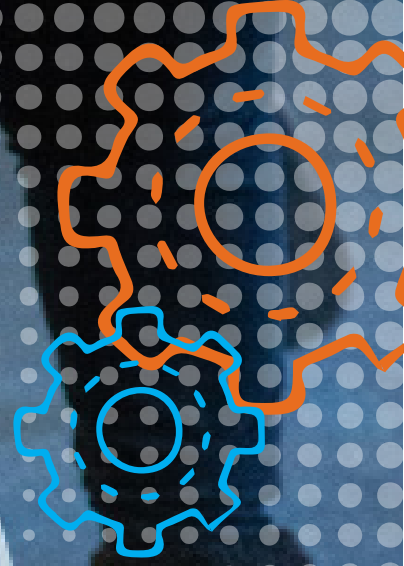


IDEA



2018

ANNUAL REPORT

CITYSTUDIO

ABBOTSFORD

What is CITYSTUDIO?

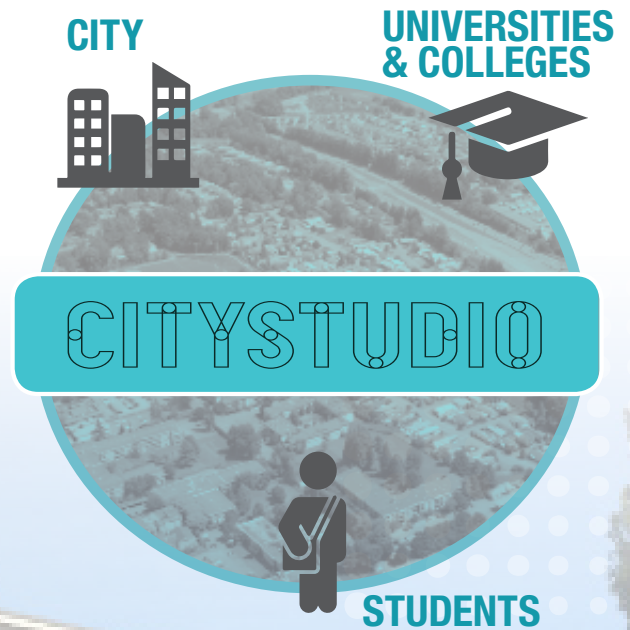
CityStudio is an innovation hub where City staff, students and community co-create experimental projects to make cities more sustainable, livable and joyful.

CityStudio was started in Vancouver in 2011 and the unique model has been rolled out globally in 7 cities. It is part of global shift in education that provides experimental learning opportunities to help students gain practical experience ultimately leading to employment opportunities and change in the world.

In 2018 CityStudio Abbotsford joined the global network bringing together City staff, students and community through experiential learning.

CityStudio Vancouver

CityStudio Vancouver, co-founded by Dr. Janet Moore and Duane Elverum, was launched in 2011, to provide students with direct opportunities to work in and with the city on urban challenges. Born in response to Vancouver's plan to become the greenest city in the world by 2020, CityStudio was founded by City of Vancouver and Simon Fraser University to engage students in the hands-on work in support of the Greenest City Action Plan.



The manifesto

The CityStudio Way

When the City of Abbotsford and the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) joined together to undertake the CityStudio Partnership, we agreed to the following guiding principles:

- We don't employ a devil's advocate at CityStudio. You will hear Yes more than No. You will remain curious and stay open to others' ideas.
- You will learn by doing. By following an idea. By experimenting with your hands. By taking risks. By trying, struggling and failing forward fast.
- And in the end, you will have done something real. You will find ways to tackle global issues by putting a project on the ground in a local place.
- You will learn that good projects come from good relationships. That working together is the only way it can work. And that you can't solve a complex problem without hearing from everyone affected by it.
- You will speak from your heart and your mind. You will learn to listen. You may learn to enjoy the long pause that emerges in a rich dialogue. You will learn how to design. You will find better problems to solve. You will learn that aesthetics matter.
- You will work on a team and reflect on your process together. You will see that small projects can add up to big changes in your community, your city and in yourself.
- And if you do it right, you will be high fiving at the end.
- We've been to the future and it ends well.
- Trust the Process.

