



NEWS RELEASE

City and ADBA partner to bring West Railway Plaza to life with local artists and vendors

ABBOTSFORD – June 24, 2026 – The City of Abbotsford has partnered with the Abbotsford Downtown Business Association (ADBA) to activate the newly built West Railway Plaza, bringing new energy and activity to Historic Downtown.

Through a series of site activations, the plaza will come to life with rotating pop-up markets, live art demonstrations, and performances. These activities are designed to showcase local talent, support small businesses and entrepreneurs, and create opportunities for the community to gather and connect in the heart of downtown. Ongoing programming will help ensure the space remains inclusive, dynamic, and reflective of Abbotsford's diverse creative community throughout the year.

"Local artists and vendors play a vital role in creating vibrant public spaces, bringing creativity and energy into our community and Historic Downtown Abbotsford," said Abbotsford Mayor Ross Siemens. "Through this partnership, the ADBA will support day-to-day operations, programming, and decision-making, bringing valuable local insight as West Railway Plaza becomes a welcoming gathering place that connects people and supports local businesses."

"The construction of West Railway Plaza was a long and challenging process, and we recognize the real impact it had on nearby businesses. Now that the plaza is open, this partnership with the City is an opportunity to bring the space to life and shape it into something vibrant - not just for downtown, but for the wider Abbotsford community," said Ryan Leonhard, Executive Director of the Abbotsford Downtown Business Association. "The Plaza gives us a new kind of community space in the heart of downtown for small events, markets, activities, performances, or simply spending time outside. We want it to become a true community space shaped by the people, businesses, artists, vendors, and community partners who will use it and help bring it to life in the months and years ahead."

Artists and vendors interested in participating in site activations are encouraged to contact the Abbotsford Downtown Business Association at plaza@downtownabbotsford.com.

West Railway Plaza is a deliverable of the City's Historic Downtown Neighbourhood Plan and supports Abbotsford City Council's strategic priority to invest in public amenities that bring people together, enhance community vibrancy, and strengthen social connection.

-30-

For more information contact:

Aletta Vanderheyden
Communications and Public Relations Manager
City of Abbotsford
E: media@abbotsford.ca
32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford BC V2T 1W7