
NEWS RELEASE

City Council Appoints Mark Neill as City Manager

ABBOTSFORD, BC – October 20, 2026 – The City of Abbotsford is pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Neill as City Manager, effective October 21, 2026. Neill replaces outgoing City Manager, Peter Sparanese, who [announced his retirement](#) in July of this year.

"On behalf of Council, I am pleased to welcome Mark Neill as Abbotsford's new City Manager," said Abbotsford Mayor, Ross Siemens. "Mark is a respected and collaborative leader who has served our community with integrity, professionalism and a strong commitment to excellence."

Neill brings more than 25 years of municipal planning and leadership experience to the role, including extensive experience working with local governments throughout the Fraser Valley. He has served as the City of Abbotsford's General Manager of Planning & Development Services since 2019 and previously held the position of Director of Community Planning. Prior to joining the City of Abbotsford, Mark held senior planning roles with the Township of Langley. He holds a Master of Urban and Rural Planning degree from Dalhousie University and is a Registered Professional Planner (RPP) and Member of the Canadian Institute of Planners (MCIP).

Throughout his career in Abbotsford, Neill has played a key role in shaping the community's long-term growth, leading major planning initiatives and supporting Council's vision for a vibrant, sustainable and resilient community.

"Mark's extensive municipal experience, strategic perspective, and deep understanding of our organization position him well to lead the City as we enter this next chapter," said Siemens. "As Council begins a new term and works together to establish our Strategic Plan and priorities for the years ahead, we are confident that Mark will provide the leadership, advice and organizational stewardship needed to help Council achieve its vision for Abbotsford's future."

As City Manager, Neill will be responsible for leading the City's administration, implementing Council's strategic direction, overseeing municipal operations, and supporting the delivery of services to Abbotsford residents and businesses.

"I am grateful for the confidence that Council has placed in me and excited for the opportunity to serve as City Manager," said Neill. "Abbotsford is an exceptional community with dedicated employees, engaged residents and tremendous opportunities ahead. I look forward to working closely with City Council, staff, community partners and residents to continue delivering high-quality services and advancing the priorities that matter most to our community."

The City of Abbotsford is home to more than 175,000 residents and is one of British Columbia's fastest-growing communities. Abbotsford is known as the hub of the Fraser Valley for its strong economy, diverse population, agricultural leadership and exceptional quality of life.

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