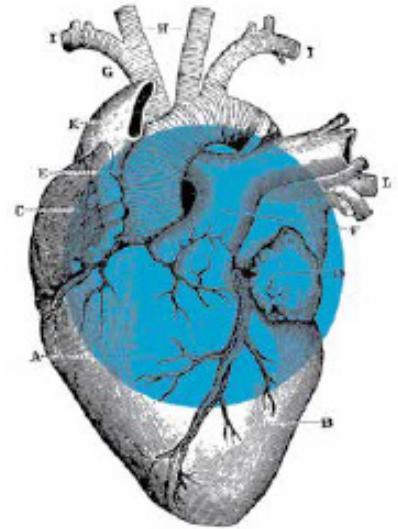
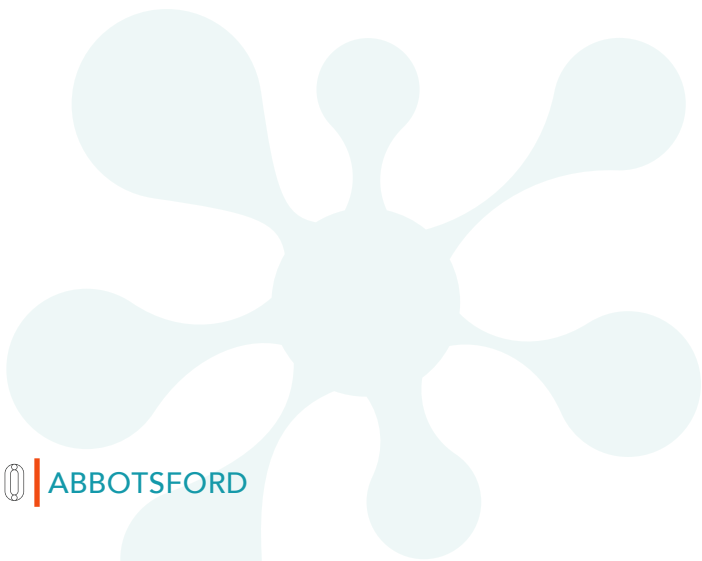


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Our partnership

Our strong relationship and the fact that we are both ALL IN together that has allowed us to kick off a program so quickly.

City of Abbotsford

The CityStudio model aligns with the objectives of Abbotsford City Council’s 2015-2018 Strategic Plan, and supports the vision; “The City of Abbotsford is the Hub of the Fraser Valley”. Most notably the partnership aligns with:

- the Cornerstone of Vibrant Economy and the strategic goal to “Facilitate and/or Create partnerships for innovation”, and
- the Cornerstone of Organizational Alignment and the strategic goal to “Promote a culture of innovation at the City of Abbotsford”.

University of the Fraser Valley

The model also strongly aligns with UFV’s vision to provide the best undergraduate education in Canada and 3 of it’s Goals for the 2016-2020 Education Plan:

- Prioritize Learning Everywhere
- Develop Local & Global Citizenship
- Integrate Experiential Learning

Our supporters

Mayor of Abbotsford Henry Braun

Launching CityStudio Abbotsford in partnership with the University of the Fraser Valley and, as a pilot project, with the Abbotsford School District, has been a highlight for the City of Abbotsford this year. With over 400 staff, students and faculty involved, we have been able to tap into the innovative and energetic spirit of our community to address some of our municipal challenges and to build a more sustainable and livable city.



As a judge at each of our Hubbubs showcasing student projects, I have been impressed by the students' ideas, their critical thinking and presentation skills as they tackled issues like reducing litter in parks, creating a sense of local community, engaging residents, increasing public art, enhancing public spaces, eradicating invasive species, balancing ecological diversity in a well-used urban park, and developing a human powered charging station – just to name a few!

Through such a collaborative and engaging enterprise, it is our hope that students are not only gaining hands-on experience, but also catching an excitement for community issues which may spark ideas for future job opportunities right in our city and possibly local government. In turn, staff are able to develop further community connections and are encouraged to look at issues from a new perspective. Overall, the program creates an exciting synergy throughout our community.

I look forward to seeing how CityStudio Abbotsford continues to gain momentum and to seeing some of these projects come to fruition. CityStudio Abbotsford certainly moves us forward in creating a culture of innovation at the City of Abbotsford and in our community and contributes to building the Hub of the Fraser Valley.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Henry Braun'.

January 23, 2019

Our supporters

UFV President Dr. Joanne MacLean

It is my pleasure to support the CityStudio Abbotsford program offering experiential and problem-based learning opportunities for UFV students.

This program has proven to provide wonderful opportunities for students to gain experience and develop new transferrable skills by working on projects with faculty and City staff to find innovative solutions for local civic challenges.



CityStudio engages university students in the Abbotsford region and helps them cultivate a sense of civic awareness and pride by working on tangible projects that seek to drive a more sustainable, livable and joyful community.

CityStudio is an innovative, unique model of town and gown collaboration that fosters positive change within the Fraser Valley.

