



## MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



As we reach the five-month mark since the first atmospheric river hit our City, I am encouraged by how much recovery progress has been made, given the damages and devastation the floodwaters left behind. Since my last update, the Infrastructure Recovery team has successfully reopened five City parks, completed bank stabilization and ground clean up at Mt. Lehman Cemetery and have started repairs to the building damage sustained at the Barrowtown Pump Station. Of the approximately 300 damaged sites around the City, roughly 167 have been fully repaired with the larger scope, longer-term repair works still underway in various stages.

A large focus over the last month centered around cleaning up debris in Sumas Prairie. The high floodwaters carried and dumped scrap metal, tires, hay bales, equipment, garbage and all sorts of debris across the prairie, roadways, private properties, ditches and watercourses. Starting in the most impacted area of the Lake Bottom, City crews have removed approximately 90 per cent of the debris left behind on City roadways from

the floodwaters- and they are just getting started. The City also held a free weeklong Household Hazardous Waste collection event in February and supported 250 residents who took part in the "Adopt-A-Farmer's Field" event in March, which resulted in the collection and removal of 8.5 metric tonnes of debris from 30 farmer's crops, ditches and fields. Once again, the residents' willingness to roll up their sleeves and help their neighbours inspires me.

As clean up and repairs continue, City of Abbotsford staff and leaders met with delegates from the Province, and with local First Nations leadership to discuss some of the longer-term infrastructure required to protect our communities from future flooding devastation. I have personally met with both the Premier and Deputy Premier recently, to once again highlight these needs and show some of our critical infrastructure. I am pleased with how receptive they have been and with the support we have received from the province so far and will continue to advocate to both the provincial and federal governments for the funding support required until we see these protection measures realized.

On April 4, City staff presented to Council four long-term flood mitigation options and we look forward to hearing from all Abbotsford residents about what matters most to you in terms of flood protection, and get your feedback on these options. More details and public engagement opportunities can be found at [www.letstalkabbotsford.ca/abbotsfordfloodresponse](http://www.letstalkabbotsford.ca/abbotsfordfloodresponse) and I encourage all residents to subscribe to the long-term flood protection updates to assure you are notified as engagement opportunities become available.

The last few months have certainly been a whirlwind, but as recovery work progresses, long-term resilience options are explored, and crops once again start growing, I am increasingly optimistic that as a city, we will land firmly back on our feet, and I look forward to building a stronger, more protected Abbotsford for future generations.

**Henry Braun**  
Mayor

## QUICK FACTS: REPAIRS TO DATE



Landslide repair and road relocation completed on Sumas Mountain Road.



Sumas River Dyke: Geotechnical investigation completed, including core samples taken to help inform engineers of the existing condition of the dyke as a permanent breach repair strategy is developed.



Bank stabilization and ground cleanup completed at Mt. Lehman Cemetery.

## PARK REPAIRS AND RESTORATIONS:

### DELAIR PARK

Cleaning and repair of the field house, yard lighting, playground, washrooms, tennis courts, bleachers, and pathways.

### MATSQUI PARK

Cleaning and repair of yard lighting, playground, tennis court, picnic tables and pathways.

### MCDONALD PARK

Cleaning and repair of washrooms, picnic tables, pathways, and tree removal. (washrooms not yet reopened)

### HOUGEN PARK

Cleaning and repair of washrooms, picnic tables, pathways and tree removal. (washrooms not yet reopened)

### ELLWOOD PARK

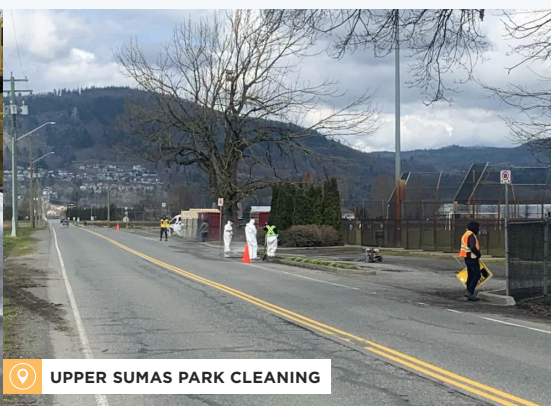
Cleaning of grounds and parking lot.

### UPPER SUMAS PARK

Cleaning of grounds and parking lot.



MATSQUI PARK CLEANING



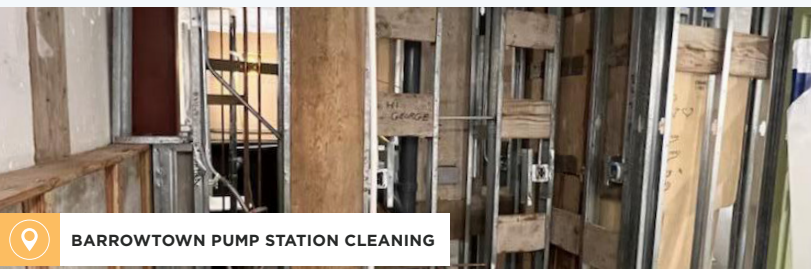
UPPER SUMAS PARK CLEANING



MT. LEHMAN CEMETERY CLEANING

## BARROWTOWN PUMP STATION:

Repairs underway to office, lunch room and washrooms.



BARROWTOWN PUMP STATION CLEANING

## DEBRIS CLEANUP:

50% of debris (hay bales, wood, scrap metal, tires, etc.) removed from Lake Bottom area.

8.5 metric tonnes of debris removed from 30 farmer's fields during "Adopt A Farmer's Field" volunteer event.



DEBRIS CLEAN UP

## STILL TO COME

- Ditch cleaning and repairs in locations that were most impacted by the floods.
- Engaging consultant to develop bridge repairs program for Sumas Prairie.
- Continue to assess damages and develop a flood recovery work plan for Clayburn Creek and Sumas Prairie.
- Removal and cleanup of temporary sandbags and temporary flood mitigations.
- Continue to develop permanent repair for the main dyke breach.