DAVE HARTNELL

2026 COUNCIL CANDIDATE
MISSION BC



Please feel free to contact me if you'd like a sign, to know more about me, or more about the things I stand for.
Text or call: (604) 723-0275
Email: daveh.formissioncouncil@gmail.com

ABOUT ME

Honestly, I'm just a regular guy who decided to put my hand up to get more involved in our commuity than I already am.

A neurodivergent, divorced dad with two amazing kids, a partner I need to marry and the Danes that come with her. While I was born in London, UK ... I actually grew up in Regina, SK after my family moved to Canada when I was 3, we came to Canada for a year & never left becoming a Canadian Citizen at 16, taking the oath that many residents of mission have also taken. I have lived in Mission for the past 5 years (almost 6) & it quickly felt like home, a community that I am proud to be part of, a community that i want to protect. My amazing partner-in-life, Jaime, was born & raised here in Mission. She's seen a forested Cedar Valley, knows there was a time driving down to town meant a lot more streets than it does now, she lived here when people didn't realize Mission existed even though they would go to Mission Raceway or Abbotsford. While she left for a few years, her call to live in the 'back 40' was strong enough to bring us all here ... to her home town. When we were looking for places to call home, we knew Mission was short-listed & thankfully we ended up finding a slice of heaven here in Northern Mission & have been building Steelhead Lavender Farm ever since. We are so very grateful for this place we call home now. A big part of that is the sense of community that came with being in Steelhead (Mission).

I grew up in Regina after my family moved here from England when I was 3. We came to Canada for a year and never left, becoming a Canadian Citizen at 16 taking the oath that many residents of mission have also taken.

Growing up I didn't have extended family here in Canada but did have a huge "family" made up of many surrogate grandmothers and family friends, people from all different parts of the world and incredibly diverse cultures who all looked after our family like it was their own and we did the same. This is mostly because my parents worked for a charity their entire lives, I still struggle to understand exactly what they did. But I do know that they changed many people's lives for the better & they helped repair harm, get groups talking/communicating again, building or rebuilding trust, helping people & groups find common ground where there had been conflict/fighting & great loss previously. The charity is still very active worldwide anyone curious can find more here **https://iofc.org/**

I didn't get involved 'professionally' in the charity myself, but was always surrounded by those values, the actions, results, and the people impacted by everything they did. Seeing & living those positive impacts, being born with an innate sense of justice & fairness, I was also drawn to jobs in serving the public & community.

After being born into an analog world, that seemed to quickly turn digital, I fell into IT work right out of high school in '96. I am passionate about technology, what it can & has done for us, how connected it's allowed everyone to become. Including my ability to reach thousands with this post alone.

My main passions in life have been computers.thechnology & anything mechanical/electrical automotive. If you're curious about my patience level ... I've owned/tuned/built Volkswagens most of my life, including a Corrado ... trust me ... I have patience & a ridiculous drive to figure out ways to make things work better & more cohesive.

After spending my late teens & 20's building an amazing career in IT, I felt like I had reached a bit of a ceiling & needed a change.

Authorized by Dave Hartnell, Financial Agent

DAVE HARTNELL

2026 COUNCIL CANDIDATE ~ MISSION, BC



I was rebuilding & wiring cars on my own as a hobby & DIY engine computers suddenly became possible, since I enjoyed wiring & a computer background a business was born called FireandFuel. For about 14years I had the privilege of working on some amazing cars, many award winning, quite a few being local. I spent many days down at Mission Raceway helping build some race cars, even briefly having a race license. My passion was always in the building & the systems that connect to make race cars successful & as fast as they could be.

I love driving, but I really enjoy being the person who can help bring those dreams & ideas to life for other people. Unfortunately, the economy collapsed & having a young daughter the return to an office was inevitable, thoough I ran the business in the background after hours. Like many decisions in life we make them for our family & choose to sacrifice at times. So, after realizing I couldn't scale the business with the skills or money I had, I chose to return to IT work at City of Maple Ridge. A regular paycheque instead of chasing work (&sometimes customers for money) & it's hard to turn down benefits that my family needed.

I still have old customers who call me and ask me if it's possible to work on things for them and honestly that probably makes a lot more sense than stepping up to run for council on a personal level.

