

## Fraser Valley Intermunicipal Business Licence Pilot Project

### Background

The complexity of complying with the regulatory requirements imposed by federal, provincial and local governments is frequently raised by small business owners as a barrier to doing business.

The Intermunicipal Business Licence (also referred to as a Mobile Business Licence) reduces red tape by allowing mobile businesses to operate in more than one municipality by purchasing an add-on to the required base business licence, rather than by obtaining non-resident licences in each municipality in which they operate.

The Intermunicipal Business Licence is strongly supported by small business organizations and by the Small Business Roundtable.

### Advantages

The Intermunicipal Business Licence has a number of advantages:

- municipalities: less paperwork and greater compliance with municipal regulations;
- businesses: reduced time and cost, and simplified expansion into new markets; and
- residents: more choice of contractors and service providers.

### Fraser Valley Pilot

Starting January 1, 2013 nine municipalities in the Fraser Valley region will participate in an Intermunicipal Business Licence Pilot Project. Under the Pilot, eligible mobile businesses have the option to upgrade to the Intermunicipal Business Licence, allowing them to operate in all nine participating municipalities.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Where will my Intermunicipal Business Licence (IML) be valid?

An IML is valid in each of the following participating municipalities:

City of Abbotsford	City of Langley	District of Mission
City of Chilliwack	Township of Langley	City of Pitt Meadows
District of Hope	District of Maple Ridge	City of Surrey

### Who is eligible for an IML?

- Eligibility is limited to mobile businesses, defined as trades contractors or other professionals (related to the construction industry) that provide a service or product other than from their fixed and permanent location.
- Only mobile businesses which have fixed and permanent location in one of the nine participating municipalities are eligible for the IML.

### Where can I apply?

Applications will be submitted to the municipal business licencing office of your home municipality (where your business is presently located and licenced).

### What is the cost of an IML?

An eligible mobile business (including a home-based operation) pays the business licence fee set by their home municipality *plus* the annual IML fee of \$250.

### For how long is an IML valid?

An IML is valid for the same length of term as your municipal business licence.

### Will I need any other licences?

- Mobile businesses will still need to obtain a municipal business licence from their home municipality, and a licence for each fixed and permanent location they have.
- The IML is only valid within the nine participating municipalities, therefore mobile businesses will still need to check with the business licencing offices of any other municipality in which they intend to operate.

**For more information, please contact the Business Licencing Office of any of the participating municipalities.**