

# **Abbotsford declares four rec centres as 'safe harbours'**

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All Abbotsford recreation facilities are now designated 'Safe Harbour' locations, Abbotsford Mayor George W. Peary announced Tuesday.

"The City of Abbotsford has taken another step towards making our community safer and more inclusive," said Peary.

"As designated Safe Harbour locations, the City of Abbotsford recreation centres are taking a leadership role in the community by welcoming diversity and treating all members of the community with respect."

The four Safe Harbour locations will provide temporary refuge for people who experience discrimination or harassment, said Peary. People can receive a helping hand such as a place to sit, a glass of water, a telephone to use, and information about how to seek further assistance.

Each Safe Harbour location displays a colourful window decal and other signage that signifies that management and employees at that location have been trained in the program.

Safe Harbour locations are: Matsqui Recreation Centre, 3106 Clearbrook Road; Abbotsford Recreation Centre, 34690 Old Yale Road; MSA Arena, 2323 Emerson Street; Exhibition Park, 32470 Haida Drive.

The Safe Harbour program is a province-wide initiative that provides a simple, practical, and effective way for organizations to better understand and serve a diverse population.

More than 60 Abbotsford employees have completed the Safe Harbour training program, which is co-ordinated locally by Abbotsford Community Services.

For more details on how you can become involved in the Safe Harbour program, see the website at [www.safeharbour.ca](http://www.safeharbour.ca)

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