CITY OF VANCOUVER

niʔ ct xaɬəmətəɬ, tə ɬnimət, tə təməxʷ ʔiʔ tə k̓ʷax̌k̓ʷə 1 *
We watch over the land and sea and in turn they watch over us.

June 21, 2018

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 game-changer 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 liveable, 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.

Mayor Gregor Robertson
City of Vancouver

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