# HOW TO START YOUR BUSINESS A quick guide to starting your business.



#### GET IN TOUCH TODAY



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## STEPS TO START YOUR NEW BUSINESS JOURNEY

Starting a small business carries both excitement and a fair share of stress. The Ridge Meadows Chamber of Commerce has curated a compilation of quick steps for you to achieve your new business goals.

1. Initiate your business plan by jotting down your ideas and aspirations. This practice fuels creativity and serves as a fundamental step in startig your business.

2. Choosing a business name and gaining provincial registry approval marks an initial business step. Easily manage this process online <u>here</u>.

3. Select your business structure. There are three common types of businesses. More information on Small Business BC can help direct you to your optimal choice in this process - <u>here</u>.

4. Time to draft your business plan! Visit Small Business BC <u>here</u> for the Seven Key Sections of a Business Plan.

5. Financing can be overwhelming during this process. The Government of Canada's website <u>here</u> will provide more information.

6. Begin crafting a website. Should you need a company to design your website, reach out to the Ridge Meadows Chamber for a referral to one of our esteemed members or visit our membership directory <u>here</u>.

7. Register your business for taxes and fulfill various government requisites and visit BizPal for further resources on what your business will need to register for:

- <u>Provincial Sales Tax (PST)</u>
- <u>Goods and Services Tax (GST)</u>
- <u>Biz Pal</u>

8. Familiarize yourself with additional business registrations and obligations here.

9. Identify permit and licensing necessities for various business types <u>here</u>.

10. We welcome business of all sizes and stages of development, including home-based businesses and micro-enterprises, all the way up to large, nationally recognized brands. Join the Chamber <u>here</u>.

## NEW BUSINESS RESOURCES



#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Maple Ridge is a great place to start a new business: a rapidly growing population, high family incomes, and the most affordable real estate in Metro Vancouver. This is a place where small businesses that focus on delivering exceptional products and service can thrive. We are a proven market for a wide range of industries and business opportunities. Whether you are a small start up, a home-based business or a large corporation, your business can be a success in Maple Ridge. Learn more about some of the many <u>industries that make Maple Ridge thrive</u>.

The Economic Development Department assists both existing business owners and entrepreneurs interested in starting new businesses with information on business planning and expansion opportunities, and connects them with business and industry groups to develop strategic alliances and new economic opportunities.



The Ridge Meadows Chamber of Commerce has been working for our two communities and our membership since 1999. Working on behalf of business and our members, the Chamber's collective purpose is to foster a thriving, prosperous business community.

The chamber proudly represents and promotes over 450+ businesses in and around our communities. Through our organization, members have the opportunity to contribute to the community and influence all levels of government for positive policy change. In addition, members receive benefits that include nationally negotiated discounts and educational and networking opportunities of value to their businesses.

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#### LINKS AVAILABLE

All Nations Trust Company Futurpreneur Canada Woman's Enterprise Centre Small Business BC Service BC Work BC Government of BC Small Business BC - How to Write a Business Plan Small Business BC - How to Choose the Right Business Structure Government of Canada - Business Benefits Finder Government of BC - Name Request <u>Ridge Meadows Chamber - Membership Directory</u> Provincial Sales Tax (PST) Goods and Services Tax (GST) Biz Pal Government of BC - Employment Standards

### LINKS IN FULL

https://smallbusinessbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/resource\_files/How-to-Write-a-Business-Plan-2.pdf https://smallbusinessbc.ca/article/how-write-a-business-plan/ https://innovation.ised-isde.canada.ca/s/?language=en\_CA&lang=eng\_ https://www.names.bcregistry.gov.bc.ca https://business.ridgemeadowschamber.com/list https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/taxes/sales-taxes/pst https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/tax/businesses/topics/gst-hstbusinesses.html https://bizpal.ca https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/employmentstandards-advice/employment-standards https://www.antco.ca https://www.futurpreneur.ca/en/ https://www.womensenterprise.ca https://smallbusinessbc.ca https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/organizationalstructure/ministries-organizations/ministries/citizens-services/servicebc https://www.workbc.ca https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economicdevelopment/business-management/small-business/small\_business\_resources.pdf **RIDGE MEADOWS CHAMBER OFFICE** ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

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