I applaud the collaborative efforts of UFV faculty, staff, students and the City of Abbotsford staff. I hope this program grows and flourishes as an exceptional learning environment for everyone involved.

Our supporters

UFV Provost and Vice-President Academic, Eric Davis

While learning how cities work, UFV students gain the opportunity to wrestle with real-world, civic challenges, create possible solutions, and learn the skills required for collaboration, strategic thinking, innovation, and social change. They gain credits, connections, community recognition, enhanced employability, and a sense of agency; the City gains active citizens, energized staff, and tested prototypes for their strategic plans. Both build a culture of working across boundaries. CityStudio vests the students in their city, the city in UFV, and the community in UFV students. Win-win-win



UFV VP External Craig Toews

I am pleased at the strong partnership we have with the City of Abbotsford and the way our two organizations came together on this project. It was a real collaborative spirit that led us both to discover the CityStudio model which brings students and City planners together to solve community issues. A great experiential learning opportunity for our students and creative idea generator for City planners.

Our supporters

CityStudio Vancouver Co-Founders, Duane Elverum and Janet Moore

On behalf of the team in Vancouver, congratulations to the City of Abbotsford and University of the Fraser Valley on the 1-year anniversary of CityStudio Abbotsford!

We continue to be inspired by the leadership and team behind CityStudio Abbotsford and your dedication to public sector innovation, experimentation and project demonstrations in support of the city's strategic plans.

Abbotsford set a new record launch time for a CityStudio - just 8 months from ideation to launching a fully functional hub of projects. One year in, CityStudio Abbotsford has successfully carried out a number of multi-term and multi-department civic challenges and hosted two HUBBUB showcases in 2018.

As the third CityStudio in BC, CityStudio Abbotsford continues to lead the way in civic collaboration and innovation, piloting a program with Rick Hansen Secondary School that connects youth and class projects to their community.

Abbotsford joins Vancouver, Victoria, Waterloo, Brantford and Corner Brook as founding members of the CityStudio Network, as well as Logan and Bendigo, Australia. Together these cities comprise an important group of early adopters using the CityStudio model to advance sustainability, increase livability and make cities more engaging and fun.

In the words of former Mayor Gregor Robertson, CityStudio has been a “game-changer” for Vancouver, energizing citizens and City staff, and supporting a culture

change inside City Hall. We are excited to continue this work in Vancouver with Mayor Kennedy Stewart and a new City Council who are equally committed to the growth and development of CityStudio.

Thank you to the City of Abbotsford and the University of Fraser Valley, along with the team of students, faculty and community members who are working to make the city more sustainable, livable and joyful through CityStudio Abbotsford.

We wish you all the best on this journey and look forward to seeing all that year two brings!



Our supporters

Former Mayor of Vancouver Gregor Robertson

Congratulations to the City of Abbotsford and the University of the Fraser Valley on the launch of your CityStudio!

Abbotsford joins Vancouver, Victoria, Waterloo, Brantford and Corner Brook as founding members of the CityStudio Network, as well as Logan and Bendigo, Australia. Together you comprise an important group of early adopters using the CityStudio model to advance sustainability, increase livability and make cities more engaging and fun.

The central mission of CityStudio is to support collaboration between the city and its post-secondary institutions to move the dial on municipal goals and strategies through innovation, experimentation and engagement.

This has been a gamechanger for Vancouver, energizing citizens and City staff, and supporting a culture change inside City Hall that helps staff work across boundaries with energy and creativity. CityStudio also helps students gain skills and build relationships that will provide them with job opportunities and career choices. It is important to invite our students to join us at the table to learn more about our strategic priorities and help develop experimental projects and solutions in community.

Since the launch of CityStudio Vancouver seven years ago, students have worked with staff to contribute well over 100,000 hours of public sector innovation, experimentation and project demonstrations to our key strategic plans. I am confident that the same can be true in Abbotsford where CityStudio can add momentum to the city's innovation, planning and engagement work.

Thank you to the City of Abbotsford and University of Fraser Valley, along with the team of students, faculty and community members who will be joining you to make your city more livable, joyful and sustainable.

We look forward to hearing about how the CityStudio model evolves in Abbotsford, so we can learn from each other as this movement grows.

Our programs

Campus Courses

We connect faculty and students on university campuses with City staff to design, experiment and deliver projects in the community. We also provide network access, career training and the opportunity to develop valuable skills.

Project Development

We host dialogues to identify and scope projects that innovate and align with City priorities with the aim of shifting culture at City Hall. Many of these projects will become the focus of the students in Studio and Campus Courses.