My parents didn't teach me anything about business or money, they only taught me to do the right thing & to hold myself to a higher standard than anyone else ever would. I'm not perfect ... I'm human & have made many mistakes in life. Attended the school of hard knocks & some days still feel like I'm there.

Eventually, I was lured away from both by a customer who owned ~50 cars that I was already looking after. He had bought the Delta Vancouver Airport hotel & knew i was skilled in IT, problem solving, & wanted my help transitioning it to a private hotel.

We successfully replaced all the IT systems with a small team, every computer & server, all the software & booking systems in one night while guests were in the hotels. They checked into 'Angela' and checked out of 'Pacific Gateway Hotel'.

It was there that I learnt all about searching for the money that was being wasted & left on the table. I found $5000 a month of comms services that were being billed, but were not actually in use. Many of them for over 20yrs. My personal goal when he hired me was to find the equivalent of my annual salary in savings & efficiency in just that hotel project alone & I did accomplish just that. While I'm proud of that, it earned me being loathed by the senior management when I kept finding things they were doing wrong & had been for years.

I learned some hard lessons about people & how toxic things can be. Eventually enough of them worked together & soured the relationship that I had built with the man I had once considered a friend. Someone who's assets I protected with a loyalty that I only offer to those that I care deeply about ... so I had to move on & abandon yet another dream.

To be overly honest, I found myself a bit broken after all that. During my divorce, I ended up returning to IT. This time at City of Delta for about 3 years, & worked there into the beginning of COVID. until I was forced to move with the kids from the home that I had helped to renovate & rebuild, on the farm in Ladner where I had moved with my family to work for the man who owned all those cars.

Eventually, after my divorce, Jaime & I found each other in life again. And we started to build a life together & then after being evicted from two rental homes for owners use (the last notice being handed to me at the front door on Thanksgiving day) after doing extensive upgrades, we ended up finding a Lavender Farm for sale in Steelhead (Mission, BC) literally at the same time from different rooms in the rental. It seemed like it was meant to be, her dream location, a dream of acreage, a positive light after so much darkness. We weighed options, finances, and all the things ... and made an offer we were sure would be refused.

But here we are ... we've now put down roots, have become farmers, bee keepers, business owners, contractors/free labour/home repair gurus. And I can say she isn't the only one that can rebuild/maintain/repair farm equipment/tractors! Did I mention she is a Red Seal Commercial Transport Mechanic? We definitley stray from the proverbial 'box' of ingrained perceptions of how life should be done, but in doing so have learnt so much about so many different things.

DAVE HARTNELL

2026 COUNCIL CANDIDATE ~ MISSION, BC



We became actively involved in the Steelhead Community & the Hall/Association almost immediately after moving here & seeing all the good it did for the community. I started learning about aquifers and how they work (or don't) & how many people struggle with their wells in Mission. I became a loud, often annoying (to the city & mayor/council) advocate about protecting our water & Mission as a whole.

My passion for Mission may have been forged in Steelhead, along side some incredible people also running for Mission Council, but I was born & raised for the job we have ahead.

I've been fortunate to get to know many rural residents from Stave Falls the past few years through events & my son having attended school there. I welcome the opportunity to get to know more people from all across mission of all backgrounds and faiths.

Mission is full of some incredible human beings, resilient, resourceful people who step up to help a stranger. People who get a little too enthusiastic out on the mud flats, neighbours who had a tree come down & can't get out of their driveway (or street up here!), racers helping their competition fix something that failed on their race car because without competition it just wouldn't be any fun. It breaks my heart seeing posts from elderly women asking the community where some safe places to park her car, as in a few months she's going to be forced to live in it.

We can do better and I would be honoured to be part of that opportunity.

I don't have answers for a lot of the questions everyone is asking. I do know I will be able to find them or find the people who have them & empower them to help. I will not be here making campaign promises I know that I cannot keep ... why can't I keep them?? Because each candidate will be part of a team. I'll work towards all the goals, to help repair all the injustices caused, towards all the things we need Mission to be. But I will not be doing it alone.

