



Monday, July 11, 2022

Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce Dismayed by New Restrictions

For Immediate Release:

Penticton, BC – The board of the Penticton and Wine Country Chamber of Commerce is very pleased that our policy submission to the BC Chamber regarding prolific offenders was approved unanimously and will be lobbied to the provincial and federal governments.

The policy recommendation reads:

THE CHAMBER RECOMMENDS

That the Provincial Government:

1. Work in coordination with the Federal Government to expand programs that support offenders to receive treatment while incarcerated and thereafter, and for post-release housing and programming of prolific offenders to ensure successful societal reintegration and safer communities;
2. Combine resources with the Federal Government to ensure the efficacy of programs such as the Integrated Court Services Plan and the successful implementation of measures such as the previous Blue Ribbon Panel recommendations.”

The economic development of any community relies upon its reputation as a safe, viable region in which to locate and do business with supporting infrastructure, community assets, and most importantly, customers willing to walk in the door. “Our business community has been feeling the pressure of an increase in property crime over the past few years,” said Nicole Clark, Past President, and Chair of the Advocacy Committee. “This is a first step in starting to address the costs of prolific offenders on the local economy.”

The Penticton Chamber urges the province to take the next step by taking concrete action on these recommendations.

For more information, contact:

Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce

Nicole Clark, Chair, Advocacy Committee

Jonathan McGraw, President

Diane Kereluk, Executive Director