



Electoral Area B Business Survey

To all the business owners in the Upper Skeena.

Whether you are a large business with many employees, or an owner/operator working from home, the RDKS values the many important contributions you make to the betterment of our region. You give us goods and services of all kinds, from art to appreciate, clothing to wear, food and crafts at farmer's markets and things to see and do. We are conducting a Regional Business Survey and want to hear from you. We want to hear about your successes and your challenges and ultimately, learn how the RDKS can best support our local business economy. We want you to know you're appreciated. Thank you for everything you do.

- Dean Paranich, RDKS Area B Director

Contact Information

Who are you and how can we reach you?

Name

(Required)

Business Name

(Required)

Business Location

(Required)

Note: Please provide the physical address for your business

Email Address

(Required)

Telephone Number



Business Information

This will give us a better idea what your business is and how it is doing.

What Sector is your business in?

(Choose any one option)

- Agriculture
- Catering/Food
- Services/Restaurants
- Construction/Contracting
- Industrial
- Services
- Professional Services
- Retail
- Tourism/Hospitality

Note: Tourism/Hospitality includes transportation, accommodation, food and beverage, recreation and entertainment, and travel services.

How long has your business been in operation?

(Choose any one option)

- Less than 1 year
- 1-3 years
- 3-5 years
- 5-10 years
- Over 10 years

Compared to this time last year, is your business:

(Choose any one option)

- Growing
- Steady
- Shrinking

What do you think your business will do in the next 2 years?

(Choose any one option)

- Expand
- Maintain level of operations
- Scale down
- Close

What do you like most about doing business in your location?

(Choose any one option)



- Location advantages
- Clientele
- Labor availability
- Labor quality
- Affordability
- Business-friendly climate
- Other (please specify):

What is the biggest challenge your business faces?
(Choose any 3 options)

- Marketing and Branding
- Training support for employees
- Awareness of available programs and support
- Adjusting to a post-pandemic business world
- Access to online resources
- Accessing a consultant to improve business operations
- Access to webinars and in-person training sessions
- Shop Local Promotions
- Finding and Retaining Staff
- Accessing finance for business expansion
- Other (please specify)

Support and Programs

Tell us what services you've used and found helpful.

What associations is your business a part of?



What business support services have you accessed in the past?

(Choose all that apply)

- Business Development Bank of Canada
- Community Futures
- Futurpreneur
- Upper Skeena Development Centre
- Love Hazeltons
- Love Stewart-Cassiar
- RDKS Economic Development Newsletter
- RDKS Small Business Feature
- RDKS Community Grant List
- RDKS Facade Improvement Program
- Other (please specify)

Note: Choose all that are applicable

What can business support organisations in the area do to help your business thrive?

If there was another business in town that helped your business succeed, what would it be?

How happy are you with the programs you've accessed through the Economic Development arm of the Regional District?

- Very Unhappy
- Unhappy
- Neutral



Happy

Very Happy

Note: Programs offered include: Small Business Feature, Facade Improvement Grant Program, Newsletter, Community Grant List, Love Stewart-Cassiar

Business Operations and Continuity

We want to learn about your labor force and the prospects for your business' future (Staff Recruitment, Retention and Succession Planning)

Do you have a succession plan?

(Choose any one option)

No

Yes

What are the top skills your employees need to have?

How many full-time employees do you have?

(Choose any one option)

None

Less than 5

5-10

11-15

16-30

31-50

Over 50

How many part-time employees do you have?

(Choose any one option)

None

Less than 5

5-10

11-15

16-30

31-50

Over 50

Do you plan to retire or sell your business within the next three to five years?

(Choose any one option)



- No
- Unsure
- Yes, I plan to retire
- Yes, I plan to sell

Final Thoughts

Is there anything more you'd like to say?

Are there any other comments or stories that you would like to share?

Is there any other follow-up information you would like from the Economic Development Officer?

Thank you for making time to fill this form and provide us feedback. Your feedback is important to us. Responses to this survey are confidential and will be used solely for the purpose of informing support and programs offered to businesses within Electoral Area B and our region at large.

Kindly return your completed form on or before August 19, 2022, to:

1. The Village of Hazelton Municipal Office at 4310 Field St, Hazelton, OR
2. The District of New Hazelton Municipal Office at 4670 10 Ave, New Hazelton, OR
3. The Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine office at Suite 300-4545 Lazelle Avenue, Terrace, OR
4. By email to ecdev@rdks.bc.ca