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Town of Gibsons' Wins Small Business BC "Open for Business Award"

February 22, 2019 – The Town of Gibsons was named the winner of the “Open for Business” category at last night’s 16th Annual Small Business BC Awards Gala, which recognized small business owners and entrepreneurs who contribute to our communities and economy through the creation of good jobs.

The “Open for Business” category celebrates communities that have created a business-friendly environment, allowing small business to flourish. Gibsons was one of three finalists in the “Small Community” category, along with Lumby and Ucluelet.

“We are extremely pleased to have been recognized with this award,” said Mayor Bill Beamish in his acceptance speech. *“Since the start of 2017, the Town of Gibsons has successfully built a vibrant, year-round Public Market, and also attracted more than 185 new businesses. These include many wonderful new restaurants, cafes, breweries and retailers, as well as spas, health-care providers, professional services, contractors, automotive shops, daycares and even a Tiny Home manufacturer.*

I believe we were able to attract such a variety of businesses due to several factors, including well-developed application processes, excellent community amenities and progressive civic policies. Of course, there’s also Gibsons’ stunning seaside setting and welcoming, laid-back character.

Above all though, I think that when business owners choose Gibsons, they are choosing a community that’s small enough to genuinely care about their success – and large enough to provide the amenities, infrastructure and market they need to thrive. Gibsons is undergoing a true renaissance – and I look forward to working with Council in the coming years to ensure our Town continues to prosper.”

The Small Business BC Gala Awards were held at the Vancouver Convention Centre. Mayor Beamish, Councillor Aleria Ladwig, Gibsons’ CAO Emanuel Machado and the Gibsons and District Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Chris Nicholls, attended the event, which brought together more than 600 small business owners, supporters, providers and government officials.

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“Nature is our most valuable asset”

