

The Entrepreneur

DOWNTOWN COURTENAY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

SPRING
2009

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A Word From The President

Michael Smale—Benjamin Moore House of Color

Greetings fellow members. It is so wonderful to finally have beautiful spring weather after the long cold winter season. I'm sure you are all enjoying these sunny days. It is time once again for the **Annual General Meeting** of the Downtown Courtenay Business Improvement Association. That will occur on **Wednesday May 27 at 6:00 PM**. I hope to see as many of you in attendance as possible. It will be my last one as president.

I am glad to see the downtown looking so good. Folks have been keeping on top of the tagging in the back alleys. It's really the most effective way to deal with it, covering it up as soon as one can. Keep up the good work! I was in Qualicum recently and was impressed with that downtown with nice shops, very clean and

very little obvious tagging. Hence we do have some competition close to us so no room for complacency.

There have been lots of changes with businesses in the core, some that make us sad and some that we see in a more positive light. I was sorry to see *Studio One* close its doors. They provided a valuable service for many years as did *Downtown Copies* who will most certainly be missed by those who depended on them for their photocopying needs, but in its place will be the expanded location of *Eco-Centric*, from their previous nook in the Zen Zero building. *Mudsharks'* is thriving at their new Coffee Bar at the corner of 4th and Cliffe; a location which has really come alive with *Brambles Market*, *Benino Gelato*, *The Green Room Interiors*, *McKinnon Photography* and *Laundra-Mutt*.



Now it is time for my pitch to you to consider joining the DCBIA board of directors. We need greater participation from the membership in order for this vital part of our community to achieve its full potential. We have great people serving now, but there are positions which can be filled by landlords, owners and/or staff of the member businesses. Please give this serious

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consideration. It doesn't necessarily require a huge time commitment even to be president. So do come out to the AGM. Nancy Henderson, our enthusiastic and capable City of Courtenay planner will be making a presentation pertinent to further improvements in the core including upper 5th. It will be good to have an opportunity to share her vision and ask questions.

Have a great summer everybody!

Michael
250-334-4132

Market Day ~ July 17th 2009

**Downtown Courtenay's
39th Annual**

Market Day

& Local Colours Festival

Market Day has become one of the busiest days for many DCBIA members. This year's event will be held on **July 17th, 9 am—9 pm**, and an application is included with this newsletter.

BIA member businesses along 5th Street have first right of refusal on the space in front of their business, then other BIA members. Any space that is not taken by a BIA member will be filled by home based businesses and artisans, crafters and associations.

There have been a few changes this year to the way the street will be laid out:

Firstly, we will concentrate the Market to 5th Street only, to intensify presence for everyone. All booths, both BIA and non-BIA will be placed on 5th Street.

Secondly, the market will be laid out in booth space based on 10 foot increments. If your business storefront is 25 feet wide, you can take 1 or 2 or 3 booth spaces, but the extra 5 feet will be at the availability of space.

Finally, to encourage more non-BIA businesses to take a space in the block of 5th between England and Fitzgerald, their rates have been dropped to match that of the BIA members. This doesn't affect BIA members other than it will help fill that block of 5th Street.

Help us make the event a terrific success by offering unique specials that will attract our customers.

Sarah Kerr Photography



Applications are due

June 6th! Please use the enclosed application or online at www.downtowncourtenay.com under events, and either mail them in or drop off at Benjamin Moore House of Color in an envelope marked "Market Day".

For more information call Kim at 250-337-2096. or email

Break-ins and other crime downtown

The RCMP have had a rash of a particular type of break-in recently in businesses, particularly those with double doors.

Robbers have been inserting something underneath the latch, through the opening at doors, and unlocking the doors this way. They have even been relocking the doors after they have left making it appear to the police when they respond to alarms that the alarm was false—giving them a longer time to get away.

The RCMP recommend that you get a metal plate bolted to the door that covers over this access. You may want to consult a lock specialist for more suggestions on this.

In the last year it has been helpful to some downtown businesses that have experienced shoplifting and have a description, to email it to the BIA coordinator at info@downtowncourtenay.com, who then sends it out via email to all the BIA businesses right away, as a warning. We encourage you to continue this practice.

Please promptly report all robberies and other crime to the RCMP as soon as you are aware of them. (250-338-1321)

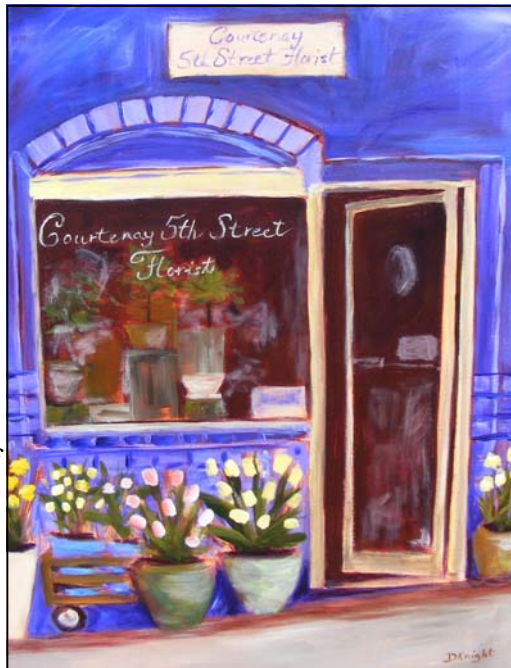


Local Colours Festival Too!