Global Sharing

We support CityStudio Vancouver in sharing the CityStudio model with other cities by sharing learnings and actively participating in the CityStudio network.



Our programs

Community HUB (coming 2019/2020)

We will provide space for citizens to meet each other, connect, collaborate and engage with, at our new CityStudio location. We will build relationships beyond ourselves.

Studio Courses (coming 2019/2020)

We launch experimental projects as part of an immersive and innovative studio-based education program open to students from all partner schools. Students have the opportunity to work directly with City staff, develop job skills, experience group process and build networks.



Vision & goals & theory of change

Vision

To provide opportunities for students to positively influence the community they live in and make our city more innovative, livable, joyful and sustainable.

Goals

- To build trust-based relationships between students, City staff, faculty, citizens and partners.
- To launch experimental projects that advance specific City goals through innovative approaches.
- To inspire students to be more engaged citizens.
- To shift culture inside City Hall and higher education.
- To contribute to a global movement that makes our cities more creative and innovative.

Our Theory of Change

CityStudio is working to shift the way students, City staff, faculty and community members work together to co-create solutions to our city's most complex challenges.

Through the launching of experimental projects on-the-ground, university students learn the skills they need to succeed in today's economy and inspire action in the community and government.

We aim to normalize experiential learning and civic action as a key element of higher education.



