

Chilliwack, BC... more than meets the eye



QUICK FACTS

POPULATION - CITY OF CHILLIWACK (2012): 83,000

POPULATION WITHIN 30 MINUTE COMMUTE (FVRD): 277,593

AREA: 25,900 hectares (64,000 acres)

LABOUR FORCE: 42,000

EMPLOYMENT LEVEL (JOBS): 39,000

TOTAL BUILDING PERMIT VALUES 2012: \$108,943,878 million

KEY ECONOMIC GROWTH SECTORS:

- Agriculture and food processing
- Aviation and aerospace
- Education
- Film
- Healthcare
- Manufacturing
- Retail/wholesale trade
- Technology
- Tourism

AGRICULTURE: Chilliwack is home to one quarter of the province's farm operations, with an estimated 939 farms.

CLIMATE: Chilliwack has the highest average of all daily temperatures for the year in Canada. With the warmest spring and 2nd warmest fall, this makes Chilliwack the warmest city year-round out of Canada's largest 100 cities.

COMMUTE: The average commute for a Chilliwack resident is about six kilometers.

Chilliwack is one of the fastest growing communities in British Columbia. With its gorgeous scenery, competitive land prices, affordable housing, low business tax rates, progressive business community, strong economy and ideal balanced way of life, Chilliwack is a great place to live, work, play, and prosper.

With access to the limitless recreational opportunities of BC's great outdoors and all the amenities of any major urban centre, such as leisure facilities, educational institutions, healthcare, shopping, arts and culture and more, Chilliwack is the destination of choice for many new businesses and residents.

Chilliwack's first rate education system, supported by the University of the Fraser Valley and other advanced education opportunities, provides a wealth of qualified local talent. Chilliwack School District #33 is one of a few growing school districts in the province. It covers approximately 1,825 square kilometers and includes the surrounding areas of Rosedale, Greendale, Cultus Lake and Yarrow. Chilliwack is a learning community of over 30 schools, 14,000 students, and 1,800 teachers and support staff.

Over the past 10 years, Canada Education Park has unfolded on a 200-acre site at the former Canadian Forces Base Chilliwack. Canada Education Park showcases several major institutional facilities: RCMP Pacific Region Training Centre (PRTC), Justice Institute of BC (JIBC), University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) and the UFV BC School of Agriculture, and Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). Canada Education Park is continually diversifying. The Park's projected student population is expected to grow exponentially, with the number of full-time students increasing from 5,000 students in 2007 to approximately 18,470 students in 2020.

Chilliwack General Hospital (CGH) has approximately 138 acute care beds, 1,400 employees, 55 general practitioners and 25 specialists. The hospital's recent redevelopment project included the entire outpatient care module, which encompasses the emergency department, ambulatory care, diagnostics and laboratory services. CGH is supported by the Chilliwack Hospital and Health Care Foundation (CHHCF), an innovative foundation dedicated to raising funds for CGH and for the improvement of healthcare in the community.

Chilliwack holds a reputation for being the most business-friendly community in the province. Chilliwack's Municipal Government believes that the strength of our local economy is a direct result of assistance to business. They have a commitment to satisfy the needs of business, to reduce tax costs and go the extra mile to ensure quick approvals.

- *Chilliwack recently won the 2013 Open for Business award at the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) annual conference.*
- *Chilliwack's economy, affordable real estate and skills-focused education put Chilliwack on the Top 10 list of BC towns for investment in 2013 by the Real Estate Investment Network.*
- *In 2012, Chilliwack was awarded a National Association of Industrial & Office Properties (NAIOP) award for Most Business Friendly Municipality due to the City's new Industrial Revitalization Tax Exemption Bylaw. In 2011, Chilliwack was also awarded a (NAIOP) award for Most Improved Municipality, due to an overall drop in development costs.*


**CHILLIWACK
ECONOMIC PARTNERS**

Attracting and Facilitating Economic Growth

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