

NEWS RELEASE

Former Pemberton Mayor Shirley Henry wins BC Chamber Fellow Award

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vancouver, May 28, 2013 – To honour the outstanding contributions of Shirley Henry, former Pemberton Mayor and current executive of the Pemberton & District Chamber of Commerce, the BC Chamber of Commerce has recognized her with its prestigious Fellow Award.

The BC Chamber's Fellow Award was designed to recognize individuals who have given exemplary and outstanding service to the Chamber network in B.C.

Maureen Kirkbride, immediate past chair of the BC Chamber of Commerce, presented Henry with the award at the BC Chamber's AGM & Conference May 25, in Nanaimo.

"Shirley Henry is one of those rare, natural leaders that people immediately respond to, work together with, and get inspired by," Kirkbride said, in presenting the award. "She is someone who never sits back and lets things happen; she gets involved and makes things happen."

Henry's impressive contributions to her community include opening Pemberton's first real drive-in restaurant, M & M Drive Inn, in 1968. As she became more involved in her community, she was elected as alderman for three years, and then served as mayor of Pemberton for 15 years.

Henry's volunteer work over the years has included countless hours for organizations such as the BC Aviation Council, Coast Garibaldi Union Board of Health, the Tourism Association of Southwestern BC and the Advisory Board on Tourism Training for Capilano University.

The Pemberton & District Chamber has recognized Henry with a Community Service Award. Additionally, she was awarded two Canadian Service Medals (1992 and 2002), which are given to Canadians who have made outstanding and exemplary contributions to their communities or to Canada as a whole.

Henry's service to the Chamber of Commerce network has been significant. In 1996, she was elected a director of the Pemberton & District Chamber. Now, 17 years later, she's still an essential part of the Chamber's day to day operations.

"Shirley Henry's dedication to her Chamber and the broader Chamber network has been truly remarkable," Kirkbride said. "While most Chambers are run by paid staff, Shirley has worked tirelessly on her Chamber's behalf – all as a volunteer. Without her involvement, the Chamber would not be what it is today."

The BC Chamber is the largest and most broadly-based business organization in the province. Representing over 120 Chambers of Commerce and 36,000 businesses of every size, sector and region of the province, the BC Chamber of Commerce is “The Voice of Business in B.C.”

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