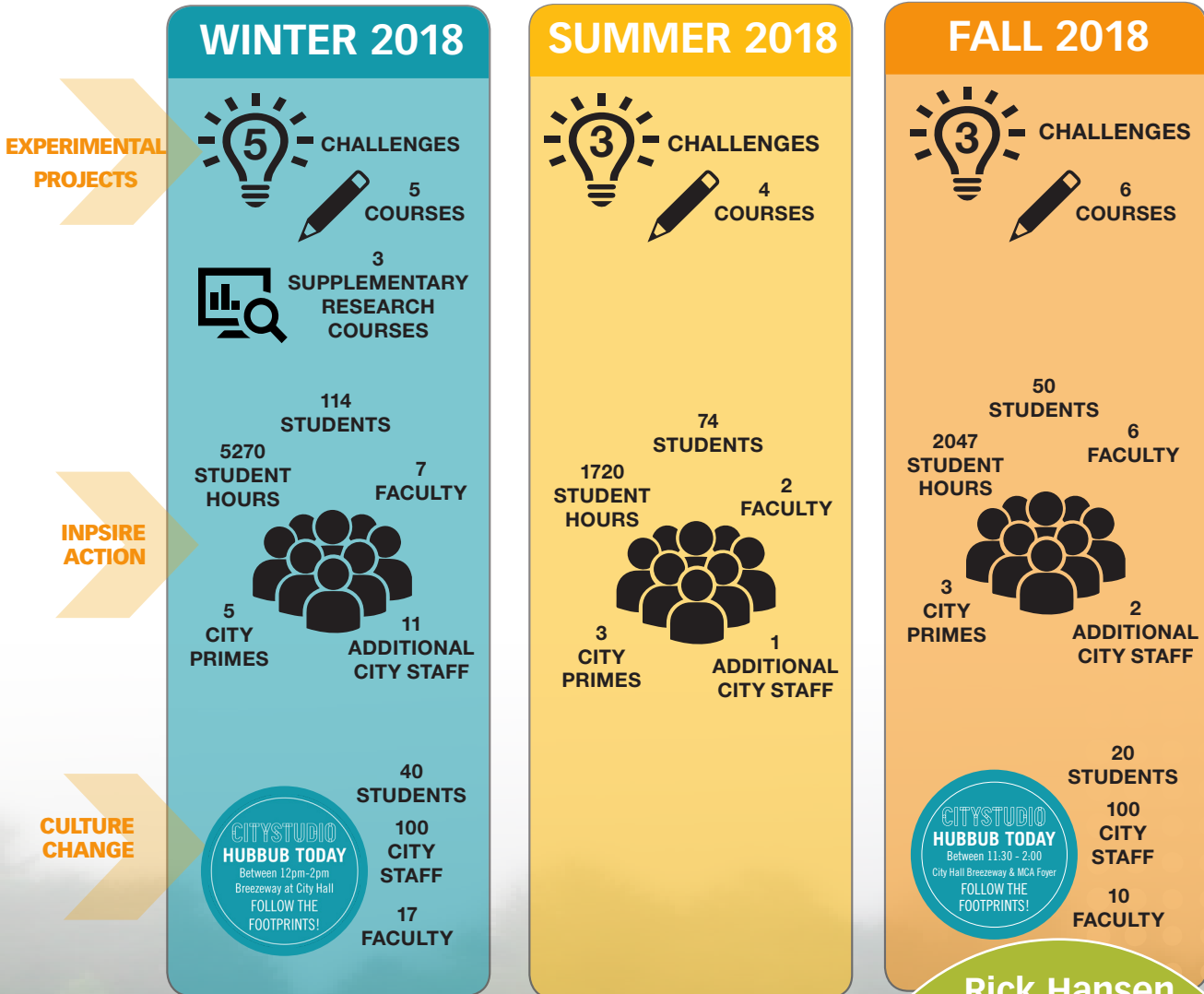
Challenge development

Challenge development is an integral part of what we do at CityStudio Abbotsford. We engage with City staff to identify specific challenges / opportunities that will become the focus of students campus courses. Our approach includes facilitating dialogue and design sessions with City staff and University faculty to frame a “challenge”.

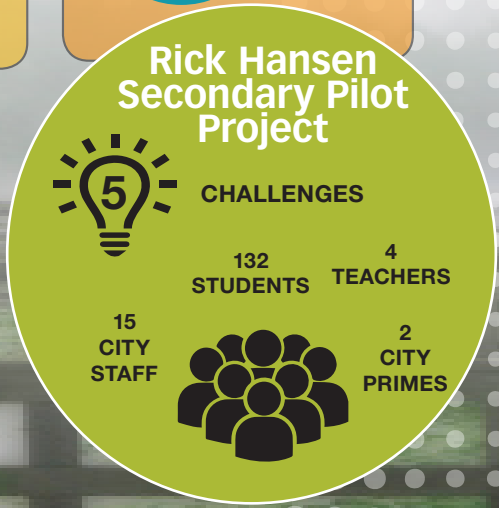
This process leads to the matchmaking of City staff and their projects with relevant courses.



Our impact



Student hours are estimated calculations based on credits, class format and instructor input.



Additional Successes:

- 2 successful HUBBUB events
- GEOG/CMNS 257 “Littering in the Parks” project:
 - Won UFV’s Community Service Research Undergraduate Excellence Award for 2018
 - This project was displayed at TEDx Abbotsford
- UFV funded a Work Study student to produce data analyses for the CityStudio pre- and post-experience student surveys
- 1 Graphic Design website project inspired by CityStudio
- The City’s participation in UFV Alumni Association’s “Solve It!” initiative
- Inspired CityStudio Secondary Pilot with Rick Hansen Secondary School
- 70 Student volunteer hours contributed to the CityStudio Program success
 - Student hosts at CityStudio launch
 - UFV faculty CityStudio workshop)
 - CityStudio students volunteering at TEDx Abbotsford



CityStudio CONNECTIONS

- 7 local government members of the growing global CityStudio Network
- University of Ontario Institute of Technology Faculty of Social Science and Humanities Political Science Program
- Southern Utah University

CityStudio Abbotsford Song (by Mackenzie Widdows)

City Studio
Rock and roll
Let's go
Inspire
Make brighter
Take higher
Give back
Make way
Make change
Make right
Make waves
Let the arts live on today!
It can be this way
Sustainability
Maintainability
Joyful, livable
Happy community

You, me
Us, we
Hand in Hand
In harmony
Live your life and
Let it be
Let the city be a studio
Start with a city
Turn it to a studio
Watch a community blossom
And see the students grow
It's a collaboration
With the city and friends
So sign on up next semester
And let the fun begin
City Studio

Rock and roll
Let's go
Inspire
Make brighter
Take higher
Give back
Make way
Make change
Make right
Make waves
Let the arts live on today!
It can be this way
CityStudio!



Challenge projects

University of the Fraser Valley

Winter 2018

Public Engagement in Municipal Decision Making

Challenge: Why are people not engaged with municipal governance matters and how might the City engage residents to become involved?

IDS 400F Civic Engagement and Participation

In this course students examine the issue of public involvement in civic (local) elections. Undergraduate community-based research is conducted. This is an excellent course for students planning to attend a grad school or a law school.



Delair Park PumpStation Community Art

Challenge: How can we increase the visibility of artistic expression by providing more public art?

VA 390 Community Arts Practice

In this public art class, students work collectively to produce an Abbotsford based community arts project.



Reducing Litter in our Parks

Challenge: How can we reduce litter in our parks – what is the best way to change residents behavior concerning dumping refuse on City lands?

GEOG 257/CMNS 257 Environment: Science and Communications

In this class students tackle real problems and use real science to find real solutions to the issue of littering in local parks and neighborhoods.



