

APRIL 2024

my Business

engaging businesses, building community

www.abbotsfordchamber.com



2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Kevin Mierau
PRESIDENT



Paul Penner
VICE PRESIDENT



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TREASURER



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Josh Reynolds
DIRECTOR



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DIRECTOR



Brittany Tucker
DIRECTOR



Kamna Suri
DIRECTOR



Lee Kitson
DIRECTOR



Khyati Shetty
DIRECTOR



Steve Czek
DIRECTOR

2024 CHAMBER TEAM MEMBERS

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ABBOTSFORD CHAMBER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we embark on a new year at the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce I would like to take a moment to let the Chamber members and the amazing business community of Abbotsford know how grateful I am to serve as your Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Chair. I am energized and ready for the exciting year ahead, with our recalibrated strategic vision in place we are full steam ahead with all of you.

This year's exciting momentum wouldn't be what it is without the unwavering efforts of our past President, Craig Toews who led us through several years of challenging times. Craig always came with a positive focus that always kept us looking moving forward with a problem solving vision. Thank you Craig.

To our returning Board members, thank you for all of the expertise, time and hard work that you continue to dedicate to the Chamber. The last few years have been challenging but the Chamber of Commerce has remained strong through the creativity and strategic support that each one of you bring. I know many of you wear several other leadership hats in our community and commit countless hours volunteering, and I appreciate your tireless service.

To our new Board members, thank you for your dedication to our community that has led you to serving on the Chamber Board.



I look forward to serving with you this year and beyond.

The exciting year will ensure your Chamber is strong, with a big part of that strength coming from our CEO, Alex Mitchell and her amazing team of staff that bring skills, professionalism and a care for our Abbotsford Chamber and entire small business community that is contagious.

Moving forward we are continuing our rhythm and growth in the networking events, education, advocacy, benefits and Company of Young Professionals. We have many events including Business After Business, Bus Tours, Golf Tournament, Lunch and Learns and the always exciting Business Excellence Awards that highlight the talent in our City. There are

many events, please check out our events calendar for all of the events, I'm confident you will find many of interest.

Also of notable mention is the growth within the Company of Young Professionals and Entrepreneurs (CYPE) that we are seeing. CYPE is filling a void that allows networking and education opportunities that fit the needs of the busy young professionals that are growing their careers. Please encourage your young professionals to check out CYPE and attend events, I am confident that they will find benefits.

I eagerly await working with the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce members, Board of Directors, and our exceptional staff this year as we continue to gauge and creatively respond to the needs of our membership. Thank you, Abbotsford Chamber members, for your commitment, participation, and support of our programs and events. I look forward to seeing you, sharing ideas and strategies, and growing our business community.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Pivot Point Properties
- Enbridge
- Gary Dhindsa - PREC
- Prestige Physio and Sports Med
- Cloud Edge Accounting
- Curtis Paulson Personal Real
- Heritage Acres Distilling
- Estate Corporation
- Abby Wedding & Flowers LTD.
- Stó:lō Community Futures
- Ace Agencies Property
- AJAE Consulting Ltd.
- Management
- The Polly Fox
- Abby's Flowers Plus
- Nordon and Gordon Events and Entertainment
- Raising Wealth Properties
- Sunny Sharma Real Estate
- Red Rhino Rentals

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ABBOTSFORD
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Welcome to the Chamber's Incoming Board of Directors



- Paul Penner, Re/Max TruPeak Realty, Vice President
- Katie Yu, RBC, Treasurer
- Sam Varing, First West Credit Union, Secretary
- Josh Reynolds, Illustrate Collective, Director
- Ravi Sidhu, FSH Design, Director
- Brittany Tucker, KPMG, Director
- Loren Taves, Taves Family Farms, Director

- Dr. Khyati Shetty, UFV School of Business, Director
- Steve Czeck, Empyrion Technologies Inc., Director
- Kamna Suri, Sandman Hotel Group, Director
- Craig Toews, Past President
- Kevin Mierau, Mierau Contractors, President
- Lee Kitson, Marshall Aerospace Canada, Director

Agriculture Bus Tour is Back

Find out what makes Abbotsford the agricultural hub of Canada! Abbotsford farms and agri-businesses generate \$3.83 billion in economic activity for our city and support 23% of all jobs in Abbotsford. The theme of this year's tour is *Sustainable Agriculture!*

The annual agriculture bus tour highlights the most cutting edge agricultural operations in Abbotsford so businesses and community members can better understand the impact of the sector.

The 2023 tour featured Agriculture Minister Pam Alexis, alongside visits to Barrowtown Pump Station, Lakeland Flowers, Aright Greentech, and Taves Family Farm & Cidery.

Join us for a day of learning and connection with businesses and farmers on Friday, June 14 2024 from 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM. This year's event is sponsored by Community Futures South Fraser, Abbotsford Tech District, Fortis BC, and BC Egg.



UPCOMING EVENTS

We Learn Wednesdays

May 1

Hosted by Empyrion Technologies - Online Info session

- Basic Strategies to Protect Your Small Business from Cyber Issues -

Business after Business

May 16th

WorkBC

Fraser Valley Economic Summit

May 21st

Evered Hall, UFV

Agriculture Bus Tour

June 14th

37th Annual Golf Tournament

Sept 6

Ledgeview Golf Club

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

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BUSINESS COALITION
presents

2024 FRASER VALLEY ECONOMIC SUMMIT

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