Minutes of the Aldergrove Business Association General Meeting
Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 6:00 pm
At Bob's Kitchen 'n Bar – 27083 Fraser Hwy., Aldergrove

Present:
Jodi Steeves, President
Sharon Brown, Vice-President
Jen Davies, Secretary/Treasurer
Waleola Akinsanmi, Member
Menita Prasad, Member
El Teljeur, Member
Ron Teljeur, Member
Sandra Teljeur, Member
Craig Jones, Member
Samantha Stebbings, Member
Tineke Shepherd, Member
Adam Masclalar, Member
Rebecca Neil, Member
Drew Boyd, Member
Arun Sarasan, Member
Alyssa Nielsen, Guest
Greg Meeres, Guest
Anupam Jindar, Member
Angela Pearce, Member
Rea Coates, Member
Viginia Plant, Member
Klare Nagy, Member
Kerry Rhead, Member
Yvonne Powell, Guest
Thomas Pinter, Member
Ross Masutalar, Member
Mini Mini, Guest

Regrets:
Vanessa Pike, Director
Bonnie Angelini, Director
Greg Davis, Director
Sherri Martin, Director

Members were treated to appetizers generously provided by Bob's Kitchen 'n Bar.

1. **Agenda:** Moved by Craig and seconded by Angela that the October 23, 2025 agenda be adopted as circulated.

2. **Previous Minutes:** Moved by Menita and seconded by El that the minutes from the September 25, 2025 General Meeting be adopted as circulated.

3. **Correspondence:**
    a. Jodi told the group about the phone call she had with Saman from the Aldergrove Star. The Star wants to spotlight some Aldergrove businesses for their Nov. 12 issue about how local businesses and spending builds stronger communities. This story is part of the Live Here, Shop Here campaign run by Black Press Media. The piece will explore how shopping local supports jobs, community programs and neighbourhood growth. Jodi told the group we will be

emailing more information to all our members and they can choose to take advantage of this opportunity.

4. **Treasurer's Report:** Jen updated the group with the ABA's financial position. There is $7785.16 in the ABA bank account. There are 3 new members since our last meeting – Acorn Wood Floors, Kumon Math and Reading Centre of Aldergrove and Limitless Tattoo Studio Inc. Infinity Cards & Collectibles renewed their membership. We now have 88 members.

Outstanding Business:

a. In regards to Waleola's proposal for an alternative to our existing discount cards using QR codes to access discounts and update their profiles – nothing has been decided yet. Jen still needs to strike a committee to discuss this further.

b. Banner update – The Remembrance Day banners have been installed in the median by the community centre. Jen has been in discussions with Menita from the Zoo about collaborating to design and install new Christmas banners.

5. **Committee Reports:**
   a. Membership (Sherri, Vanessa) – nothing to report
   b. Events (Jodi, Bonnie, Vanessa and Sharon)
      1. Trick or Treat the Town event – Date: Friday, October 31st Time: 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM Location: Fraser Hwy (between 271st – 273rd) Look for the orange balloons. New this year – for those businesses located outside the downtown core, we will set up tables so they can participate downtown as well. Vanessa canvassed all the businesses and got permission from several in this area to set up tables in front of their shops. She handed out the posters and balloons to all businesses who wanted to participate. Jen has been promoting the event. Kerry will set up the tables.
      2. Shop Local – Jodi told the group about her idea to do a 30 day Shop Local promotion. People who shop local can text their receipts over $25 to 604.833.5634 and be entered into a daily draw to win gift cards from ABA members. They can pick up their gift cards from the Re/Max office.
      3. 4th Annual Christmas tree lighting event – Nov. 23 from 4-6pm at the Community Centre overflow parking lot. Alyssa reported that she anticipates the event to be even bigger this year. 21 people are on Christmas committee. There will be a Whoville theme again. Sponsorship packages are ready. Jen will email this to all our contacts. Alyssa also told the group about the new Holly Jolly Business Light Up opportunity for businesses. This year the Christmas Committee has received a donation of some stunning décor items and professional style decorations. They will provide a beautiful light up decoration to participating businesses to

borrow for the season and display in their storefront window. Community members will be encouraged to visit the businesses, take a photo with the display and post with a hashtag to be entered to win a prize. Jen will email the information to all our contacts. Alyssa also told the group about the 28th Annual Christmas parade, which will be held on Dec. 13.

6. **New Business:**
    a. Jodi told the group that she has negotiated with her own social media company to video and take static posts of ABA members and post them on social media at no charge. She hopes this will take the ABA to another level. They will be contacting members to set this up shortly.
    b. Volunteer Recognition – Jen was recognized for all her hard work behind the scenes.
    c. Group photo was taken to be posted on social media by Jen.

7. **Round Table:**
    a. Jodi talked about funding. The Chamber of Commerce has 1100 members and makes $240,000 in income plus grants, and they have paid staff. The Downtown Langley Business Association taxes all their members and makes about $500,000 per year and has paid staff. The ABA is volunteer-based, charges just $49.99 per year for membership and we are a "Powerhouse" for what we accomplish.
8. **Next Meeting:** will be a Christmas networking meeting and will be held at the end of November. Location and date TBA.
9. **Adjourn:** Moved by Jen and seconded by Jodi. All in favour.