

December 16, 2024

Attention: Mayor & Council

CC'd: Business Park Business Owners

In October, the Pemberton and District Chamber of Commerce hosted a gathering of the business owners and operators in the Business Park. The aim of the meeting was to better understand what the needs and wants of the businesses in the Business Park are. The discussion was very productive with the Chamber coming away with numerous issues. We have been able to group these issues into larger categories to make them easier to address.

This communication concerns the issue of accessibility to the Business Park.

- The Friendship Trail has proven to be a vital commuter route since its completion. Business owners and employees are utilizing this trail daily. Trail users reported portions of the trail are overgrown and need widening. It would be ideal if this trail was useable year-round. What are the Village's strategies to make sure this is a viable transportation route throughout the year?
- As the types of business start to vary, parking for clients and customers in the Business Park is becoming an issue. The lack of designated street parking is a deterrent to customers trying to access the businesses. As the Business Park is continually built out, what are the strategies in place to ensure adequate parking options?
- A major concern of all who attended our meeting was a reported lack of snow clearing by the VOP. These businesses understand the priority for the Village is the downtown area; however there were reports of snow clearing taking days to occur. The business owners and operators are looking for an assurance that they are not an after thought when it comes to snow clearing.
- Transportation access was raised as an issue that requires future planning by the VOP. Our members appreciate your effort in advocating for service increases for our local Route 100 and are eager to hear of future plans. Has the VOP considered permitting ride sharing services (Uber/Lyft) to operate in our region? Allowing these services to operate would benefit not only our members in the Business Park, this would benefit all businesses operating in our valley.

This communication serves as a working document for the Pemberton & District Chamber of Commerce, as we realize these are not immediately 'fixable' items. We hope to be able to liaise between the business owners/operators in the Business Park and the Village of Pemberton as progress is made on these matters. We look forward to hearing from the Village on how these concerns will be addressed.

The Pemberton & District Chamber of Commerce appreciates your time and attention to these important concerns raised by the business owners/operators in the Business Park. Should you require further information on the above issues please contact our Executive Director Ariane Larouche.

Sincerely,



Adam Adams

President

Pemberton & District Chamber of Commerce