



**imaginekootenay**  
Your better life

**BUSINESS START UP GUIDE  
FOR GOLDEN AND AREA A**

**WORK | INVEST | LIVE**

[ImagineKootenay.com](http://ImagineKootenay.com)



# WORK | INVEST | LIVE

## Dear Entrepreneur,

The Kicking Horse Country Chamber of Commerce and Imagine Kootenay are pleased to provide this handbook to help you create, operate, or expand your business. We understand that starting, purchasing or owning a business can be both frightening and exciting. Questions keep rolling around “Where do I start?” “Am I over my head?” “Can I really do this?”

We want to help you start with confidence! Our handbook is designed to answer many of your basic questions and guide your business planning path from conception to realization. Work through these 6 steps and be confident you are ready!

- 1. Have you got what it takes to own a business?** Being an entrepreneur isn't easy, you will need to wear many hats ~ employer, financier, manager, decision maker, risk taker, multi-tasker. Do you have these entrepreneurial strengths? self motivated, hard worker, achiever, problem solver and a people person. Is your family onboard to support you?
- 2. To start up or purchase?** – There could be an existing business available that would fit with your business idea with an established client base and proven financials. In the next few years there are many baby boomers looking to retire and their business could be a perfect fit for you. Check out the business listings on [Imagine Kootenay](#).
- 3. Financials** – Be prepared - You could have the best business idea around but if you don't have your business and marketing plan complete the bankers are not going to contemplate financing your proposal. Wow them with your business preparedness!
- 4. Check with local government** – One of the most important steps before undertaking any new business venture is to check the local government zoning, regulations, requirements and any other aspects of starting and running a business. Ensure you have your licenses, permits, and registration forms submitted and confirmed before you open your doors or make any significant purchases.
- 5. Review your options** – There are programs available to assist future entrepreneurs with their business start ups, don't leave money or valuable training on the table, you could be eligible by applying for these first.
- 6. Setting up your business** – Get professional advice; spend time with a lawyer, accountant, bookkeeper and an insurance broker to ensure you start off on the right foot. With this advice in hand you are ready to make it official! Register your business name, website, license, federal and provincial tax registration, and WorkBC.

We are here to help you!



**Kicking Horse Country Chamber of Commerce**  
500 10<sup>th</sup> Ave N Golden, BC | V0A 1H0  
250 344 7125 | [info@goldenchamber.bc.ca](mailto:info@goldenchamber.bc.ca)



DANCING ZEBRA CONSTRUCTION



QUANTUM LEAPS LODGE



MINOLDO NAIL DESIGN & BEAUTY BAR

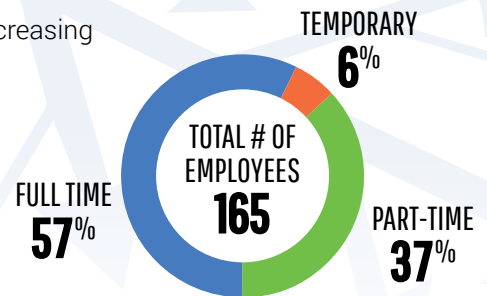
# Business Walk



## 2016 POST EVENT REPORT

**60%** of businesses are good or increasing

**105** businesses were visited by volunteers from the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training, Town of Golden and the Kicking Horse Country Chamber of Commerce. A total of **20** volunteers gathered information from the community to identify and understand opportunities and challenges for local businesses.



49% of owners say the thing they like most about doing business in Golden is the clientele.

## CHALLENGES

LOCAL RESTRICTIONS

PROPERTY TAXES

LACK OF CUSTOMERS

FINDING EMPLOYEES

**42%** of businesses plan to pursue significant new investments/ expansion over the next 3 years.

**17 OF 105**

businesses' owners plan to retire or sell within five years.



