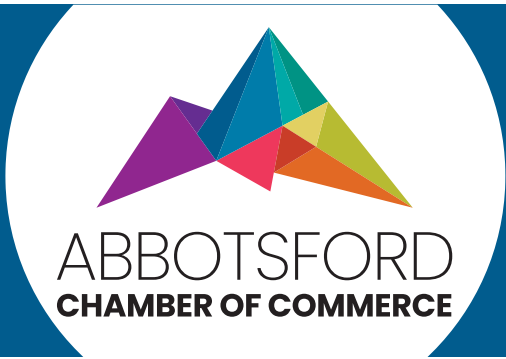


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ABBOTSFORD CHAMBER UPDATE

November 2023 Edition

It was great to see so many new people at the recent Abbotsford Business Excellence Awards where we celebrated the outstanding achievements of our local businesses and entrepreneurs. This year's ceremony was a resounding success, bringing together a diverse array of businesses and entrepreneurs that reflect the dynamic nature of our local economy. From startups with bold ideas to well-established enterprises, each nominee and winner showcased the diversity and resilience that defines Abbotsford's business landscape.

As we applauded the winners on stage, we also acknowledged the unsung heroes—the teams, employees, and families behind these businesses. Success is a collective effort, and the Business Excellence Awards highlighted the collaborative spirit that thrives in Abbotsford. The ceremony was a reflection of the interconnectedness between local businesses and the community, emphasizing that success is a shared journey.

Our sponsors play a crucial role in creating an event that not only applauds achievement but also serves as a platform for networking, collaboration, and inspiration. Their commitment to our community is evident in the success of this event, and we are truly grateful for their support.

One of the unique aspects of these awards is the inclusivity of nominations. I would like to emphasize that these accolades are open to any Abbotsford business, organization, or individual. You don't have to be a member of the Abbotsford Chamber to be nominated, highlighting our commitment to acknowledging excellence wherever it may be found within our community.

To all the nominees and winners, I extend my heartfelt congratulations. Your achievements are a source of pride for our community, and we are honored to have businesses that contribute so significantly to Abbotsford's identity. Your leadership sets a standard for excellence that will inspire future generations of entrepreneurs.

I want to express my gratitude to the Chamber team and everyone else



THANK YOU TO OUR BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD SPONSORS!



who played a role in making the Business Excellence Awards a memorable event. Your dedication and support are instrumental in shaping the success of our local businesses and our community as a whole.

Once again, a heartfelt thank you to our sponsors, nominees, winners, and the entire community for making the Business Excellence Awards a night to remember. Here's to another year of celebrating the vibrant spirit of business excellence in Abbotsford and I hope to see you at our upcoming events.

- Dec 7th lunch with the Mayor at the Sandman Hotel (Airport)
- Dec 14th holiday special at the Sandman Hotel (Airport)

Craig Toews
President, Abbotsford Chamber Board

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| ■ Boost Body Sugaring | ■ ProBed Medical Technologies |
| ■ FH Canada | ■ Semá:th xo:t̓sa Development Limited |
| ■ Fraser Valley Dry Ice | ■ SubcoDevs Inc |
| ■ Full Throttle Cleaning | ■ Swing Optical |
| ■ Global Aid Network | ■ The Chef's Acre Catering INC |
| ■ Impressions, etc. | ■ THE SKIN FACTORY MEDI-SPA |
| ■ Kraft EMS Studio | ■ UFV Properties Trust |
| ■ Master Care Janitorial and Facility Services Inc. | |

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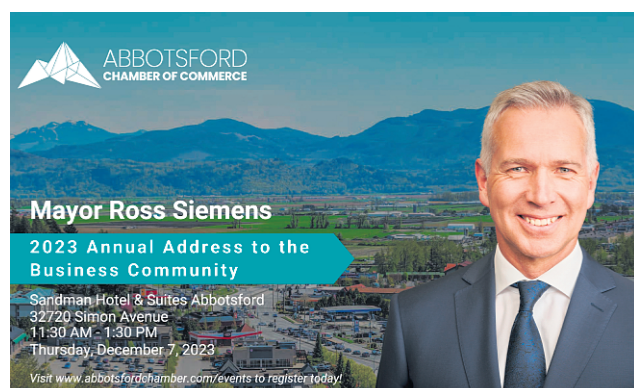
Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce Encourages Eligible Small Businesses to Apply to the Securing Small Business Rebate Program

The applications portal is now open for small businesses to access up to \$2,000 for eligible commercial property crime and vandalism repairs, or to implement eligible preventative measures as part of the Province's **Securing Small Business Rebate Program**.

The Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce is encouraging eligible small businesses to apply for the 'Securing Small Business Rebate' following the opening of the application portal earlier this month.

"Everyday businesses face an affordability challenge just to simply continue operations. This, paired with property crime and vandalism, adds to the burden on small business, said Alex Mitchell, CEO of the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce. "This new rebate program is one piece in reducing that burden, and we encourage all eligible small businesses to apply as the Chamber continues to advocate for more supports to reduce the burdens on Abbotsford's businesses."

Administered by the BC Chamber of Commerce, with \$10.5 million in funding from the Province, this rebate is available to small businesses that have been affected by property crime and vandalism, or those who are looking to invest in prevention.



There are two types of rebates, each retroactive to January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024.

- **Reparative** - Provides relief for costs not covered by insurance or the insurance deductibles for those costs. Available as a one-time rebate of up to \$2,000 for each of 2023 and 2024.
- **Preventative** - Provides relief for costs incurred to prevent damage to commercial property. Available as a one-time rebate of up to \$1,000 for either 2023 or 2024.

The application portal is now open and will remain open until **January 31, 2025**.

For more information visit <https://bcchamber.org/securing-small-business-rebate> or contact the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce office for support.



For more Information Contact:
Allan Asaph
Email: allan.asaph@telus.net
Phone: 6048070088

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mayor's Annual Address to the Business Community

December 7th

Sandman Hotel & Suites:
32720 Simon Avenue

Annual Holiday Mingler with Sandman Hotel

December 14th

Airport 4:00-6:00 pm
Sandman Hotel Airport:
3010 Mount Lehman Road

Chamber Trip - \$100 off the price until November 30th

<https://www.indus.travel/tour/magical-danube-with-abbotsford-chamber-of-commerce/>

For more information
and registration go to:

abbotsfordchamber.com/events