

## UPDATE FROM CITY COUNCIL

On behalf of Abbotsford City Council, I am pleased to share with you some of the City's achievements from 2017 as well as some of the ongoing initiatives that are taking place in 2018.

Guiding all of this work is Council's 2015-2018 Strategic Plan, envisioning Abbotsford as the Hub of the Fraser Valley. Every decision we make – at the Council level and by our staff – is guided by the four cornerstones of this plan: vibrant economy, complete community, fiscal discipline and organizational alignment. Details about our strategic plan are available on our website at [abbotsford.ca/strategic](http://abbotsford.ca/strategic). We also report out on our yearly accomplishments at the end of May in our annual report which can be view here: [abbotsford.ca/annualreport](http://abbotsford.ca/annualreport). I encourage you to have a look!

We have made significant headway over the last 3½ years, but there is still more to be accomplished beyond what we have done so far. Last year, the City launched Plan200K, a comprehensive planning process that includes 20 different Master Plans, Neighbourhood Plans, Studies and Projects, that will help to guide the City as we grow to a community of 200,000 residents. Many of these plans will soon be complete, leaving us in great shape to approach our future.

It's very exciting for me to see our vision progressing. Part of that excitement is sparked by the fact that our plans are the collaborative work of City staff in consultation with you. Through online surveys, open houses and public events, you are helping to shape these important directions.

Building a Hub is definitely a community effort. As a Council, we thank you, our residents and businesses, for caring about our city and for being willing to share your dreams and ideas for how our community should continue to grow.

Abbotsford City Council is very honoured to serve this diverse and vibrant city on the move. Thank you for giving us the privilege to represent you in one of the best cities in BC!

Mayor Henry Braun

## 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

- Received \$28 million in federal, provincial and local funding toward the Vye Road widening and Highway 11 overpass projects which will improve access to the Canada-US border crossing as well as YXX.
- Announced the Salton Road Pedestrian/Cycling Bridge that will improve mobility and safety for pedestrians and cyclists and enhance our active transportation systems
- Launched the Plan200K project initiating the update of 20 Master Plans, Strategies and Studies to align with the City's Official Community Plan.
- The City installed traffic calming projects in three neighbourhoods, new sidewalks in four neighbourhoods, 17 kms of new bike lanes, and improved five bus stops so residents could get where they needed to go safely and efficiency.
- The City kept the roads in top shape by repairing 160 kms of road cracks, swept 8, 203 kms of roads, filled 2, 664 pot holes and spent 5,630 hours clearing snow or sanding/salting the roads this winter to ensure safe travelling conditions.