**47%** of businesses do not have a succession plan.

## REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

- ▶ Human Resource Support
- ▶ Marketing Partnership
- ▶ Customer Service Training
- ▶ Business Planning
- ▶ Succession Planning
- ▶ Financing



## NEXT STEPS

With support from the participating partners the Chamber of Commerce will:

Engage in initiatives to attract & retain employees

Support regional collaborative marketing initiatives

Provide business succession planning resources

Connect businesses to business planning & financing supports

# WORK | INVEST | LIVE

## Five Reasons to open a business in Golden BC

Come discover a place where community still matters with countless opportunities to invest.

### 1 - Community

The residents of Golden BC are the most friendly, open people who genuinely love to help each other; many of them are newcomers attracted to the community's lifestyle. An active arts & cultural scene sustains year round performances, numerous recreation activities are club supported and we are extremely proud of our family focused services.

### 2 - Growing

Golden, BC is growing into a tourism destination with exciting opportunities for your business idea. Our geographic location is smack dab in the middle of six national parks, right off the Trans Canada Hwy 1 and only 2.5 hours from a major city.

### 3 - Outdoor Adventure Hot Spot

Our Backyard is Better than Your Vacation! We have it all here! Easy family strolls on the river trails, a world renowned ski hill, nordic centre and numerous adrenaline pumping sports.

### 4 - Business Support Network

We are a well diversified economy with a beneficial business support system and a business friendly government to help guide your new venture idea into reality.

### 5 - Affordable

Costs matter to those starting up a business; this is true for housing, office rental, childcare and employee costs. You will find Golden affordable; the property taxes and development fees are the lowest in comparable communities.



CANADIAN TIMBERFRAMES LTD.



ELEVEN22



WENDALL JOHNSTON

# Quick Facts

## Population

Town of Golden

Private Dwelling  
Private Dwelling occupied by usual residents

| Town of Golden | CSRD Area A | Growth |
|----------------|-------------|--------|
| 3708           | 3148        | 0.2    |
| 1753           | 2068        | 2.7    |
| 1597           | 1359        |        |

## Median income in 2014 All private households

East Kootenay: 80,000 CAD  
Kootenay Boundary: 72,000 CAD  
Central Kootenay: 62,000 CAD

## Percent of persons in low income before tax

Here: 13.90%  
Province: 17.30%

## Schools in Golden

Nicholson Elementary  
Alexander Park StrongStart Centre  
Alexander Park Elementary  
Golden Secondary  
Lady Grey Elementary  
Golden Alternate School

Gradespan: K-7, Enrollment: 89  
Gradespan: Pre-K  
Gradespan: K-3, Enrollment: 229  
Gradespan: 8-12, Enrollment: 257.25  
Gradespan: 4-7, Enrollment: 213  
Gradespan: 10-12, Enrollment: 37

## Medical Services

Golden & District Hospital  
Golden Medical Centre  
Dental Centre  
Pharmacy

Naturopathic Clinic  
Optometric Clinic  
Chiropractic Clinic  
Physiotherapy Clinic



# Getting Started

## Ready to start at ground zero?

These organizations have a wealth of information, tips and tools to help you along.

Use our links to help develop your business from **start to finish**.

### Developing your Business Plan

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal Business Service Network .....             | <a href="http://www.absn.ca">www.absn.ca</a>                         |
| Basin Business Advisors - ME incorporated .....       | <a href="http://www.bbaprogram.ca">www.bbaprogram.ca</a>             |
| Kootenay Aboriginal Business Development Agency ..... | <a href="http://www.kabda.org">www.kabda.org</a>                     |
| Women's Enterprise Centre .....                       | <a href="http://www.womensenterprise.ca">www.womensenterprise.ca</a> |
| WORKBC - self employment .....                        | <a href="http://www.workbc.ca">www.workbc.ca</a>                     |
| Canada Business Network .....                         | <a href="http://www.canadabusiness.ca">www.canadabusiness.ca</a>     |
| Small Business BC .....                               | <a href="http://www.smallbusinessbc.ca">www.smallbusinessbc.ca</a>   |
| Community Futures - East Kootenay .....               | <a href="http://www.cfek.ca">www.cfek.ca</a>                         |
| Futurpreneur .....                                    | <a href="http://www.futurpreneur.ca">www.futurpreneur.ca</a>         |
| go2HR - Resource for Tourism .....                    | <a href="http://www.go2hr.ca">www.go2hr.ca</a>                       |

