



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pentiction and Wine Country Chamber supports ideas around legalizing alcohol in some public spaces and closing down Main Street

Pentiction, British Columbia, May 21, 2020: The Pentiction and Wine Country Chamber of Commerce supports councillor Campbell Watt's proposal to City Council to legalize the consumption of alcohol in some public spaces.

"We love the idea that people can support their favourite restaurant with a takeout order, pick up their favourite craft beer and enjoy it outside," said Nicole Clark, President of the Pentiction and Wine Country Chamber of Commerce. "What a great way to help keep these businesses open".

Martyn Lewis' idea to close down Main Street Granville Island style allowing local restaurants and businesses to spill out onto the street is also supported by the Chamber. The idea augments the recommendations put forward by the city's economic recovery task force, which includes waiving fees for sidewalk and storefront use permits and relaxing outdoor design standards to support restaurants, pubs and retailers as they reopen under strict COVID-19 protocols.

Pentiction city council also voted to send a letter to the provincial government in support of more flexible liquor licensing rules for businesses looking to expand their outdoor seating areas.

The Pentiction Chamber continues to reach out to its members and the broader business community conveying important information they need while also ensuring their voices are heard by decision makers in Victoria and Ottawa. Chambers throughout the valley have also formed a collaborative approach in helping businesses across the Okanagan under the "OK We Got this" banner that was launched last month. #OKwegotthis aims to make critical information available to businesses while also collecting region wide stories of innovation and determination in the business community that is keeping our economy moving.

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The Pentiction & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce is a dynamic, trusted and respected business authority that drives economic and social growth and improvement on behalf of, and in support of our members and the community.