

## Media Advisory

Presentation of MSA Museum Society Publication  
*Abbotsford, from Village to City: A Commitment to Excellence and Innovation.*

**What:** Presentation by Mayor Henry Braun, Councillor Patricia Ross and Dorothy van der Ree, retired Executive Director of the MSA Museum Society, to former Mayor George F. Ferguson, to whom the book is dedicated.

**Who:** City of Abbotsford

**When:** Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** City Hall

The MSA Museum Society has announced the publication of *Abbotsford, from Village to City: A Commitment to Excellence and Innovation*. Edited by local poet and historian Robert Martens and MSA Museum Society archivist Anneleen van Dijk, this new book highlights Abbotsford's remarkable growth and development in industry, health and community care, justice services, culture, and environmental consciousness.

"I am excited to share these amazing stories with Abbotsford residents. I know that many outside our city will find them fascinating as well," said Abbotsford City Councillor and MSA Book Committee member, Patricia Ross. "Our community has repeatedly demonstrated an outstanding commitment to excellence and innovation and these stories are evidence of that. Many initiatives have had success provincially, federally, even internationally."

"Abbotsford, From Village to City, provides a unique look into the many talented people and organizations in our community," said **Abbotsford Mayor, Henry Braun**. "When the Village of Abbotsford first formed in 1889, no one could have predicted where we would be today. This book reminds all of us that we live in a very unique and special City."

Years in development, the book was the brainchild of former librarian David Giesbrecht. Dorothy van der Ree, retired director of MSA Museum Society, guided the book through to its conclusion with the support of an extremely committed volunteer book committee. These are stories that need to be told. Topics explored include the origins and evolution of UFV, Community Services, and the Abbotsford Airshow, as well as the story of our city's populist resistance to the construction of the SE2 power plant in Sumas, WA.

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