## ABBOTSFORD CITY COUNCIL



MAYOR HENRY BRAUN



COUNCILLOR LES BARKMAN



COUNCILLOR SANDY BLUE



COUNCILLOR KELLY CHAHAL



COUNCILLOR BRENDA FALK



COUNCILLOR MOË GILL



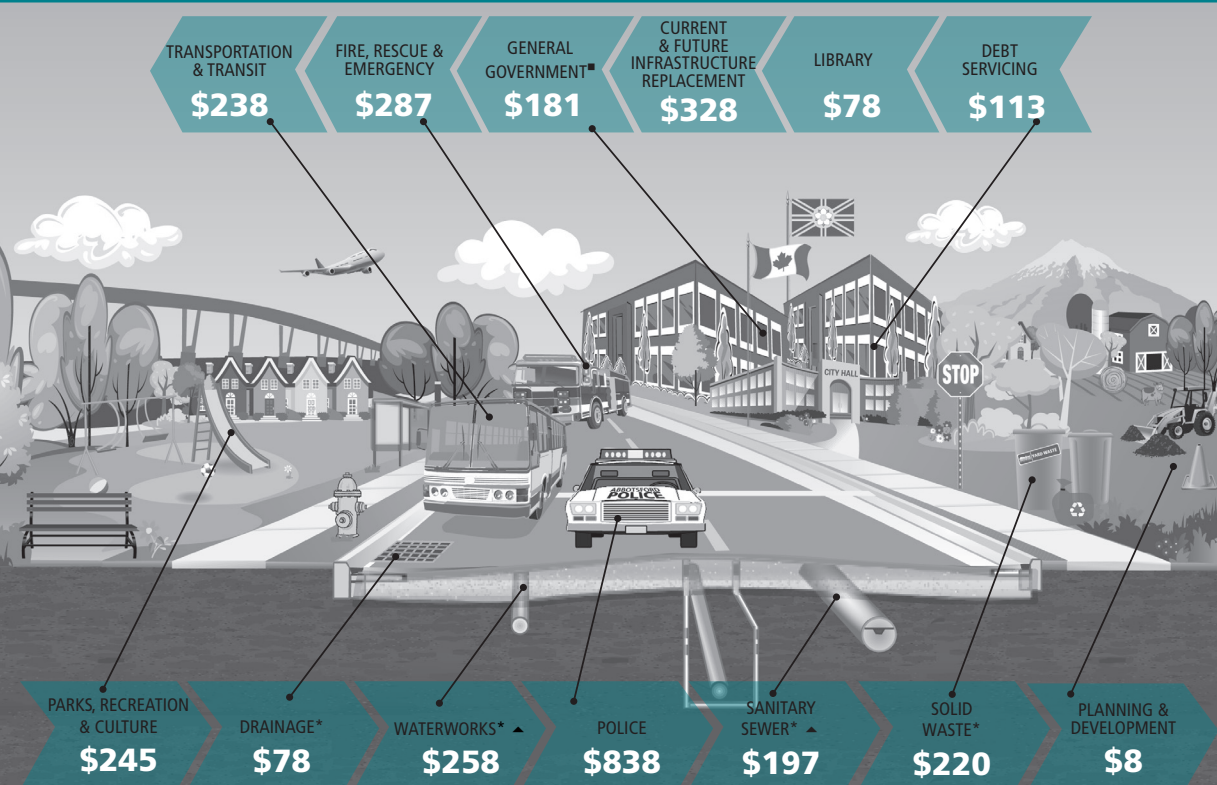
COUNCILLOR DAVE LOEWEN



COUNCILLOR PATRICIA ROSS



COUNCILLOR ROSS SIEMENS



## How your tax dollars pay for City services.

This illustration gives a snapshot of how your money is divided up to support services and amenities across our community.

Dollars are based on 2018 budgeted municipal taxes (city/police/library) for a typical single family residence with a property assessment of \$588,000. (Does not include taxes for schools, hospital and the FVRD.)

Sewer and water charges are billed bi-monthly directly to residents that use these services and are not billed on the annual tax notice.

\* Utility user fees includes operations and maintenance, current & future infrastructure replacement and debt servicing.

▲ Waterworks & sanitary sewer based on the 2017 median single family water usage (224 m<sup>3</sup>).

■ Includes bylaw enforcement, corporate & administrative services.

**Taxes are due July 3, 2018.**

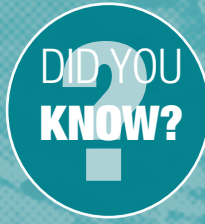
Canada Post postmarks are not accepted as the due date, so please allow for delivery time for your mailed cheque to arrive. City Hall also has drop boxes which are emptied every day. Cheques only, please!

**Online is easier!**

Set-up the City as a bill payee through your online banking system.

You can also claim your Home Owner Grant online at [abbotsford.ca/hog](http://abbotsford.ca/hog).

Note that financial institutions **DO NOT** accept Home Owner Grants.



The City has a new water portal that allows residents to track and view their water usage! Check it out for free through [abbotsford.ca/mycity](http://abbotsford.ca/mycity).

We issued over 1,500 building permits with a record value of \$480 million, a 92% increase over 2016.

The City hosted over 160 outdoor community events for 505,075 people with an economic impact of over \$17 million!



**We've got an app for that!**

Our new app helps you stay connected on your mobile device. Look up recreation schedules, report an issue, find your curbside collection schedule, park trails and a whole lot more! Download for **free** at the App Store or Google Play.

