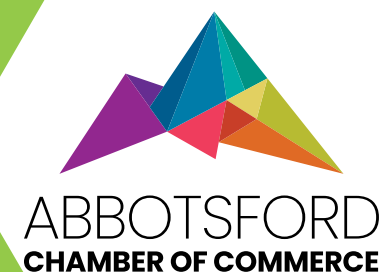



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ABBOTSFORD

TASTE OF ABBY FOOD FESTIVAL A LOCAL SUCCESS



of Abby promises to impress every time. The Taste of Abby Fall Food Festival welcomed everyone to explore a selection of food and agricultural events, treating one's palate to Abbotsford's deep history, diverse food culture, and delicious culinary cultivations. This inaugural celebration drew upon many areas, ranging from a night market kick-off event featuring live music, to a food security and sustainability video series and the first "Abby Food & Farm" Awards.

The Abbotsford Chamber was pleased to partner and co-present another inaugural event for the City, the first, Abby Food and Farm Awards, with special keynote his Worship Mayor Henry Braun. The event recognized Abbotsford's best culinary talents and agricultural producers at Ledgeview Golf and Country Club on September 18th to celebrate and round off a tremendously successful Taste of Abby week. This year Tourism Abbotsford and the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce recognized some of the most dedicated and accomplished local restaurants, farms, and food experiences in our city.

Congratulations to all the winners and nominees! Winners:

- Outstanding Restaurant /Bistro Award – Restaurant 62
- Outstanding Chef Award – Gian's Indian Cuisine
- Outstanding Community Spirit Award – Birchwood Dairy
- Outstanding Café/Bistro – Duft & Co.
- Outstanding Wine Beer, or Spirits Producer - Ravens
- Outstanding Ag/Farm Producer – Lepp Farms
- Most Innovative Food Concept – Revive Social House
- Outstanding Ag/Farm Experience – Mann Farms
- Outstanding Food Event/Experience – Abbotsford Farmers Market
- Peoples Choice – Chef Boss Culinary

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September 29, 2022

Abbotsford, BC - This month Tourism Abbotsford put on its first ever "Taste of Abby – Food Festival" from September 9th to 18th. This is part of a strategic focus on the City's destination tourism and building on the diverse experiences that Abbotsford has to offer and is known for such as our famous Abbotsford International Airshow. As "the Hub of the Fraser Valley" and leading City in Canada in agricultural production, Abbotsford's Taste of Abby is poised for major regional impact showcasing farm to table and agritourism experiences Abbotsford offers.

If you missed it this year you won't want to next year, as Taste

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Moving Abbotsford Forward

I hope you had time to relax and recharge this summer, because fall is here, and it is already moving fast and furious! Municipal elections are just around the corner, and we have quite a roster of candidates for Mayor and Council. Please join us for the [Abbotsford Mayoral Candidates debate](#) on Sept 28 and the ["Back to Business - Moving Abbotsford Forward" luncheon & Municipal Candidates mingle](#) event on Oct 11.

I would like to thank the current Mayor and Council in their steadfast leadership throughout unprecedented challenges. I don't think any of them signed up for the hattrick: pandemic, fires and flood, but they served with passion and integrity. Abbotsford was certainly shaken, but not defeated. What an amazing outpour of generosity and compassion as our community dug deep to support struggling businesses during the pandemic, and people displaced from the flood. The Abbotsford Chamber delivered over \$2 million in

cheques to flood victims thanks to the Abbotsford Disaster Relief Fund Coalition (Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce, Abbotsford Community Foundation, and UFV).

Is Abbotsford open for business? Economic prosperity will be among the topics tabled by municipal candidates, among many important social issues facing our community. From an economic lens, how well is Abbotsford strategically engaged in attracting new businesses and supporting our existing business community effectively? Our upcoming event ["Back to Business - Moving Abbotsford Forward"](#) is a forum to discuss both, with a call-to-action for stronger, proactive engagement. In collaboration with local business stakeholders and associations, the Abbotsford Chamber is examining current opportunities and developing policy aimed at strengthening and diversifying our business community, thus creating more jobs and attracting more talent to our region. New and existing businesses need help navigating red tape and working



Craig Toews
PRESIDENT

through the plethora of hurdles between them and successfully starting up or scaling up. The Chamber is a strong advocate for businesses, no matter how big or small, and we are here to help.

With many networking opportunities and services to support businesses, the Chamber embraces a culture of vibrant engagement and proactive advocacy. As your President, I would be honored to connect with you to better understand your unique business needs and introduce you into our thriving business network. I hope to see you at our next event!

NEW MEMBERS:

- Wibble Wobble Childcare Ltd. www.wibblewobblechildcare.ca
- Fraser Valley Artisan Food Hub Inc. www.fraservalleyartisansfoodhub.com
- Optimum Home Safety www.optimumhomesafety.com
- Scrum Master Course www.scrum.org/courses
- Good Kid Coffee Inc. www.goodkidcoffee.ca
- Cera Fenton – O'Connor – CYPE www.cerarnt.ca
- Live in the Fraser Valley www.liveinthefraservalley.ca
- Local Pro Book www.localprobook.com
- Well Built Wealth www.wellbuiltwealth.ca
- Tabor Home Society www.taborvillage.org

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Tuesday, October 11

"Back to Business - Moving Abbotsford Forward" Luncheon & 2022 Municipal Candidates Mingle
Clarion Hotel & Conference Centre
11:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Thursday, October 27

Business After Business
hosted by KSW Lawyers
Ledgview Golf Club
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Thursday, November 17

26th Annual Abbotsford Business Excellence Awards
Clarion Hotel & Conference Centre
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

For more information and registration go to: abbotsfordchamber.com/events

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Business Excellence Awards Recognize Outstanding Organizations and Individuals in Abbotsford



Business Excellence Awards features a “Looking Forward” theme

“Looking Forward” is this year’s theme for the annual Business Excellence Awards and encourages reflection on the past, present and future to find lessons learned, innovation and propel our business and community forward. Business innovation and resiliency has no doubt been key throughout the pandemic and recent flooding disaster. It’s now time to breakthrough and look forward to the new opportunities that have arisen and celebrate our peers who have made a noticeable impact and been exemplary leaders, ceasing new realities and adapting with forward thinking.

Presented by the **Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce** and **The Abbotsford News**. The Business Excellence Awards recognize outstanding organizations and individuals in Abbotsford that strive for excellence in our community. Business Excellence Award recipients are *Leaders* in their industry with a commitment to *Customer Service*, a concern for the *Community*, and a passion for *Innovation*.

This year, we will give twelve awards to exceptional Abbotsford-based businesses and entrepreneurs. Award recipients will be announced at the awards reception on Thursday, November 17, 2022. We hope you join us! Register to secure your table or seat at www.abbotsfordchamber.com/events.

CATEGORIES OF NOMINATIONS:

- Home Based Business Excellence
- Tourism Excellence
- Manufacturing & Production Excellence
- Agricultural & Agri-Business Excellence
- Consumer Services Excellence (1-5 Employees)
- Consumer Services Excellence (6+ Employees)
- Entrepreneur of the Year
- Non-Profit Organization of the Year
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- New Business of the Year
- Established Business of the Year (1-19 Employees)
- Established Business of the Year (20+ Employees)

**26 ABBOTSFORD
BUSINESS
EXCELLENCE
AWARDS**
"LOOKING FORWARD"

**CELEBRATING 26 YEARS
OF BUSINESS EXCELLENCE**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022 | 4:00 PM TO 6:00 PM
CLARION HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER

TICKETS NOW ON SALE!

WWW.ABBOTSFORDCHAMBER.COM/EVENTS

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