matters to you.



#### Delivers immediate ROI for their chamber membership

You've heard the question before: "What do I get for my membership?" There are a million reasons to join a local chamber (advocacy! community! connections! influence!), but these reasons aren't always easy to quantify.

From the moment a member enrols, Chambers Plan demonstrates immediate value.

The following are included in every Plan for free:

- Business Assistance Service (BAS), access to professional accounting, counselling, legal and human resource experts who understand the challenges faced by small business owners
- my-benefits health\*, health and wellness resource site for all employees provided through my-benefits\*, Chambers Plan's online benefit management platform
- Best Doctors®, connecting individuals and their treating physician to world renowned specialists to help employees make important medical decisions
- · Customizable coverage of benefits program to meet their needs
- Plans that hold Health options include Teladoc® telemedicine service, where members have access to qualified doctors 24/7 anywhere in Canada or the U.S.

# 2 It's good for their business (minimizes risk, maximizes stability)

Chambers Plan's premium pool is made up of over 30,000 small businesses, which means a smaller risk for small businesses. This helps stabilize rates at time of renewal since the risk is based on the pool rather than only one business.

#### **3** Gives them more time to focus on their business

Chambers Plan was designed with the realities of small business in mind. It's simple to manage, so your members spend less time administering their benefits program and more time running their business.

- Simple online Plan administration
- · Chambers Plan's exclusive advisor support
- my-benefits mobile app to submit claims electronically
- Quick online enrolment
- · Easy-to-use forms
- Claims are generally processed in two business days





\* Vertical Business Card 2" x 3.5"

6 LINE LISTING - MUST BE FILLED OUT IN FULL							
1. Business Name:							
2. Box #, Street Addre							
3. City, Province, Pos							
4. Phone:  5. Provide one: fax or website or email:							
6. Provide one: fax or website or email:							
If your ad ran las	st year &	you would lik	e for it to rem	ain the same, ch	neck here:		
Please mark one category where your ad will be placed in:							
Accommodations Apartments Automobile Financial Services Colleges Computer Services Childcare Daycare Environmental		Florist Fuel Glass Golf Courses Gravel Grocers Health Services Insurance Janitorial		Media Office Products Oilfield Maintenance Pharmacy Photograpy Restaurants Retail Signs & Graphics Transport			
AD DESIGN Will you be designing your	own advertise	ement for this dire	ctory?	Yes	No		
If you answered "yes" to the above, please ensure your artwork for the ad fullfills the proper requirements:							

Please email your print-ready files to manager@chetwyndchamber.ca

\*1/4 ad size 4.8125 x 1.8125

\* 1/2 ad size 4.8125 x 3.5625

\* Full Page ad size: 4.8125 x 7.3125

Notes/Instructions to ad designer:

\* colour

\* PDF or JPG

\* 300 dip (print ready)

6 LINE LISTING - MUST BE FILLED OUT IN FULL							
1. Business Name:							
If your ad ran last year & you would like for it to remain the same, check here:							
Please mark one category	where your ad will be p	placed in:					
Accommodations	Florist	Media					
Apartments	Fuel	Office Products					
Automobile	Glass	Oilfield	-				
Financial Services	Golf Courses	Maintenance					
Colleges	Gravel	Pharmacy					
Computer Services	Grocers	Photograpy					
Childcare	<b>Health Services</b>	Restaurants					
Davcare	Insurance	Retail					

#### **AD DESIGN**

Environmental

Will you be designing your own advertisement for this directory?

If you answered "yes" to the above, please ensure your artwork for the ad fullfills the proper requirements:

No

\* colour

\*1/4 ad size 4.8125 x 1.8125

Janitorial

\* Vertical Business Card 2" x 3.5"

Yes

Signs & Graphics

**Transport** 

\* 300 dip (print ready)

\* 1/2 ad size 4.8125 x 3.5625

\* PDF or JPG

\* Full Page ad size: 4.8125 x 7.3125

Please email your print-ready files to manager@chetwyndchamber.ca

Notes/Instructions to ad designer:



#### INVITATION TO APPLY FOR JOB CREATION GRANTS

The Government of Canada has provided the Province of British Columbia with funding to support communities and workers potentially affected by Caribou recovery and habitat restoration impacts. \$10 million was contributed to the South Peace Mackenzie Trust to help create jobs, diversify the economy, and alleviate potential impacts in the Peace Region, within 100 kilometres of the communities of Mackenzie, Chetwynd, and Tumbler Ridge.

In most cases the maximum grant that will be considered for any one project will be **\$250,000**. However, if an applicant can demonstrate a high probability of creating a large number of new income earning positions and/or creating some other exceptional benefit to the South Peace Mackenzie area that is consistent with the recovery of the Southern Mountain Caribou herds, a larger grant may be considered.

**Any entity may apply** if they wish to create or facilitate the creation of incremental income-earning positions. An Entity includes any of the following:

- Individual
- Corporation
- Club
- Regional District
- Trustee of a Trust

- Collection of Individuals
- Association
- Municipality
- Band
- Congregation

#### What people can apply for?

- Creation of new employment or contractor positions
- Skills training for individuals or employees whose current position no longer exists

For further SPMTrust information or to apply directly to the trust, please visit