Creating Engaging Public Spaces

Challenge: How can we work with public and private land owners in strategic locations to transform these spaces into small, intimate public spaces that can be used by people?

BUS 478 Work Spaces, Built Places

This project-based course allow students to respond to a challenge of re-purposing and enhancing public spaces to create a more welcoming community environment.



Increase citizen engagement to help foster neighbourhood pride

Challenge: How can we increase citizen engagement and help foster pride in neighbourhoods? The environment?

CYC 402 Community and Interdisciplinary Relations

In this course students work in collaborative teams to design, plan and implement projects to help foster pride in local neighbourhoods.



Summer 2018

Engaging Public Spaces? Public Engagement

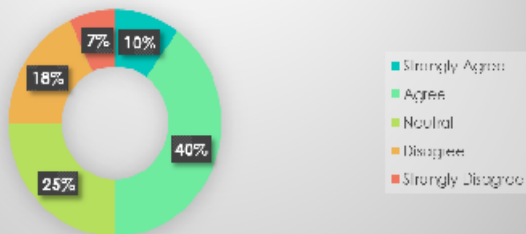
Challenge: Phase 2

How can we work with public and private land owners in strategic locations to transform these spaces into small, intimate public spaces that can be used by people?

BUS 320 Business Research Methods

Students examine different research methodologies and their application using qualitative and quantitative data. Students conduct an applied research project. They gauge how businesses and the public in historic downtown Abbotsford react to the design proposals created by BUS478 Work Spaces, Built Places (CityStudio Winter 2018).

"I would be more inclined to visit downtown Abbotsford if there was a parklet"



Mill Lake Biodiversity

Challenge: How do we maintain a balance of ecological diversity as a natural area vs. a manicured park in the hub of a metropolitan area?

BIO 310 Conservation Biology

This course examines both theoretical and practical aspects of conservation biology - this multidisciplinary approach investigates causes and extent of human impacts on the natural world and to develop practical solutions to prevent further declines.



Invasive Species - Parrot's Feather

Challenge: Invasive species are a major issue that are clogging our Dyking System. How can we eradicate Parrot's Feather and educate the public?

BIO4210 Environmental Biology (Directed Studies)

This course provides students with an opportunity to utilize information from a variety of courses and apply it to an ecological problem.

Fall 2018

Charging Station Prototype - Mill Lake

Challenge; People are constantly looking for places to charge their devices. Could we accommodate this growing need while promoting active living and conserving the environment?

Various Trades Electronics; Drafting; Welding; Autobody & Finishing

The electronics class has been working on a concept for a human powered charging station for integration into parks that would allow users to charge their devices while getting a workout and watching their kids.



Souvenir Challenge:

Challenge: Abbotsford is becoming a tourism destination and people are asking a souvenir, something to take home with them that reminds them of their time here.

GEOG 362 – Geography of Tourism

This course introduces students to tourism and recreation systems from a geographic perspective. Topics include: the spatial supply and demand for tourism and recreation products and services; the importance of demographic factors shaping the availability of leisure time and the way in which this time is spent; the impacts of tourism and recreation in developed and developing countries; and the ways communities plan for tourism and recreation development.

