



NEWS RELEASE

City of Abbotsford announces Dr. Marion Keys and Abbotsford Hospice & Grief Support Society as 2026 Civic Award recipients

ABBOTSFORD, BC – October 19, 2026 – Abbotsford City Council is pleased to recognize the outstanding advocacy, collaboration, care and compassion of two invaluable community stalwarts by awarding Dr. Marion Keys with the 2026 Order of Abbotsford, and Abbotsford Hospice & Grief Support Society with Abbotsford's 2026 Community Champion Achievement Award.

"City Council is proud to recognize Dr. Marion Keys and the Abbotsford Hospice & Grief Support Society with this year's Civic Awards," said Councillor Dave Loewen. "Their contributions reflect the very best of Abbotsford, from Marion's longstanding commitment to civic leadership and community building to the Society's extraordinary dedication to supporting individuals and families with compassion, dignity and care during life's most difficult moments."

The Order of Abbotsford is bestowed upon individuals who have brought distinction to themselves or the City through outstanding achievements or who have demonstrated a particularly high level of contribution to the City over their lifetime. Recipients of the Order of Abbotsford receive a shadowboxed award, along with the Order of Abbotsford pin. Their name is also placed in a commemorative book.

The Community Champion Achievement Award is given to an Abbotsford individual, group, or organization who has achieved National or International recognition in a variety of areas, including, but not limited to: academia, sports, arts, and culture; or performed a noteworthy deed which is considered of benefit to the community. Recipients of the Community Champion Achievement Award have their names engraved on a paving stone placed within Abbotsford's Community Champions pavilion.

Dr. Marion Keys

For decades, Marion has been a driving force for positive change in the City of Abbotsford. A beacon of kindness, her unwavering dedication to service and civic participation has shaped a more inclusive, engaged, and connected community. Through her selfless dedication and enduring commitment to improving the quality of life for others, Marion has established a legacy of service that will continue to benefit our community for generations to come.

Abbotsford Hospice & Grief Support Society

Guided by a culture of trust, fairness and service, the Abbotsford Hospice & Grief Support Society's dedicated staff, board members and volunteers work tirelessly to provide exceptional care and support. Through one-to-one support, grief support groups and events, educational initiatives, advocacy, youth scholarships and community outreach, they have become a trusted source of comfort and guidance for individuals and families during times of profound transition and loss.

Links for more information:

- [Marion Keys biography and photo](#)
- [Abbotsford Hospice & Grief Support Society biography and photo](#)

For more information contact:

Aletta Vanderheyden
Communications and Public Relations Manager
City of Abbotsford
E: media@abbotsford.ca