### Market Research

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Golden & Area A Vital Signs Report ..... | <a href="http://www.goldencommunityfoundation.ca">www.goldencommunityfoundation.ca</a>   |
| BC Stats .....                           | <a href="http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca">www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca</a>   |
| Statistics Canada .....                  | <a href="http://www.statcan.gc.ca">www.statcan.gc.ca</a>   |
| Imagine Kootenay .....                   | <a href="http://www.imaginekootenay.com">www.imaginekootenay.com</a>   |
| Kootenay Rockies Tourism .....           | <a href="http://www.krtourism.ca">www.krtourism.ca</a>   |
| British Columbia Tourism .....           | <a href="http://www.destinationbc.ca/Research/Industry-Performance/Tourism-Indicators">www.destinationbc.ca/Research/Industry-Performance/Tourism-Indicators</a> |
| City - Data .....                        | <a href="http://www.city-data.com/canada/Golden-Town">www.city-data.com/canada/Golden-Town</a>   |
| Community Profile - Golden BC .....      | <a href="http://www.cbrdi.ca/wp-content/uploads/Golden_2015_Profile.pdf">www.cbrdi.ca/wp-content/uploads/Golden_2015_Profile.pdf</a>                             |
| Columbia Basin RDI - Golden BC .....     | <a href="http://www.cbrdi.ca/communities/golden">www.cbrdi.ca/communities/golden</a>   |
| FrontCounterBC .....                     | <a href="http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca">www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca</a>   |
| College of the Rockies .....             | <a href="http://www.cotr.bc.ca/golden">www.cotr.bc.ca/golden</a>   |
| Tourism Golden .....                     | <a href="http://www.tourismgolden.com/members/resources/tourism-indicators">www.tourismgolden.com/members/resources/tourism-indicators</a>                       |

### Click before you commit!

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Permits, licensing requirements                    |  |
| Town of Golden - Doing business in Golden BC ..... | <a href="http://www.golden.ca">www.golden.ca</a>   |
| Tourism Golden .....                               | <a href="http://www.tourismgolden.com">www.tourismgolden.com</a>   |
| Health Approval & Permits .....                    | <a href="http://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/FoodSafety/Pages/Permits">www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/FoodSafety/Pages/Permits</a> |
| Columbia Shuswap Regional District CSRD .....      | <a href="http://www.csr.bc.ca/services/development-planning/helpful-links">www.csr.bc.ca/services/development-planning/helpful-links</a>           |

## Finding the Money

So you have your Business Plan completed and you are ready to talk financing.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal Business Service Network .....             | <a href="http://www.absn.ca">www.absn.ca</a>   |
| BDC .....   | <a href="http://www.bdc.ca">www.bdc.ca</a>   |
| CIBC in Golden .....                                  | <a href="http://www.locations.cibc.com/bc/golden">www.locations.cibc.com/bc/golden</a>             |
| Columbia Valley Credit Union .....                    | <a href="http://www.cvcu.bc.ca">www.cvcu.bc.ca</a>   |
| Community Futures - East Kootenay .....               | <a href="http://www.cfek.ca">www.cfek.ca</a>   |
| EK Employment - Self Employment Program .....         | <a href="http://www.ekemployment.org">www.ekemployment.org</a>                                     |
| Financial Services in Golden BC .....                 | <a href="http://www.goldenchamber.bc.ca/memberlist/116">www.goldenchamber.bc.ca/memberlist/116</a> |
| Kootenay Aboriginal Business Development Agency ..... | <a href="http://www.kabda.org">www.kabda.org</a>   |
| Kootenay Rockies Innovation Council .....             | <a href="http://www.kric.ca">www.kric.ca</a>   |
| Social Enterprise Canada .....                        | <a href="http://www.socialenterprisecanada.ca">www.socialenterprisecanada.ca</a>                   |
| Women's Enterprise Centre .....                       | <a href="http://www.womensenterprise.ca">www.womensenterprise.ca</a>                               |
| WORKBC - self employment .....                        | <a href="http://www.workbc.ca">www.workbc.ca</a>   |
| Golden Employment Services .....                      | <a href="http://www.goldenemploymentservices.bc.ca">www.goldenemploymentservices.bc.ca</a>         |

