



RECOVERY UPDATE 2022

CITY OF ABBOTSFORD



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



It's been a busy summer and start to fall at the City of Abbotsford for our Infrastructure Recovery team that continue to make progress on repairing sites damaged by the

floods, including roads, landslide sites and debris-cleanup around creek banks.

Our typical agricultural irrigation season in Sumas Prairie was extended this year, given the drought conditions we have been experiencing, which caused a delay in works that were set to commence in September as the City had to maintain higher water levels in the Sumas River, irrigation ditches and canal. Now that irrigation season is over and the water levels are lower, further assessment of the four pumps at Barrowtown Pump Station and previously identified repairs work can begin, and we are expecting this work to be complete in November. The temporary repairs that were made to the main dyke breach held up well. Even though we witnessed some seepage

in this location when the water level was high, the temporary repair remained strong. Next, crews will begin the full repair which is starting Tuesday, October 25th and will see concrete/bentonite vertical panel walls installed in the centre of dyke. During this time, the Sumas Dyke Trail will be closed to the public between McDermott Road and No. 3 Road.

Sediment removal in Clayburn Creek, McKay Creek, and the Sumas Canal at Highway 1 have been completed. Earlier this year, debris removal from the ditches and bank stabilization work was completed. Additionally, Cole Road temporary repairs are in place and put us in a better position than we were last fall. We are also nearing completion of repairs related to the 2.2 km landside at Norrish Creek, which was jeopardizing the water transmission line. We continue to work in partnership with the BC Government on repairs and funding.

Since a new long-term flood mitigation option was approved by Council in June, we have been strongly advocating to the BC Government for the addition of a Sumas

River Pump Station to ensure that we do not face another flooding emergency. We hope they will move forward with this important investment soon.

As we come into November and with rain starting, I know anxiety may be high for some as they are still feeling the effects of last year's floods. I want to reassure all Abbotsford residents that we are in a better position than we were last fall - our dykes are higher and have been reinforced in key areas.

Like many in communities in BC, the City of Abbotsford is monitoring the weather closely right now, given the recent drought conditions and the change to rainy weather and will keep residents informed should any extreme weather be forecasted. Please visit www.abbotsford.ca as well as the City's social media accounts for updates.

Henry Braun
Mayor

