



Most Small Business Friendly Community Award

About the Award

The Small Business Roundtable invites local governments to compete for the “Most Small Business Friendly Community Award” in their region.

This award acknowledges the efforts of local governments in supporting their small businesses and raises awareness of the significant contribution of small businesses to their communities.

Up to three finalists per region will be selected by the Roundtable and announced in August 2011. The winners will be announced during BC's Small Business Month in October 2011.

Submission Instructions

Contestants are asked to complete all areas of the application form. Please note, for each question in the application, there are word count limits. However, you are encouraged to include references that can assist the Roundtable in understanding the effect your measure(s) have on your small business community (e.g. website links, attached documents or publications).

The committee will consider planned initiatives that have yet to be implemented, provided there is clear information on the anticipated launch date and the expected benefits for the small business community.

To be considered for this award, your submission must be received in our office by **June 15, 2011**.

Please send your completed application, with any applicable attachments, to:

Mail package to: Small Business Roundtable Secretariat
 Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation
 Small Business Branch
 PO BOX 9822 SNT PROV GOVT
 Victoria, BC V8W 9N3

Email package to: RoundtableSecretariat@gov.bc.ca

If you have questions, please contact:

Small Business Roundtable Secretariat
Phone: 250-387-4699
Email: RoundtableSecretariat@gov.bc.ca



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Contact Information

Please provide contact information for the person submitting/managing this application. The committee may need to follow up with this individual for more information.

Contact's name:

Contact's title:

Name of Municipality/Community/District:

Contact's email address:

Contact's Phone number:

Contact's mailing address:

Postal code:



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Application for the Most Small Business Friendly Community Award

Respond to the questions below that pertain to your community and kindly limit responses to 250 words for each question. If you attach supporting documentation for a question, please indicate that you are doing so in your response and also clearly label the attachment with the question to which it pertains.

Reducing Regulatory Barriers

- 1) Have you introduced measures to reduce and streamline the number of regulations affecting small business in your community? If yes, please provide details of such measures and/or examples.
- 2) Are you making it easier for small businesses to operate across jurisdictions? For example, have you implemented BizPaL, an inter-jurisdictional business license or other measures? If yes, please provide details.
- 3) Is your local government's frontline-staff trained in customer service? If yes, please provide details.
- 4) What would attract a small business to locate in your community? Please provide specific examples.

Enhancing Small Business Competitiveness

- 5) Do you have policies in place to change or balance the ratio of commercial property tax to residential property tax? If yes, please provide details.
- 6) How do you help new or existing small businesses get the information and assistance they need? Provide specific examples and/or attach relevant reference material
- 7) Do you have policies or programs which promote small business export or attract foreign investment? If yes, please provide details.

Recognizing Small Business in Your Community

- 8) Do you celebrate the contributions of small business in your community? If yes, describe how you recognize small business.
- 9) Do you have an economic plan for your municipality which is geared towards small business success? And do you contribute resources towards the achievement of the plan? If yes, please describe, attach or provide a website link to your plan.

Small Business Climate Action Initiative

- 10) Do you have climate action policies or programs in place? If yes, how does this benefit your small business community?