## Making it Official - Permits & Licenses

**Ready, set, GO** - Establish your business formally and legally

|  |  |
|--|--|
| BC Business Registry                                   |  |
| Register your business name, get it approved .....     | <a href="http://www.bcbusinessregistry.ca">www.bcbusinessregistry.ca</a>   |
| BizPal - Business permit and License Information ..... | <a href="http://www.bcbizpal.ca">www.bcbizpal.ca</a>   |
| Town of Golden - Business License .....                | <a href="http://www.golden.ca/Departments/Corporate-Services/Business-Licenses">www.golden.ca/Departments/Corporate-Services/Business-Licenses</a> |
| Town of Golden Development Services .....              | <a href="http://www.golden.ca/Departments/Development-Services">www.golden.ca/Departments/Development-Services</a>                                 |
| Health Approval & Permits .....                        | <a href="http://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/FoodSafety/Pages/Permits">www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/FoodSafety/Pages/Permits</a> |
| Work Safe BC .....                                     | <a href="http://www.worksafebc.com">www.worksafebc.com</a>   |
| BC Liquor Regulation & Licensing .....                 | <a href="http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business">www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business</a>               |

## Get it Right ~ Hiring Right!

**Employees** - An integral part of your business

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Canada - BC Job Grant .....         | <a href="http://www.workbc.ca/Employer-Resources/Canada-BC-Job-Grant">www.workbc.ca/Employer-Resources/Canada-BC-Job-Grant</a>                                     |
| go2HR - Resource for Tourism .....  | <a href="http://www.go2hr.ca">www.go2hr.ca</a>   |
| Chambers Group Insurance Plan ..... | <a href="http://www.chambers.ca">www.chambers.ca</a>   |
| WORKBC .....                        | <a href="http://www.workbc.ca">www.workbc.ca</a>   |
| Employers' Advisors Office .....    | <a href="http://www.labour.gov.bc.ca/eao">www.labour.gov.bc.ca/eao</a>   |
| Golden Employment Services .....    | <a href="http://www.goldenemploymentservices.bc.ca">www.goldenemploymentservices.bc.ca</a>   |
| Work Safe BC .....                  | <a href="http://www.worksafebc.com">www.worksafebc.com</a>   |
| CBT School Works Program .....      | <a href="http://www.ourtrust.org/funding-support/funding-support-programs/school-works">www.ourtrust.org/funding-support/funding-support-programs/school-works</a> |

## Immigration

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Canada Immigration and Citizenship ..... | <a href="http://www.cic.gc.ca">www.cic.gc.ca</a>   |
| BC Provincial Nominee Program .....      | <a href="http://www.welcomebc.ca/Immigrate-to-B-C/B-C-Provincial-Nominee-Program">www.welcomebc.ca/Immigrate-to-B-C/B-C-Provincial-Nominee-Program</a> |

## Building a Age Friendly Business

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| SPARC.....         | <a href="http://www.sparc.bc.ca">www.sparc.bc.ca</a>                     |
| Age Friendly ..... | <a href="http://www.gov.bc.ca/agefriendly">www.gov.bc.ca/agefriendly</a> |



# A MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN OF GOLDEN

## The Town of Golden is a great place to live and work

Kicking Horse Country has a population of nearly 7,000 and is rapidly gaining a reputation as one of the most desired places to live and work in the Rockies and southeastern British Columbia. The Town of Golden is the commercial hub of the area.

Golden's legacy as a logging and mining community continues today. Louisiana Pacific (LP), specializing in engineered wood products, is one of only three Laminated Veneer Lumber (LVL) manufacturers in Canada and the only one in British Columbia. LP and the Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) continue to be the community's largest employers with CP's large railyard and mechanic shop both seeing ongoing new investment. The area is also home to unique operations such as Canadian Timberframes and the Heemskirk Canada silica mine and processing facility.

