



NEWS RELEASE

Abbotsford Named ‘Most Business Friendly Municipality’ By NAIOP

ABBOTSFORD – November 23, 2017: The City of Abbotsford has been named the ‘Most Business Friendly Municipality’ for 2017 under the NAIOP Awards for Municipal Excellence, announced Mayor Braun today.

The award is given annually by NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association. The group has given the award in recognition of the City’s increase in building permit issuances from 2015 to 2017, as evidence of the City’s accomplishment in attracting businesses, encouraging the growth of existing businesses and promoting industrial development.

The City of Abbotsford Economic Development Department (CAED) is supporting the development of a vibrant economy by providing innovative tools, programs and resources specifically tailored to the business community’s needs. Examples include the recently updated GIS site selector website that can be used as a resource both by the existing community and to attract new businesses and industries to Abbotsford. CAED also supports the needs of existing businesses through various initiatives such as the Taste of Abbotsford, the annual Business Walks program, and the launch of the new Business Planning Guideline.

In addition to recognizing the increase in building permits, NAIOP highlighted Abbotsford’s extensive effort to increase the amount of industrial land available by requesting the conversion of 201 hectares from the ALR.

The City of Abbotsford launched a comprehensive four stage industrial land supply planning process to identify opportunities for future industrial growth in the city in early 2017.

Currently, the City of Abbotsford is in Stage 3 of the Industrial Land Supply Study. The background research and analysis conducted in Stages 1 and 2 looked at the City’s optimal role in serving both the local and regional industrial markets, and the suitability and potential of two Special Study Areas to accommodate future industrial development and to meet the community’s employment needs.

Council considered the ALR exclusion application on July 31, 2017, and decided to forward Special Study Area A in its entirety and the western portion of Special Study Area B to the ALC for consideration.

Quotes:

“I am very pleased that the development industry has recognized the efforts the City is taking to make Abbotsford a thriving place to do business. It is important that we create a business-friendly climate and make the necessary investments to ensure economic growth and support a vibrant local economy.”

Henry Braun
Mayor, City of Abbotsford

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