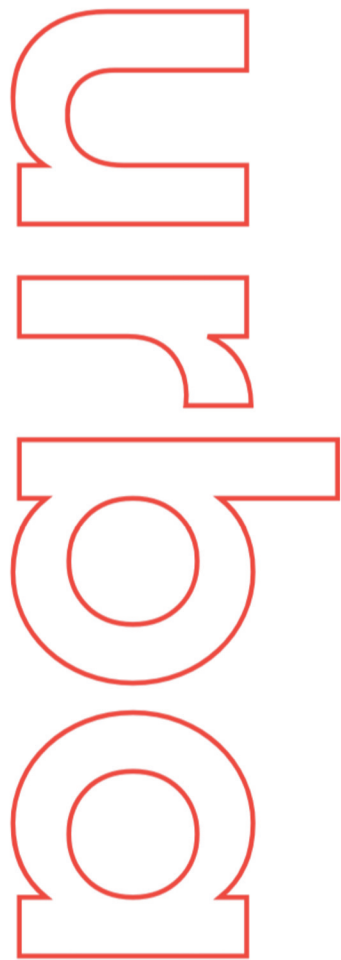




Mission

Uptown, Down to Earth: To grow and strengthen Rutland's hard-working business community through authentic connections and strategic opportunities.

Vision

Rutland Proud: To attract and expand development, business and prosperity with pride and purpose.

**Uptown.
Down to Earth.**

Director Spotlight
Nicola Gradnitzer-McNabb
Building Owner – 135 Rutland Rd N

What drew you to your current occupation or business?

"I was drawn to our family business because of the deep-rooted values and traditions that have been passed down through generations. The sense of pride and responsibility in contributing to our family's success is incredibly fulfilling."



What is your favourite thing about Rutland?

"My favourite thing about Rutland is the strong sense of community. The people here are incredibly supportive and welcoming, which makes it a wonderful place to live and work. Additionally, the beautiful natural surroundings provide a perfect backdrop for both work and leisure."

How has URBA and your role as a board member positively impacted you and the Rutland community?

"Being a part of URBA and serving as a board member has been a rewarding experience. It has allowed me to collaborate with other dedicated professionals and contribute to the growth and development of the Rutland business community."

Are there any projects, events, or products you're currently excited about and would like to share?

"Yes, I'm currently excited about the upcoming Canadian Country Music Awards in Kelowna, followed by several URBA Afterhours events at Rutland businesses. These events aim to provide economic growth, showcase the unique offerings of our local businesses and foster a sense of unity within the community."

What's a fun fact about yourself that most people don't know?

"A fun fact about me is that I love skiing. I enjoy being in the fresh mountain air, spending time with family and friends. Rutland is a great place to fuel up, both the car and ourselves on our way to Big White!"

September 2025 Newsletter



Board of Directors

- President**
Justin Bullock
OK Tire Rutland & Top Grade Tire Recycling
- Vice President**
Brad McNaughton
LUX Quality Homes
- Treasurer**
Domenic Rampone
Kelowna Gospel Mission Thrift Store
- Secretary**
Jassie Kakoschke
Valley First
- Directors**
Indy Dhial
Pita Pit; The Gathering Place
- Nicola Gradnitzer-McNabb**
Building Owner – 135 Rutland Rd N
- Harjit Toora**
Manohar Vegetarian Bakery, Hero Security
- Appointed**
Birte Decloux
Urban Options Planning Corp.
- Curtis Tarapaski**
Crosspace Construction Inc.
- Ex -Officio**
Mayor Tom Dyas
City of Kelowna
- Executive Director**
Karen Beaubier
URBA



Kelowna Tree Planting Festival

Sunday, September 21st 12:00 – 4:00 pm
Rutland Centennial Park (190 McIntosh Rd)

Join the Chinese United Association and URBA for a family-fun-filled day, absolutely free to attend.

Learn about the importance of environmental restoration, and purchase a tree sapling to help improve Rutland's tree canopy

Stay for the community booths and family fun activities.

FREE parking located at Roxby Square, can't wait to see you there, Rutland!

