

NANAIMO TOURISM BULLETIN

June 2018

June occupancy well up over last year

“June was a banner month for tourism on much of the island and this is reflected in Nanaimo’s accommodation indicators which show an 84% occupancy rate (up almost 7% over last year) and a \$118 RevPAR rate (up more than \$16 over last year). We anticipate that this strong performance will continue over the summer.

Frank Bourree, FCMC, Partner

- On June 1st, the BC Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture announced the establishment of the new Minister’s Tourism Engagement Council (MTEC). This large group (28 members), comprised of tourism stakeholders from around the Province, will meet a few times each year and is tasked with helping the provincial government achieve sustainable tourism growth by advising on policies, strategies and issues that affect the industry, and by helping to set tourism priorities, goals and strategy implementation.
- According to the UNWTO, “International tourist arrivals grew 6% in the first four months of 2018, compared to the same period last year, not only continuing the strong 2017 trend, but exceeding UNWTO’s forecast for 2018. Growth was led by Asia and the Pacific (+8%) and Europe (+7%). Africa (+6%), the Middle East (+4%) and the Americas (+3%) also recorded sound results. Earlier this year, UNWTO’s forecast for 2018 was between 4%-5%.”
- The Province has announced changes to the MRDT program with the main changes being that AirBnB type properties must now pay PST and MRDT, and that MRDT revenue from properties that are only marketed online can be used by municipalities to support the development of affordable housing. See: www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/taxes/sales-taxes/publications/notice-2018-004-pst-mrtd-accommodation-providers.pdf

TOURISM STATISTICS	June		Variance	Year to Date		Variance
	2018	2017		2018	2017	
Average Occupancy	83.94%	77.33%	6.6%	69.79%	68.90%	0.89%
Average Daily Room Rate	\$140.84	\$131.63	\$9.21	\$125.36	\$122.26	\$3.10
Revenue Per Available Room (RevPAR)	\$118.22	\$101.79	\$16.43	\$87.49	\$84.24	\$3.25
BC Ferries (Tsawwassen – Duke Point)						
Vehicles	71,102	68,250	4.18%	334,160	318,773	4.83%
Passengers	156,439	149,075	4.94%	721,177	689,725	4.56%
Buses	86	69	24.64%	326	376	(13.30%)
BC Ferries (Horseshoe Bay – Departure Bay)						
Vehicles	116,522	121,277	(3.92%)	536,967	536,800	0.03%
Passengers	310,411	320,517	(3.15%)	1,443,816	1,448,393	(0.32%)
Buses	324	329	(1.52%)	1,079	1,111	(2.88%)
Nanaimo Airport	37,608	30,033	25.22%	190,368	166,924	14.04%
Vancouver Island Conference Centre	12,747	872	1,361.81%	20,459	10,860	88.39%

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