Though we are a small community, businesses here get big exposure. Four million vehicles pass through Golden each year on the Trans Canada Highway, exceeding 12,000 per day during the height of the summer. With the help of award winning marketing by Tourism Golden, the growth of Kicking Horse Mountain Resort, 6 stunning national parks surrounding us, and our many cycling, running and Nordic trails, visitors are coming here in greater numbers than ever before, and still more are staying to live.

A friendly and active community, Golden and the surrounding area can provide you with an amazing level of indoor, structured sports and limitless outdoor adventure opportunities. The town is home to an arena, curling club, outdoor swimming pool, indoor gymnasium, baseball and soccer fields, golf course, ski hill, climbing gym, bowling alley and disc golf, just to name a few. Golden is lucky to have a movie theatre and also has an impressive and growing cultural sector that features indoor and outdoor performances and events. The community is linked by the Rotary Trail network, running parallel to the Kicking Horse River, that also acts a major spine between commercial areas, schools/ recreation facilities and residential areas. What a great commute!

A community true to its roots, Golden's positioning as a place of "Authentic, Community, Adventure" captures why our residents live here and why many others are making the move!

### The Town of Golden and starting your business

The Town of Golden's small team will help in demystifying the business licensing and development approval process. You will not have to seek out a myriad of different staff persons or departments as you would have to in a larger municipality. We are here to be clear, straightforward and helpful so that you can quickly open the door to your new business.

Opening a new business is an exciting process that requires careful planning. Before opening your business in the town of Golden, there are a few things you will need to know.

#### Step 1 - Select a Location

Selecting a location is an important step in order to determine if the location is appropriate for the business.

#### Step 2 – Confirm Zoning, Permitted Uses, Change of Use and Parking

The location of a business must comply with local zoning regulations as well as the BC Building Codes. Before confirming a lease or purchase agreement, it is important to ensure the location of the business is suitable. If the property allows for a use, but is currently occupied by a different use, a change of use will occur. A change of use may require additional steps to conform to bylaws or particularly the BC Building Codes. Once a location has been selected, contact us to assist with identifying these regulations and any required next steps.



## Step 3 - Building, Plumbing and Fire Code

It will be important to ensure that the building's composition and current major occupancy classification in relation to the proposed business conforms to the BC Building Codes. The Building Official may conduct a walk through and **if deemed necessary**, you will be directed to a registered professional such as an architect or engineer. The registered professional will investigate certain components of the building such as fire separations, handicap access and health and safety requirements. Then a formal report will be prepared prescribing any changes that may be required by Building Codes. This report along with any other documentation required by BC Building Codes or the Town's Building Bylaw shall be submitted upon request by the Building Official.

## Step 4 - Apply for Building Permits and Sign Permits

New construction, alternations, plumbing or exterior signage will likely require a building permit. [The Building Regulation Bylaw](#) and building permit and [application form](#) are available at [www.golden.ca](http://www.golden.ca).

## Step 5 - Apply for a Business License

The [Business License Bylaw](#) and [application form](#) is available at [www.golden.ca](http://www.golden.ca) or Town Hall located at 810 9th Ave. South. To begin the process, just fill out the form and submit it back to the front office via e-mail ([businesslicense@golden.ca](mailto:businesslicense@golden.ca)), by mail or in person. By this point your business name should be registered – this is a Province of BC requirement (smaller businesses, such as Farmer's Market vendors may operate under a personal name), and other necessary approvals should be commenced or obtained from other agencies such as Interior Health or BC Liquor Control and Licensing Branch.

## Step 6 - Business License Inspections

The Building Official and/or the Fire Chief may inspect your place of business to provide guidance on minimum public safety standards prior to the issuance of the license.

## Step 7 - Approval

Once approved, there is a business license fee to be paid and the amount is determined by the type of business - typically the annual fee is \$70.00. The business license is issued for one year and terminates on April 30th. Renewal notices are sent out a few months before.

