



NEWS RELEASE

‘Abbotsford Community Hub Centre’ recognized with Cultural Diversity Award

ABBOTSFORD – March 15, 2019 – The Abbotsford Community Hub Centre was awarded the ‘Innovative Initiative Award’ last night for providing respectful delivery of integrated health, housing and social supports for vulnerable populations at the Fraser Valley Cultural Diversity Awards, organized by Abbotsford Community Services. The Community Hub partnership project includes involvement from Fraser Health, Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction, Abbotsford Police Department, Positive Living Fraser Valley, the City of Abbotsford, and Mar Mar Pharmacy.

The Abbotsford Community Hub Centre provides collaborative wraparound supports for vulnerable Abbotsford residents with complex needs including those with health diagnoses; substance abuse issues; and for those who are from diverse places of origin including First Nations people and refugee claimants.

The 16th annual Fraser Valley Cultural Diversity Awards took place on March 14th and brought together various businesses, programs, and individuals working to build a more inclusive community across the Fraser Valley.

2019 RECIPIENTS:

- Youth Champion of Diversity: Antonio Hakko (Langley)
- Inclusive Environment - Fraser Valley Youth Society (Chilliwack)
- Marketing – Brogan’s Diner (Langley)
- Innovative Initiative – Abbotsford Community Hub Centre(Abbotsford)
- Effective Human Resources (Small-medium):The 5 and 2 Ministries (Abbotsford)
- Effective Human Resources (large): Cascade Aerospace (Abbotsford)
- Champion of Diversity – Marc Forcier (Abbotsford)

Background

In 2014 Council adopted the Homelessness Action Plan to address and respond to issues of homelessness in the community. One of the actions from the Plan addressed community collaboration and creating wrap-around services to support the most vulnerable in our community

Positive Living of the Fraser Valley has been providing health services in Abbotsford over the last few years. Now, funded through Fraser Health, Positive Living holds a temporary lease for a Community Hub and provides the following services:

- Health care
- Housing opportunities
- Laundry, showers and meal services
- Employment and training opportunities

- Access to community services
- Social connections and volunteer opportunities

Quotes:

“I am extremely proud of the ongoing work the City is engaged in to support our most vulnerable residents, and grateful to our partners for their support in making the Community Hub project a reality. While working collaboratively across multiple agencies to break down silos can be challenging, the City has demonstrated over the past 4 years that collaborative community projects lead to meaningful and substantive results for our City.”

*Henry Braun
Mayor, City of Abbotsford*

Links:

Abbotsford Community Services Cultural Diversity Awards:

<https://www.abbotsfordcommunityservices.com/news/events/fraser-valley-cultural-diversity-awards-recognize-diverse-le>

Abbotsford Community Hub Project:

https://www.abbotsford.ca/community/housing_and_homelessness.htm

-30-

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