Mural Spotlight: Jessa Gilbert's Together in the Tall Grass

jessagilbert 355 Hartman Rd

Jessa Gilbert draws inspiration from her backcountry experiences, celebrating playful moments while standing in awe of the outdoors. Based in Squamish, Gilbert works as both an artist and a CSGA-certified backcountry guide, blending her love of art and nature in her everyday life.

Her dynamic mural, *Together in the Tall Grass*, creates a space where children and adults share the same perspective, inviting all viewers into the tall grass and fostering community and playfulness. Rolling mountains rise upward, symbolizing the importance of chasing your dreams and where they can take you. Celebrating the macro beauty of the Okanagan Valley, *Together in the Tall Grass* equalizes the outdoor experience across ages, bringing everyone together through play.



Jessa Gilbert, *Together in The Tall Grass*, 355 Hartman Rd

Member Profile

Stephanie: Trulli Italian Supermercato

What is your business?
How would you describe it to someone who's never heard of it?

"Trulli Italian is a small import shop with a focus on sustainably sourced southern Italian food, with no nasty ingredients."

When did you start your business? How has it grown since then?

"I opened the shop in May 2021, and my customer base has grown from the occasional curious drop-in to having loads of regulars – some from as far away as Kamloops."

What motivated you to start this business? What is your favourite thing about it today?

"The pandemic abruptly ended my previous business (I was doing tastings in the valley for several Okanagan wineries) and I had long dreamed of having a little Italian shop, so it seemed that it was the perfect moment to try! What I love about it most now is the sense of community I feel here in Rutland as a business owner and a resident – and talking about food with people! It's beyond incredible to me that customers regularly thank me for being here. Seriously...wow."

How would you describe being a part of URBA?

"URBA has been amazingly supportive and has facilitated some great opportunities that I never had access to through any other chamber or organization. What a great team."



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urba



Valley First Flapjack Cowboy Fundraiser Results, Thank you, Rutland!

Thank you, Rutland! Your generosity raised over \$640 in support of the Central Okanagan Food Bank. Every dollar makes a difference, and you helped put food on the table for local families.

After Hours Events: Fall Schedule

October – Manohar Bakery and Tamm Latin Market

Wednesday October 15th,
5:00–7:00 p.m.
Manohar Bakery and Tamm Latin Market, 203 Rutland Rd N



November – Salvation Army Thrift Store

Wednesday, November 5th
5:00–7:00 p.m.
Salvation Army Thrift Store, 200 Rutland Rd S Unit 2



December – Kelowna Chiefs Game

Friday December 5th,
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Rutland Arena
645 Dodd Rd



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URBA Member Radio Contest

Radio Spotlight CONTEST

Tell us why you **LOVE** doing
Business in **Rutland** for a chance to win!

15 Winners Chosen

FREE TO ENTER

urba
Uptown Rutland
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



Radio Spotlight Contest for URBA Members

We've got an exciting contest for you! We're giving 15 businesses the chance to be featured with a FREE personalized 15-second broadcast on hit radio stations, Beach Radio, OV 103.9, and The Lizard! All you have to do is tell us why you LOVE having your business in Rutland!

To enter, simply answer the question,

What makes Rutland home for your business?

your answers will NOT be read on air. If selected, we will help you craft your custom radio spot!

Don't miss your chance, 15 winners will be selected. Let's celebrate and spotlight the local businesses that make Rutland thrive! Please send responses to,

executivedirector@uptownrutland.com

Rutland Proud

OKANAGAN MANUFACTURING DATABASE

Supplier database tool

investkelowna.com/manufacturing-database

Okanagan Manufacturing Database

A new tool designed to strengthen the Okanagan's manufacturing sector and reduce reliance on external supply chains is now live.

Launched by the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission with financial support from ETSI-BC, the Okanagan Manufacturing Database connects manufacturers, suppliers, and decision-makers from Salmon Arm to Osoyoos.

To learn more and access the database. Please scan the QR code



Fire Season, Kevin Ledo, 232 Shepherd Rd