This was written from the heart from someone who has AdHd and is likely a bit autistic as well. I apologize for spelling and grammatical errors in advance.
I'm not really wired to back down from a fight but I don't seek out conflict. I can't stand bullies and people who steal or misuse public funds and assets. Waste is high up on that list of things that bother me and I've lived a life of innovation and doing things many told me I couldn't or shouldn't and while there have been setbacks I'm proud of the man I am today.

So, if you want to try doing things different in Mission, there are some good candidate options in front of you for City Council.

I don't want the job to have a political career, I would be happy staying on our farm & working on my own car projects, but there is too much at risk not to step up. My own experience in life is that the best leaders are usually the ones who don't want to lead, but the ones that end up doing it by example. I'm not a politician &, before the last few months, the idea of even making a post like this & putting my name out there in public was terrifying ... It quite frankly still is. I will get in & get my hands dirty. I'm not afraid of hard work or adversity & I often see things others miss.

It's time to take mission back.

If you don't vote for me, that's totally ok, but please vote. And vote ONLY for those you believe in. Just because there are 6 positions available doesn't mean you should pick 6 names. If you don't believe in a candidate don't vote for them. Those votes could get the person you don't believe in become your councillor, the ones you don't necessarily care for or even know much about may be enough to lose the seats to the ones you do want to elect.

If you would like to show support with a lawn or 4x8 sign property please reach out!

Please feel free to contact me if you'd like a sign, to know more about me, or the things I stand for.
Text/call: (604) 723-0275; Email: daveh.formissioncouncil@gmail.com

Less Vanity . More Sanity . Occasional Profanity

Authorized by Dave Hartnell, Financial Agent

DAVE HARTNELL

2026 COUNCIL CANDIDATE ~ MISSION, BC



ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

OCTOBER 7 | 8 AM - 8 PM | Mission Leisure Centre
OCTOBER 10 | 8 AM - 8 PM | Mission Leisure Centre

GENERAL VOTING DAY

OCTOBER 17 | 8 AM - 8 PM | Any Mission Voting Location (www.mission.ca/election/voter-information)

ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

RESIDENT VOTERS MUST:

- Be 18 years of age or older on general voting day;
- Be a Canadian citizen;
- Have been a resident of BC for at least six (6) months immediately before they register to vote;
- Be a resident of Mission on the day they register to vote; and
- Not be disqualified under the Local Government Act, or any other enactment, from voting in local elections or be otherwise disqualified by law.

NON-RESIDENT PROPERY ELECTOR MUST:

- Be 18 years of age or older on general voting day;
- Be a Canadian citizen;
- Have been a resident of BC for at least six months immediately before they register to vote;
- Be the registered owner of real property in Mission for at least 30 days immediately before they register to vote; and,
- Not be disqualified under the Local Government Act, or any other enactment, from voting in local elections or be otherwise disqualified by law.

* Persons who do not live in Mission but who own property in Mission may vote as long as they meet the voter eligibility requirements.

* If a person owns a property with one or more other individuals, only one person is eligible to vote as the non-resident property elector for that property. The owner entitled to vote must be designated in writing by a majority of the property owners.

ACCEPTABLE IDENTIFICATION INCLUDES (BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO):

- BC Driver's Licence
- BC Care Card
- BC Services Card
- Canadian Citizenship Card
- Birth Certificate
- Credit Card or Debit Card
- Social Insurance Card
- Property Tax Notice issued by the City of Mission
- Secure Certificate of Indian Status (Status Card)
- Utility Bill (Phone, Hydro, Gas, etc.) *on your phone is OK
- Vehicle insurance documents issued by ICBC

* If you have **not** already registered, you will be required to produce 2 documents that both provide evidence of your identity & place of residence, at least 1 of which must contain your signature.

* Please note that if your driver's license & BC care card are combined on one card, you will need a second piece of ID as well.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTACT THE CANDIDATES:

COUNCIL CANDIDATES: https://localelections.ca/election_candidates/75_2026_candidates.html

TRUSTEE CANDIDATES: https://localelections.ca/election_candidates/248_2026_candidates.html

MORE ELECTION INFORMATION: https://www.mission.ca/election

Less Vanity . More Sanity . Occasional Profanity

Authorized by Dave Hartnell, Financial Agent