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# INFORMATION BULLETIN

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## CityStudio Abbotsford Students Showcase Projects at City Hall

**ABBOTSFORD – April 4, 2019** – Students participating in CityStudio Abbotsford showcased their projects to Mayor and Council as well as City staff at City Hall today. CityStudio is a partnership program between the City of Abbotsford and the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) in which university students tackle civic issues and prototype solutions as part of their university degree program curriculum.

Six UFV course programs participated in CityStudio Abbotsford project between January and April 2019:

### **Conservation Biology BIO 310**

- Challenge: Willband Creek Park Biodiversity

### **Fundamentals of Design GDD 101**

- Challenge: Promoting Abbotsford 'Souvenir'

### **Local History for the Web HIST 440**

- Challenge: Making Community History Accessible

### **Interactive Design GDD 202**

- Challenge: Making Community Culture Accessible

### **Social Geography GEOG 241**

- Challenge: Access to public washroom facilities

### **Environment: Science and Communications GEOG/CMNS 257**

- Challenge: Compostable waste collection in multi-family buildings

In addition to the City's partnership with the University of the Fraser Valley, this HUBBUB featured projects from Rick Hansen Secondary School. CityStudio Secondary is a pilot initiative. Grade 12 students enrolled in 'Business and International Entrepreneurship' tackled the question of attracting entrepreneurs and businesses from India and China while grade 10 students in the 'Careers' course looked at ways to attract young professionals to careers in local government.

### **Background:**

CityStudio Abbotsford supports the prototyping of experimental projects as part of an immersive and innovative experiential education program where students connect with City of Abbotsford program staff to research, design, and test solutions to civic challenges. Students not only get to experience an opportunity to potentially shape their community, but they also develop job skills, experience group processes, and network with sector experts.

**Quotes:**

“I’m extremely proud of the work that our local students have put into their projects. CityStudio is an innovative way for the City of Abbotsford to gather creative ideas from students as well as build deeper relationships with the University of the Fraser Valley. All of these projects are examples of real challenges in our community and it is great to see the innovative solutions and ideas come to life here at the CityStudio Hubhub. It’s truly inspiring and exciting to be a part of.”

*-Henry Braun  
Mayor, City of Abbotsford*

“While learning how cities work, UFV students gain the opportunity, in partnership with city staff and fellow students, to wrestle with real-world, civic challenges and learn the skills required for collaboration, strategic thinking, innovation, and social change. It vests the students in their city, the city in UFV, and the community in UFV students. Win-win-win. CityStudio Abbotsford is now held up as model for aspiring CityStudios across the country and around the world.”

*-Eric Davis  
Provost and Vice President Academic, University of the Fraser Valley*

**Associated Links:**

[https://www.abbotsford.ca/business\\_and\\_development/major\\_initiatives/citystudio.htm](https://www.abbotsford.ca/business_and_development/major_initiatives/citystudio.htm)

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