



Economic Recovery Task Force

Local Businesses Info Guide

1. *Buy Local Campaign*
2. *Downtown Pedestrian Zone*
3. *City Beautification Projects*
4. *Use of Street Parking for Patios*
5. *Outdoor Display of Goods*



1. Buy Local Campaign

The City of Merritt and the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce have created a Shop Local Campaign. This “Be Local - Buy Local” campaign is made possible with seed funding from the City of Merritt to the Merritt Chamber. Available soon will be a variety of merchandise to purchase around the Buy Local theme.



Get Involved

Follow this campaign on social media and shop locally in the Nicola Valley whenever possible.

2. Downtown Pedestrian Zone

The idea of having Quilchena, between Voght and Garcia, as foot traffic only each Wednesday during lunchtimes is currently being discussed. Pedestrian only traffic on Friday evenings/Saturday will also be brought forward as options.

Ideas are being considered to program the street i.e. food trucks, displays booths, retail and interactive displays.



Get Involved

If you are interested in being involved as a vendor in the downtown pedestrian zone and Summer Nights Market, contact info@merritt.ca.

3. City Beautification Projects

This Task Force is excited to open opportunities for additional murals and public art in downtown Merritt. The City of Merritt is looking for local artists who are interested in providing artwork for our local buildings.

This proposed Street Art Initiative could include street, crosswalk and sidewalk painting, murals and window dressing.

The City of Merritt will be providing some mural guidelines and community locations in the next few weeks.

Get Involved

Those interested to sit on the City Beautification Task Force or being a part of the mural creation project can email communications@merritt.ca.

4. Use of Street Parking for Patios

There are opportunities available for street parking and plaza parking to be converted into temporary patios. These temporary patios could become permanent, if business experience favourable responses. Businesses can currently apply for permanent patios.

1. An application will be required, so that the City of Merritt can ensure the proposed patio meets safety standards
2. The City of Merritt is temporarily waiving the \$750 Development Permit application fee, as well as the requirement to provide professional drawings. A hand drawn sketch of the proposed patio will be required.
3. Due to the reduced indoor seating capacity of restaurants and bars, the number of required parking stalls for businesses located in plazas could be reduced accordingly.

Get Involved

If you are a Merritt business owner interested in having a patio contact the City of Merritt Planning and Development Services Department at planning@merritt.ca or [250-378-8615](tel:250-378-8615)

5. Outdoor Display of Goods

The Business Licence Bylaw currently permits display of goods up to 1 metre in front of a business, as long as pedestrian traffic is not impeded. Council has temporarily enabled the potential use of street parking spaces for outdoor display of goods so that the display area can be expanded.



Get involved

If you are a Merritt business owner interested in having a outdoor display of goods, contact the City of Merritt Planning and Development Services Department at planning@merritt.ca or [250-378-8615](tel:250-378-8615)

Economic Recovery Task Force

Interested in being a member of the Economic Development Committee?

The City of Merritt is now seeking interested community members to sit on the re-established Economic Development Committee. Committee application forms are available on the City of Merritt website.

website: merritt.ca/economic-recovery

phone: 250-378-4224 email: info@merritt.ca