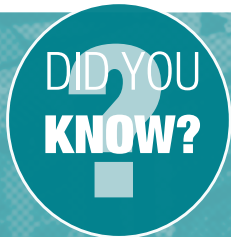
**Open air burning ban**



A city-wide burning ban is in place from **June 1 to September 30**. This includes all rural areas. Burning is not permitted in urban areas at any time. Check before you burn and find out more at [abbotsford.ca/fire](http://abbotsford.ca/fire)

**Go paperless!**

eBilling delivers your tax and utility bill right to your email box. Easier for you and better for the trees! Visit [abbotsford.ca/mycity](http://abbotsford.ca/mycity) to sign up!

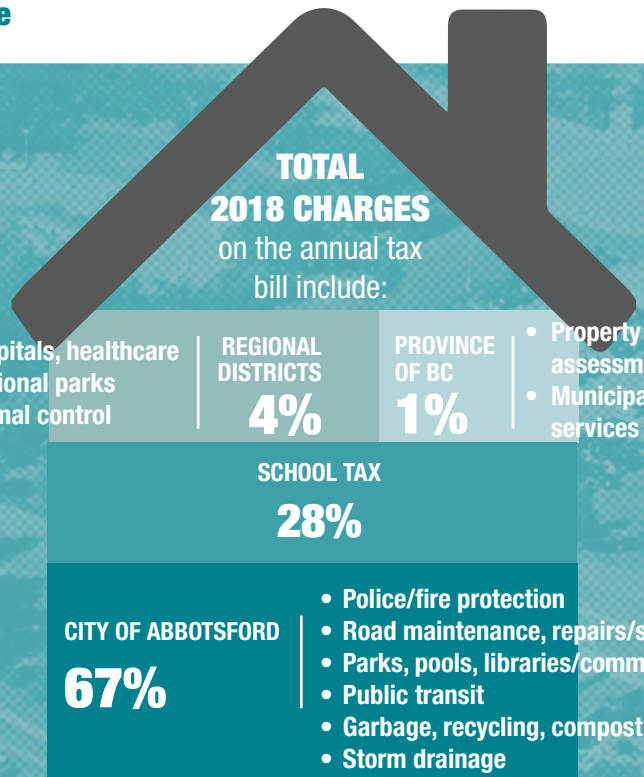


Abbotsford Fire Rescue Services attended more than 9,000 fire rescue emergency response incidents in 2017, which is an increase of 49% over 5 years.

We welcomed over 100,000 participants each month to our recreation centres last year! For summer schedules visit [abbotsford.ca/prc](http://abbotsford.ca/prc).

More than 1.4 million people came to our website at [abbotsford.ca](http://abbotsford.ca). We are also on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Give us a wave!

**October 20** is municipal election day. The City of Abbotsford uses the provincial voters list. Make sure you're on it! Sign up at [elections.bc.ca/register-to-vote](http://elections.bc.ca/register-to-vote)



**How's Life?**

Abbotsford is currently conducting our first Quality of Life program to understand what factors contribute to our citizen's overall quality of life. This information from you will assist us with the development of new programs, services and amenities. Let us know what you think by taking our survey this May: [abbotsford.ca/qol](http://abbotsford.ca/qol)

ਇਹ ਖਬਰਨਾਮਾ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਦੇ ਵਿਚ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ ਲਈ, ਵਿਜ਼ਿਟ ਕਰੋ [abbotsford.ca](http://abbotsford.ca).

To read this newsletter in Punjabi, visit [abbotsford.ca](http://abbotsford.ca).

**Keep up to date:**

It has been a rainy spring, but water restrictions remain the same! Restrictions, along with the spring rains and high snow pack, will keep the lake level high and save us from moving to Stage 2, if it's a hot summer.

Thanks for conserving and reserving!

For conservation information: [ourwatermatters.ca](http://ourwatermatters.ca)

**WATER RESTRICTIONS began May 1**

**LAWNS: 2 DAYS ONLY**  
Even Addresses Wed & Sat • Odd Addresses Thurs & Sun

**MORNINGS BETWEEN 6am – 8am ONLY**

**GARDENS: AS NEEDED**  
Flowers • Vegetables • Trees • Shrubs