## Frequently asked questions

### 1. Do I need a business license?

Any person owning or operating a business within the town of Golden is required to hold a valid business license as regulated by the Town of Golden Business Licensing Bylaw. A business is defined as *a commercial or industrial undertaking of any kind or nature, or the provision of professional, personal or other services for the purpose of gain or profit*. Some examples of different types of businesses that require licenses are:

- Commercial and industrial business: A business based within a building located in a commercial or industrial area
  - storefront retail, personal services, warehouse, or manufacturing.
- Home-based business: A business based in a dwelling located in a residential area
  - a home based accountant or a bed and breakfast.
- Out-of-town business: A business being conducted in the town of Golden, but with the business premise located outside of Golden
  - contractor or tradesperson.

### 2. Why does the Town require business licenses?

Business licenses serve to promote compliance with various codes, the town's zoning bylaw and regulate business activity. These standards are primarily designed to provide a measure of safety, fairness, general order and to maintain community standards.

### 3. How much time will it take to approve my business license?

Allow at least two weeks for the issuance of your business license. It may involve a greater investment of time and capital than you anticipated to obtain approvals. This is because the volume of applications varies and each business in relation to a particular building or property is different. Please dedicate an appropriate amount of time for an initial review, scheduling and conduction of an inspection. If necessary also allow time to complete any work to address deficiencies with the premise, and a subsequent re-inspection and finally approval. Also, include enough time to obtain additional information and submit any missing documentation that may be requested.

To conclude, starting a business is a complex undertaking and we are eager to help you start or expand your business and in turn, help the community grow and prosper. Please contact us below with licensing, land use, development and building inquires.

Thanks for choosing to do business in Golden.

**Jeremy Baylis**  
Building Official / License Inspector  
250.344.2271 ext. 231

**Phil Armstrong** MCIP, RPP  
Manager of Development Services / Planner  
250.344.2271 ext. 236

[businesslicense@golden.ca](mailto:businesslicense@golden.ca)

# Does your business idea include operations on Crown Land?

## Crown Land use for Business Purposes

Does your business idea include operating on Crown land? Crown land is land (or land covered by water like rivers or lakes) that is owned by the provincial government. For all business use on Crown land you must first apply for tenure; this includes recreation/tourism and all other commercial uses. Visit FrontCounter BC for an application to request permission for use of provincial Crown land in British Columbia.

The electronic application is for NEW tenure applications and MAJOR changes for an existing tenure for which a new application is required to be submitted.

Prior to starting your application, carefully review the applicable program area webpage to fully understand the application requirements, including but not limited to mapping requirements, management plan content, required documents, etc.

Visit FrontCounterBC for more information:

<http://www.frontcounterbc.gov.bc.ca/guides/crown-land/crown-land-tenure/overview>



HCA MOUNTAIN MINERALS LTD.



BEAR CORNER BED & BALE



MAGGIE SCALLION PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

# Starting your business in the



## If you are starting your business outside the town of Golden boundaries you would fall under the **Columbia Shuswap Regional District – Area A.**

Starting or building your business in the rural area – Golden Area A

- Interior Health should be consulted as to the regulations pertaining to sewage disposal as well as water provision for the proposed use.
- Although there is no CSR D building regulation in Electoral Area 'A' there is still the requirement that any structures, additions or renovations be built to the BC Building Code. Professional involvement for such construction may be necessary, e.g. engineer or architect, and therefore it is incumbent upon a property owner to conduct their own due diligence in this regard.
- Although the majority of Electoral Area 'A' does not have zoning regulation, Highway Planning Area No. 1 Zoning Bylaw applies to lands 304.8m on each side of the centre line of the Trans Canada Highway except those parts lying within the boundary of any National Park. If there is a development proposal located within this area then CSR D Development Services staff should be contacted to discuss the proposal and any zoning regulations that may apply. Development Services may be contacted via [plan@csrd.bc.ca](mailto:plan@csrd.bc.ca) or 250-833-5904.
- The provincial Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR) applies to any disturbance of land within 30m of a watercourse; a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) needs to be obtained if such disturbance or construction is proposed to take place within 30m of the watercourse and a report detailing the proposed works and mitigation needs to be accepted by the Province through the Riparian Areas Regulation Notification System (RARNS).
- The Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) should be contacted for any land use proposals on Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) designated lands. The CSR D has a 'Helpful Links' page that provides contact information to professionals, ALC, Interior Health and others which would also be good to point people to for additional information ...

