

# my BUSINESS

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ABBOTSFORD  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Paul Penner**  
President



**Sam Varing**  
Vice President



**Josh Reynolds**  
Secretary



**Jimmy Severn**  
Treasurer



**Jennifer Menge Ewart**  
Director



**Jove Loewen**  
Director



**Kamna Suri**  
Director



**Khyati Shetty**  
Director



**Loren Taves**  
Director



**Steve Couper**  
Director



**Steve Czeck**  
Director



**Vineet Verghese**  
Director

### A Look Back at 2025

It's been another busy year for the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce. We have hosted numerous events, including Business After Business mixers, luncheons, the annual golf tournament, an industrial bus tour, and the ever popular Business Excellence Awards. Our advocacy efforts have reached all levels of government and gained support from the provincial and federal Chambers of Commerce.

The Chamber staff, under Alex Mitchell's leadership, ensured that all events were meticulously planned and executed. Our board members took time out of their busy schedules to attend numerous events and meetings while representing their various industries. It is an honor to work alongside such a talented team.

Each year, various organizations choose a word to encapsulate the year gone by as the "word of the year". As I look back on the year 2025, a number of words come to mind.

**Tariffs:** the looming threat of a trade war, constantly changing dates for the imposition of tariffs, escalation of tariffs. Trade disruptions and penalties

have created a tremendous amount of turmoil and uncertainty.

**Supply chains.** As existing trade networks have become less viable, many businesses have been forced to find new suppliers or new buyers, showcasing the importance of our transportation infrastructure, such as Highway 1 and the Abbotsford International Airport.

Many other words come to mind, but perhaps my favourite is: **"Resilience"**. It's been a tough year, for many of us. The bottom line took a hit, and we've had to find a way to move forward. We've changed how we do business and we've changed who we do business with. While we didn't look for adversity, many of us have found some opportunities that we had previously missed or even ignored.

As President of the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce, I've had the opportunity to meet with many local entrepreneurs and business leaders.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The story is similar in all our discussions, and the overall message is clear; the grit and determination of Canadian businesses always rises to the occasion.

Maybe **"Proud"** is a better word. I'm proud of the team around me, and I'm proud of Abbotsford's business community.

As always, our Chamber is here to support you and the growth of your business in our community. We're committed to championing all of our members and building a stronger and more vibrant local economy.

- **Paul Penner**  
Board President

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Simply Golf Ltd.                        | Seasonal Charcuterie                     |
| Freshslice Pizza                        | BDO Canada LLP                           |
| All-Connect Immigration and Consultancy | Anurag Patil                             |
| Resolve Salon Suites                    | FCC                                      |
| Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC      | Rajin Gill - BC Farm & Ranch Realty Corp |
|   | Tidy Fox Cleaning Services               |

## CYPE WINTER SOCIAL & Holiday Mingler

DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> | 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
TASTY INDIAN BISTRO | 33338 SOUTH FRASER WAY



Company of  
Young  
Professionals &  
Entrepreneurs

TASTY  
INDIAN BISTRO



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JOIN US FOR THE MAYOR'S ANNUAL ADDRESS AND HOLIDAY CELEBRATION ON DECEMBER 10



## Celebrate a Successful 2025 With the Chamber and the Mayor

The Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce is kicking off the holiday season with its annual Mayor's Lunch and Holiday Celebration, welcoming residents and local business leaders for an afternoon of good food, community spirit, and festive fun. Mayor Ross Siemens will take the stage to share updates on the city's priorities, accomplishments, and vision for Abbotsford's future, followed by an open Q&A through Slido. Guests can enjoy a seasonal lunch, connect with neighbours, and get into the

holiday spirit by wearing an ugly sweater or their favourite red, white, or green attire. A community tradition that blends celebration with civic insight, this year's event promises to be a cheerful and engaging start to the holiday season!

"Bringing the community together to hear directly from Mayor Siemens has become a meaningful tradition for our Chamber," said Alex Mitchell, CEO of the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce. "It's a chance for residents and business leaders to connect, celebrate the season, and engage in conversations about Abbotsford's future."

The event will take place at the Clarion Hotel & Conference Centre on December 10th from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Register today through [www.abbotsfordchamber.com](http://www.abbotsfordchamber.com)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**CYPE WINTER SOCIAL & HOLIDAY MINGLER**  
TASTY INDIAN BISTRO  
December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4:30PM - 6:30PM

**BUSINESS AFTER BUSINESS & HOLIDAY CELEBRATION**  
SANDMAN HOTEL  
December 11<sup>th</sup>, 4:30PM - 6:30PM



TO KEEP THINGS FESTIVE, PLEASE WEAR YOUR FAVORITE UGLY SWEATER OR SOMETHING RED, WHITE, OR GREEN!