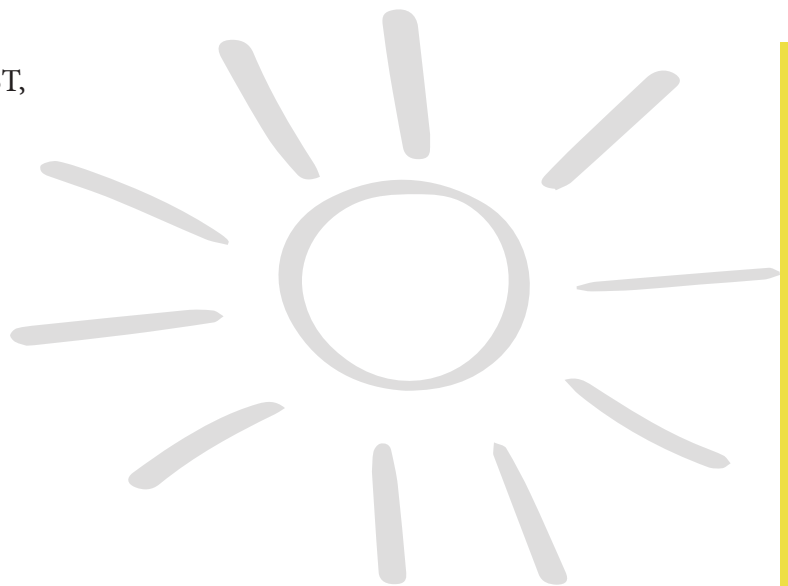
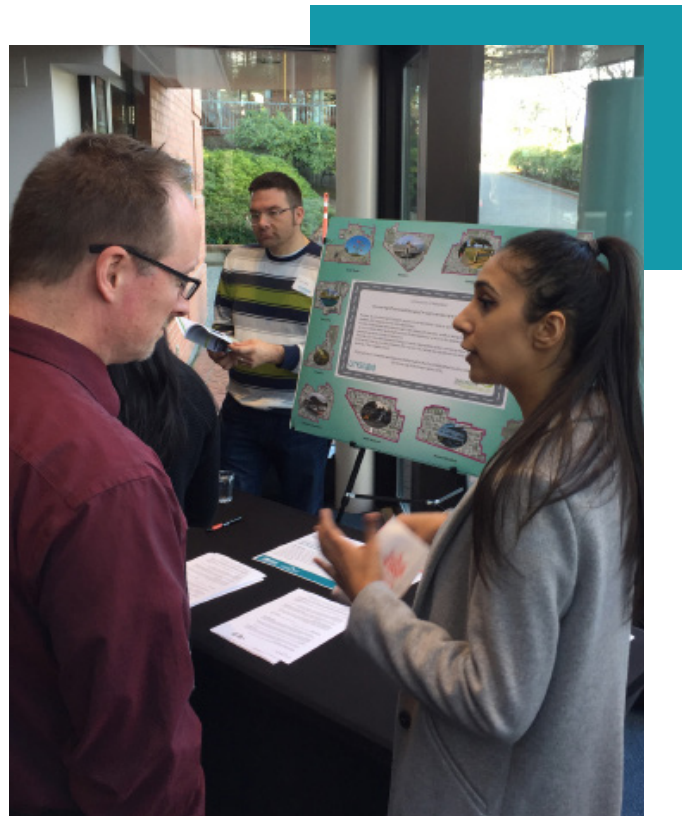


Community Insights

Challenge: In order to develop neighbourhood plans, the City needs to understand the community that lives there. Statistics Canada's provides a significant amount of data, but qualitative aspects of each community are missing. How do we find out things like: What do the locals say that makes their community special or unique?

SOC 475 – Communities, Difference and Belonging

This course explores the relationship between diversity and communities. For this course, diversity is broadly defined to include all sorts of social differences, but there is special attention paid to minority groups and alternative subcultures (e.g. ethnic, religious, LGBT, the deaf, etc). The course primarily focuses on internal and inter-group/community relations.



Pilot project

Rick Hansen Secondary School

In 2018 the City of Abbotsford partnered with Abbotsford School District 34 through Rick Hansen Secondary School (RHSS) in a CityStudio-style pilot to connect youth and class projects to their community.

This project provided opportunities for:

- Students to gain experiential learning in their field of study by tackling municipal challenges as class projects.
- The City to work with innovative student teams in addressing community challenges with a new perspective.

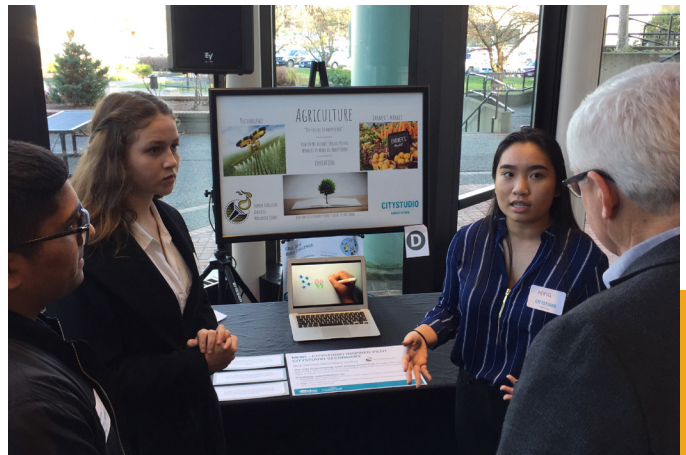
Fall 2018

PROJECT 1: Attracting students and skilled youth to Abbotsford.

Challenge 1: How do we attract and engage students and skilled young workers to want to work in Abbotsford?

Challenge 2: How can Abbotsford employers retain and attract students and young employees?

Challenge 3: How might we address the perceived stigma of “nothing to do in Abbotsford” for youth and young professionals?



