

OCTOBER 2026

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# my BUSINESS

ADVOCATE | BENEFIT | CONNECT



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Director

# The Value of Connection

## Strong Businesses, Stronger Communities



### Message from the President, Sam Varing

October is Small Business Month, a timely reminder that behind every business is someone who took a chance, pursued an idea, created opportunity or invested in our community. Whether a business employs one person or hundreds, each plays an important role in Abbotsford's economic vitality.

Having served on the Chamber's Board since 2020, and now as President, I have seen firsthand that a membership with the Chamber extends to connection, collaboration and collective impact: ensuring businesses have a voice at every level of

government, opportunities to learn from one another, and a seat at the table where decisions affecting our business community are made.

This year, we have convened business and government leaders through the Fraser Valley Business Summit, navigated two election cycles, advanced advocacy priorities, delivered sold-out events and represented Abbotsford on provincial and national stages.

Behind this momentum is an exceptional team. Alex Mitchell, our CEO and the Chamber team consistently punch above their weight, delivering ambitious initiatives, creating meaningful opportunities for members and turning our values into action.

Our Board stands firmly behind them, providing thoughtful governance and oversight, making important strategic decisions and safeguarding the Chamber's long-term strength.

But a Chamber is only as strong as the community that shows up for it. I encourage every member to get involved, attend an event, participate in an initiative, make a new connection and help shape the future of our business community.

Join us at the upcoming 30th Annual Business Excellence Awards as we celebrate the businesses and people who make Abbotsford extraordinary. These moments matter because recognizing one another, building relationships and celebrating collective success make our entire community stronger.

I have always believed that when people come together with purpose, extraordinary things happen.

When we invest in our businesses, our connections and our community, we build a stronger Abbotsford for everyone

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- |                                     |                                    |                        |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Atomic Beer Company                 | Jonathan Armstrong Law Corporation | RenHaven Therapy       |
| Capital West Partners               | Just Past the Bar                  | Spray-Net Abbotsford   |
| Diverse Properties                  | Panatch Group                      | Stattonrock Homes      |
| Dr. Dustin Freund Chiropractic Corp | Ranallo's Pizza & Gelato Catering  | Whyse Wellness Ltd.    |
| Everbyte Technologies               | Real Maids Cleaning                | Zentra Protection Ltd. |

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF BUSINESS EXCELLENCE IN ABBOTSFORD



**NOVEMBER 12, 2026 | 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

Tickets are selling quickly, so secure yours today by scanning the QR Code or visiting [AbbotsfordChamber.com/Events](https://AbbotsfordChamber.com/Events)



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# The Fraser Valley Is Ready to Lead



British Columbia is facing a challenging economic outlook. Rising costs, investment uncertainty and increasing pressure on businesses are raising serious questions about the province's competitiveness heading into 2027.

With British Columbians heading to the polls on October 24 for a provincial election, the decisions made in the coming weeks will have significant implications for businesses, investment and economic growth across the province.

But while the provincial outlook may be uncertain, the Fraser Valley has a different story to tell. Our region is one of B.C.'s most important economic engines. With

a growing population, strong agricultural and manufacturing sectors, expanding businesses and significant investment potential, the Fraser Valley is well positioned to help drive the province's economic future. But that opportunity cannot be taken for granted. Businesses need certainty. Investors need confidence.

Employers need policies that support growth, not create additional barriers. At a time when businesses are making difficult decisions about costs, hiring and expansion, government policy has real economic consequences.

Our region has the people, industries and entrepreneurial ambition to compete.

As B.C.'s political landscape shifts, the Fraser Valley needs to be more than a spectator in conversations about the province's future. Our business community has an important role to play in shaping the policies and priorities that will determine what comes next.

On November 3, the Fraser Valley Business Forum: Policy, Investment & the Road Ahead will bring together leading political and policy experts to examine the changing landscape and what it means for our regional economy.

Be part of the conversation.  
Register at  
[AbbotsfordChamber.com/Events](https://AbbotsfordChamber.com/Events).

## THE FRASER VALLEY BUSINESS FORUM

**Policy, Investment & the Road Ahead**  
An executive conversation on the decisions shaping our region's economic future.

**Tuesday, November 3, 2026**  
**11:30am – 1:30pm**



Purchase Tickets





**Rob Shaw**  
Political Columnist,  
Commentator, & Public Speaker

**Nicole Brassard**  
Senior Associate,  
Hilltop Public Affairs

**Michael de Jong, KC**  
Chief Executive Officer of Cedar  
Ridge Developments

**Carlie Pochynok**  
VP, Corporate Advisory & GM  
for Western Canada - Burson Global

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

**CYPE - ELEVATE YOUR EDGE:  
LAUNCHING, EXPANDING AND  
SUSTAINING A BUSINESS**  
October 26, 2026 from 3:30 PM-5:30 PM

**THE FRASER VALLEY  
BUSINESS FORUM**  
November 3, 2026 from 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

**30TH ANNUAL BUSINESS  
EXCELLENCE AWARDS**  
November 12, 2026 from 4:00 - 7:00 PM