Downtown Courtenay's 4th Annual Local Colours Festival

The Comox Valley Community Arts Council (CVCAC) and DCBIA are thrilled to announce this celebration of the many talented artists of all persuasions that make the Comox Valley their home. The Festival includes visual artists and performers of many types and will take place July 16th and 17th throughout downtown Courtenay.

July 16th; artists will initiate creations of unique work on site throughout the downtown area, on the streets and courtyards, and inside of host businesses.



If you would like to consider sponsoring an artist, please see the letter from CVCAC enclosed in this newsletter.

July 17th; the artists will be on the street putting the finishing touches to

their works and answering questions from the public during Market Day.

Finished works will be displayed at the artists' corner at the main performance stage at the corner of 5th Street and England Avenue. There will be live performances during the day up to 9:00 pm both on stage and on the street.

Contact the CV Arts Council at 250-338-4417 ext. 2, or check their website at www.comoxvalleyarts.org, or call the BIA coordinator Kim Stubblefield at 250-337-2096.

Annual General Meeting—Why attend?

The DCBIA's **Annual General Meeting May 27th** is a great way to find out about everything that your society has been doing on behalf of downtown businesses!

Hear reports from the Marketing, Infrastructure and Events Committees, and the report from the Treasurer. There are opportunities to join the Board of Directors and/or any of the committees.

The BIA needs the participation of its members to help keep downtown the thriving and beautiful place it is. The Directors meet once a month for the board meeting and with the help of the part-time coordinator make decisions on how the funds are spent and what activities and improvements are made. Make your voice heard! Call Michael Smale at 250-334-4132 for further details.

RSVP by May 25th, 250-337-2096

Downtown Courtenay BIA Annual General Meeting

Wednesday May 27, 2009

**6:00 pm Meet & Greet
6:30 pm Meeting
Comox Valley Art Gallery**

**Special Presentation by
City of Courtenay Planner
Nancy Henderson**

We've Got It All Downtown.

Box 3371 Courtenay
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Phone: 250 - 337-2096

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PRESIDENT
MICHAEL SMALE 334-4132
 Benjamin Moore—House of Color

VICE-PRESIDENT
CHARLIE ZERKEE 338-5139
 Kradles Baby Boutique

TREASURER
KEITH CURRIE 334-4722
 Comox Valley Echo

SECRETARY
SHELLEY COMBS 339-1102
 Potter's Place

BILL WESTON 338-6716
 Wagz

AL DUNNETT 334-2537
 Ski Tak Hut

SUE SMITH 338-4404
 'Beyond' the Kitchen Door

ARNE EINARSON 703-4803
 Scotiabank

LINDA GOODING 338-6211
 Comox Valley Art Gallery Shop

JAN BRUCE 338-1571
 cody & company

KIM STUBBLEFIELD 337-2096
 Coordinator

Garbage Collection Schedule

Downtown Courtenay

Effective March 1, 2008—from 4th to 6th Street, alleyways between 4th and 5th, and between 5th and 6th only. Additional service is available for a fee. Call IPI Waste Disposal at 250-334-4427 for further information.

Mixed Garbage

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Cardboard

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

Recyclables—Blue Bin required

Every 2nd Wednesday

*Note: please call Pat at City Hall 250-334-4441 if you have complaints about pickup service.

Around Town Events

Month/Date	Event		Contact
Monthly 1st Wed. of each month	DCBIA Board Meetings are held 7:30 AM at the Comox Valley Centre for the Arts upstairs boardroom, but call first if you plan on attending, just to make sure we haven't rescheduled it!		FMI 337-2096
May 23	Canadian Cancer Society Cops for Cancer Tour de Rock—1pm to 1:15 pm down 5th street to Simms Park		
May 27	Downtown Courtenay BIA Annual General Meeting (AGM)	Comox Valley Art Gallery—hear all the news about your downtown	RSVP by May 25 250-337-2096
July 17	Downtown Courtenay Market Day and Local Colours Event	Read about it in this newsletter!	FMI 337-2096
July 26th	CV Classic Cruisers Car "Show & Shine"	Hundreds of new visitors to downtown. Be open on Sunday!	FMI 339-4117 Yvon Savoie yjsavoie@shaw.ca
Saturdays Oct. 1—Dec 24	Downtown Farmer's Market at Native Son's Hall	Tell your customers, get your dinner	FMI 218-0321
October 31	CRA Halloween Parade	Buy candy, dress-up, consider staff	FMI call 338-5371
November 20	Christmas Magic	Window displays, advertising, staffing, sales	FMI call 337-2096
November 28	Comox Valley Christmas Parade	Staffing needs, enter float, post holiday hours	FMI call 338-5139