RHSS Course Career Studies 10

This course introduces students to explore themselves and work-life balance. Students learn what is required for them to succeed in the workplace and are given the right tools and resources to do so. For this course students are required to develop the necessary skills required to be successful at any workplace. The course primarily focuses on preparing students to get their first jobs, being safe in their work environments and improving their quality of life.

PROJECT 2: Promoting Abbotsford as a great place to live, work and play with youth.

Challenge: How might we promote Abbotsford as a great place to live, work and play with youth & young adults?



RHSS Course Marketing 12

This course explores the aspects of modern day marketing. For this course, students test different marketing/advertising techniques and create a marketing campaign for a product or service. The course primarily focuses on learning the techniques required to successfully run a marketing campaign. Majority of the techniques focus on digital and social media marketing.

PROJECT 3: Growing Abbotsford's Innovation Economy

Challenge: How might we grow Abbotsford's Innovation Economy to transform Abbotsford into a nationally recognized centre for innovation as the City grows to 200,000 residents?



RHSS Course Economics 12

This course explores financial and economic literacy and how it can promote the well-being of both individuals and businesses. For this course we focus on a number of different curricular competencies including conducting research to understand and explain economic concepts, critically evaluate economic scenarios, make changes accordingly and communicate outcomes in multiple formats in a clear and concise manner.

Launch & HUBBUB

An interactive project showcase taking place twice a year that brings together UFV students to share their projects, findings and recommendations with city staff, peers and engaged community members.

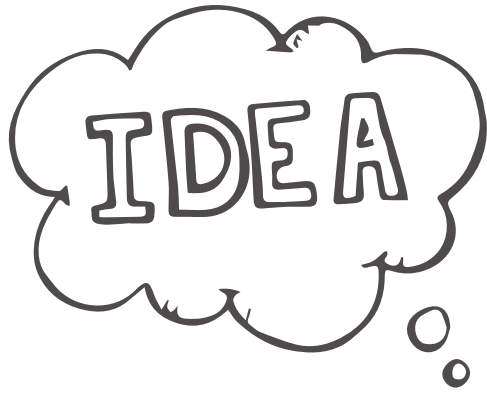
Staff also have a chance to vote for their favourite project and mingle with the students, City staff, faculty and instructors, CityStudio team, and others from the innovation community.



CITYS

HUB





TUDIO

BUB



**CITYSTUDIO
HUBBUB TODAY**
 Between 11:30 - 2:00
 City Hall Breezeway & MCA Foyer
**FOLLOW THE
FOOTPRINTS!**

HUBBUB #1



**CITYSTUDIO
HUBBUB
April 4**

HUBBUB Awards Winter 2018 (April 4th)

- **People's Choice:**
Delair Park Pump Station
- **CityStudio Team 1st:**
Reducing Litter in our Parks
- **CityStudio Team 2nd:**
Creating Engaging Public Spaces –
The Hive
- **Honourable Mention:**
Hey, Neighbours

HUBBUB #2



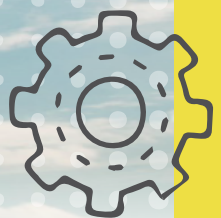
HUBBUB Awards Fall 2018 (December 4th)

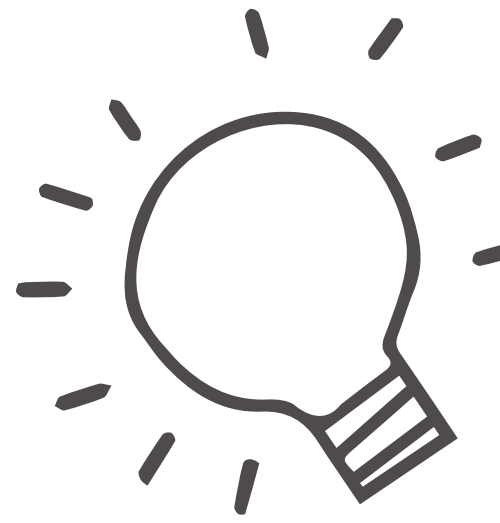
- **People's Choice:**
Human Powered Charging Station
- **CityStudio Team:**
Increasing Wetland Biodiversity through Habitat Restoration and Community Stewardship
- **Honourable Mention:**
Canvas Tote Bag,
The Effects of Drying and Cutting on Parrot Feather Growth

Rick Hansen Secondary

- **People's Choice:**
Eden Project / Bio Dome
- **CityStudio Team:**
Eden Project / Bio Dome

**CITYSTUDIO
HUBBUB!
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4**





Connect with us at
citystudio@abbotsford.ca



CITYSTUDIO

ABBOTSFORD