<http://www.csrd.bc.ca/services/development-planning/helpful-links>

For installation or repair of sewerage disposal systems which is the Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of BC. Their website has a list of the contractors licensed in our area to work on sewerage disposal systems. If anyone is looking to get a copy of a sewerage filing they need to contact the Health Protection office.

### Onsite Wastewater Registration Program

Phone: 604- 585- 2788 ext 249

Fax: 1-604-585-2790

Website <http://owrp.asttbc.org/>

Email: [infoowrp@asttbc.org](mailto:infoowrp@asttbc.org)

# Testimonials



## Dr. Erika Buckley - Strobel

Dr Erika Buckley- Strobel operated a busy naturopathic practice in Ontario when her husband Joachim was offered a job as a Timberframe Designer at Canadian Timberframes in Golden BC. The couple had been looking for a balanced lifestyle that didn't include a daily 125km commute each way for Joachim and one that would allow Dr. Erika to continue in her own practice. There was only one way to find out if a move to Golden was going to work for both of them; a community visit to do some research and ask lots of questions! While Joachim was being interviewed by Canadian Timberframes. Dr. Erika visited the Golden Medical Clinic, Kicking Horse Country Chamber of Commerce and other health professionals in the area to get a sense of the need for a Naturopathic Physician in the community.

After some deliberation the verdict was to go for it! Joachim is now happily working with Canadian Timberframes and Dr. Erika opened a new practice, Aqua Vitalis Naturopathic Clinic. Her best tip to be successful in a community is to recognize that it takes time and effort to build a new practice, and that community involvement is the key. She recommends a positive attitude and an appreciation for the amazing lifestyle you will have if you live here. Joachim and Dr Erika say life is pretty awesome in Golden BC. Avid downhill skiers, they love having a world class resort just 13 kilometers from their doorstep. The other wonderful part about living in Golden is the walkability of the community. You can be just about anywhere within a 15 min walk and the scenery along the way is fabulous!

A lot has happened since this 2012 milestone in their lives. Including the small package, they've named Sebastian. When planning to become parents Dr. Erika chose to transition to a homebased practice; this has allowed her to set the hours and share childcare duties with Joachim. Canadian Timberframes has been very supportive as well, allowing an earlier start and finish to his work day. Joachim can now be home in time for Dr Erika to start her clinic hours. Dr Erika (as she is affectionately called) has found a balance and is able to maintain her practice and still have family as a priority. You can do that here.



## Marloes van Lent

Marloes van Lent wanted to explore the idea of living in another country. In 2009 she "tested the waters" with an employment position in Golden at the Kicking Horse Mountain Resort. It didn't take her long to know that she never wanted to leave Canada. After working for 3 years she returned to her home country of the Netherlands and immediately applied for a Canadian permanent resident visa. With visa in hand, Marloes moved back to Canada and took a year-long employment position at Canadian Mountain Holidays, before returning to Golden in 2014.

Having been raised in entrepreneurial family Marloes always knew that she would one day run her own business. Soon after arriving in Golden she investigated the idea of opening a full service book keeping business in Golden BC. Her research showed a need for additional services in the community and her dream business Day2Day Books became a reality.

Marloes is very proud of her work implementing successful invoice and payroll systems that work for both the employers and employees. She loves the connection with her clients, who she believes are in Golden for the same reason as her; a remarkably healthy and fun lifestyle, so working with them is a lot of fun.

"The variety of activities you can do here are endless and the community feeling is very special. Right from the beginning I knew I found my home," says Marloes. "I am very happy to be able to work and live in the most beautiful place in the world."