

Mailing Address: 23898 Road T.2, Mattawa, WA 99349 Cell: 509.431.8882 Email: Board@SoGrantCountyWAChamberofCommerce.com

**Business/Applicant Name:** 

## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP (Please print legibly)

Legal Name if different than above					
Physical Address:					
Mailing Address:					
Main Office Phone:					
Representative/Contact:					
Title:					
Direct Office Phone or Ext:					
Email:					
		UBI/DOR #			
Type of Membership:	Business		Non-Profit	\$65/yr	
Category: General (circle one)					
Business Description:					
Reason for Joining:					
Involvement Interest: circle one	YES-contact u	s to get involved/volu	unteer		
NO-share information or issues of interest					
WEBSITE:				Publish: Yes or No	
FACEBOOK:				Publish: Yes or No	
Vea el otro lado para la aplicación en español					
Please make checks payable t	to: South G	rant County Char	nber of Comn	nerce or SGC CoC	
By completing this application, the signat and will abide by the governing document on "auto renew" and payment will be re unless cancelled in writing by member.	ture below ag	grees to support the s used. The signature	c Chamber with e also agrees that	annual membership dues at this membership will be	
Signature of Authorized				Date Signed	
Representative					
	For Int	ernal Use Only			
Referred by:				Member ID#:	
Presented/Accepted at Meeting Date:				Industry Code:	
Notice of Acceptance Date:			Ву:	Posted:	
Payment Method:			Personal Other	Invoice#:	
Payment Processed	Date Rec'd	Date Depo	osited	Ву	





## Learn about the Chamber of Commerce and the impact on the community

<u>Purpose:</u> Organized to advance the general welfare and prosperity of the southern-most area of Grant County, Washington so that its citizens and all areas of its business community shall prosper. All necessary means of promotion shall be provided, and particular attention and emphasis shall be given to the economic, civic, commercial, cultural, industrial and educational interest of the area.

<u>Objectives:</u> To preserve the competitive enterprise system of business, educate and represent the business community, prevent or address controversies that could be detrimental to the expansion and growth of business in the community, create a better appreciation of the value of a competitive business climate, and foster business growth and development to strengthen and expand business in the area.

WHAT IS A CHAMBER? The South Grant County Chamber of Commerce, formerly the Mattawa Area Multicultural Chamber of Commerce incorporated in 2005. In 2023, the Chamber submitted articles of amendment to enlarge the service area and re-brand itself to help better identify the region, which includes the communities south of Interstate 90, except for George who aligns with the Quincy area. Working on behalf of the communities of Beverly, Desert Aire, Mattawa, Royal City, Schwana, the Wahluke Slope and Warden/MarineView, the Chamber is active county-wide, throughout the state, and even with federal representatives and agencies. The Chamber serves as a representative body, free of special interest groups, through which members support collective action in the region. 20th anniversary in 2025! Internal Revenue Service designates a Chamber as a 501c6 non-profit organization, established for utilizing voluntary partnerships of businesses and professionals to build a healthy economy and improve the quality of life in a community. The designation from the IRS provides tax exemption. Washington's Secretary of State processes the Articles of Incorporation that allows the Chamber to function, similar to other business corporations. The Chamber fulfils many roles in a community, championing functions such as economic developer or planner, tourist information, business representative, economic counselor/teacher, government relations advisor, human resource specialist and public relations practitioner.

<u>WHO IS THE CHAMBER?</u> Members are businesses, organizations, and individuals concerned with the socioeconomic climate of a community. Working together, there is a better chance of getting things done when speaking with a collective voice. Members can be a hardware store, bank, locally owner restaurant or market, franchises or major retailers, farmers, professionals such as lawyers or accountants, independent realtors or commercial developers, technology leaders, single proprietorships or multi-national corporations. Luckily, there are no limits to the number or kind of members that choose to be involved, as long as there is a shared vision.

Currently, the South Grant County Chamber of Commerce is a volunteer driven organization. As it grows, through membership increases and development of benefits and services, things may allow for the hiring of paid staff.

HOW DOES THE CHAMBER FUNCTION CURRENTLY? The Chamber is focusing on an awareness campaign to attract members by providing information on what or how a business can benefit from joining, which is unique to most. Best practice is face-to-face discussions, and by utilizing introductions from an existing member to another prospective one. Invitations to activities prior to joining can also be beneficial, as it strengthens the bond of working together when people know each other, especially in a rural area like South Grant County.

<u>WHEN DOES THE CHAMBER OPERATE?</u> Regardless of whether a chamber is small or with hundreds of members, the formula for success includes active awareness of what is happening in or around the community, and businesses stepping forward to understand how the Chamber can assist. In the last few decades, the Chamber, like everyone, has the ability to connect with people endlessly, using technology, which can be useful as much as it can be annoying. What helps far beyond cell phones or on-line access, is to build relationships with others in the community that come from other types of business, or area, or perspective, industry or background to partner on common goals. Meeting just to meet is no longer the norm; its more about identifying specific goals and approaching solutions that are common sense and realistic.

WHY IS THE CHAMBER UMBRELLA IMPORTANT? Unlike specific industries or size of a businesses, an approach of stepping back to look at an issue or project from various perspectives can be more productive, especially as a primary mission of the Chamber is influencing public policy. In this area, the special service districts (taxing authorities) include the federal, state, and county governments, with layers from the fire/hospital/library/port/school/irrigation/health districts to name just a few. Collaboration, communication, cooperation, coordination (the Four C's of the Chamber) are beneficial to solving problems and find solutions.

<u>WHERE CAN BUSINESSES/CITIZENS HELP?</u> Consider who you know that might be benefitted by getting involved through joining the Chamber directly, or providing information about those in your personal and professional circles that might consider becoming involved. Grassroots efforts can yield unimaginable results under the welcoming culture and environment that is fostered by the Chamber.

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