# **Community** Investment Profile



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Photo Credits: Stefanie Murphy

#### THE RIGHT PLACE FOR BUSINESS

Residents of Ashcroft have always known that this is a wonderful community in which to live, work, and play. We have a four-season climate that is second to none, with hot, dry summers, mild winters, and year-round opportunities for outdoor activities to suit every taste.

The village is located just an hour from Kamloops, two-and-a-half hours from the Okanagan, and four hours from Vancouver. It means that we're close to major cities and centres, but far enough away to provide a peaceful, small town community atmosphere where you're guaranteed to get friendly smiles and a warm welcome wherever you go.

Ashcroft has all the services you need, including full-service grocery, hardware, and drug stores; banking and insurance services; high speed internet; a wide range of restaurants; and many unique local businesses. Community Futures Sun Country is available to help businesses and entrepreneurs with their needs.

Ashcroft prides itself on the wide range of

"extra-curricular" activities available for residents, with an outdoor pool, arena, curling rink, skateboard park, softball diamonds, parks and playgrounds, and soccer fields. There are dance groups, yoga and Zumba classes, a Sea Cadets Corps, two choirs (voice and handbell), an arts and theatre group, karate club, and more. Desert Sands Community School provides preschool to Grade 12 education, and the Ashcroft HUB and its full-service gym has dozens of activities, from art classes and afterschool programs to a full line-up of camps all summer long.

Ashcroft is full of opportunity, and we would welcome a chance to show you around so that you can see why many people who come here for a short time end up staying for a lifetime. Please contact us for more information or to arrange a visit.

We look forward to meeting you!

Barbara Roden MAYOR "

Displays of artifacts, photographs and text vividly illustrate life as it was in Ashcroft's exciting history.

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**KATHY PAULOS & MICHELLE ALLEN** 

Our History

OVER SIXTY ART INSTALLATIONS TELL OUR HISTORY AND STORY

A DESERT DASIS RICH IN HISTORY

The history of the Ashcroft area begins long before the Cariboo Gold Rush of the 1860s. Indigenous people have been living in the area since time immemorial. The local nations include the Nlaka'pamux Nation, including the present-day First Nations of Ashcroft Indian Band, Oregon Jack Creek Indian Band, and Cook's Ferry; and the Secwépemc Nation, which includes the Bonaparte First Nation.

Around the mid-1800s, the Nlaka'pamux people became involved in the European fur trade. The first settlers of European descent arrived in the area in the early 1860s. The community of Ashcroft was established in 1884, when the Canadian Pacific Railway completed its transcontinental rail line and built a station and freight depot in what is now the community's downtown. The community served as a transportation hub in the 1800s. The area served as Mile 0 for the road to the Cariboo goldfields, and the BC Express Company was based here. Near Ashcroft was the iconic Ashcroft Manor, built by brothers Henry and Clement Cornwall as a roadhouse in 1862. They named it after their ancestral home in England, and the name was given to the new town nearby.

Photo Credits: BPryce

Ashcroft was incorporated in 1952. It is known for its history. Striking features of the community include the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National railways which border the Thompson River, the river itself, and the sagebrush landscape surrounding the community.



Quick Facts

#### LOCATION



1hr • Kamloops 93 km / 57 miles

1.2hrs • Merritt 104 km / 64 miles

2.5hrs • Kelowna 230 km / 142 miles

4hrs • Vancouver 330 km / 205 miles

5hrs • Prince George 449 km / 279 miles

#### TRANSPORTATION

Strategically located 6.5 km from Hwy 1 on Hwy 97C

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Trans modal Inland Port servicing CN and CP Rail Mainlines, Ashcroft Terminal

Arrow Transport Terminal and Trimac Trucking

#### CLIMATE



Warm summers (average July temperature 29°)

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Mild winters (average December temperature 2°)



Average yearly rainfall 213 mm

Ave

Average yearly snowfall 30 cm

# British Columbia **Canada**



PRINCE GEORGE



MERRITT

VANCOUVER



SEATTLE

Washington USA



#### POPULATION

Year	Ashcroft	<b>Regional District</b>
2021	1,670	143,680
 2016	1,558	132,862
2011	1,628	128,493

Population has grown over the past five years with current population at 1,670, an increase over seven percent. The surrounding regional population (Thompson Nicola Regional District) has also grown with current population at 143,680, an increase of over eight percent.

#### AGE DISTRIBUTION

0	Age Group	2016	As a %
	0-14	195	13%
5 7 ][	15–19	55	10%
	20-34	150	10%
	35-54	300	20%
	55-64	320	21%
	65-84	395	27%
	85+	75	5%

More than half of Ashcroft's population is under the age of 55, and over one-third is under the age of 35. This is an extremely important age group as it begins to represent the population known as the "creative class". These are individuals who are typically well-educated, looking to settle into a community to start families and to contribute to the local economy in creative and professional ways.

Median Age: 58.6

#### HOUSEHOLD SIZE

	Size, 2016	Ashcroft	BC
	1 person	34%	29%
	2 persons	44%	35%
	3 persons	10%	15%
	5 persons	6%	13%
	5+ persons	3%	8%
	Avg. Size	2.0	2.4

The average household size in Ashcroft closely follows the trend seen within the province with the number of persons residing within one household at 2 people per household.

#### LABOUR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

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	Ashcroft	Regional District
Labour Force	635	67,655
Employed	585	61,955
Participation Rate	45.5	62.0

Ashcroft's labour force has been extremely steady, with people remaining in the community, while also having the benefit of attracting new residents and expanding the labour pool of Ashcroft and the surrounding area (Thompson Nicola Regional District).

#### WORKING AT HOME

		Ashcroft	<b>Regional District</b>	BC	
\$	Worked at Home	9%	7%	8%	
<u>'</u>	No fixed workplace address	14%	14%	20%	
	Worked at usual place	76%	72%	70%	

The number of individuals working from home in Ashcroft is slightly higher than both the regional and provincial numbers. This number is underrepresented, and it is expected that yet to be released numbers from the 2021 Census of Canada will show higher numbers of individuals working from home. This demonstrates the opportunities Ashcroft provides for remote working.

#### MAJOR EMPLOYERS

		No. of Employees		No. of Employees
	School District #74	68	Corporation of the	
[0≣0] ☐ ━ ☐	IG Machine & Fibres	23	Village of Ashcroft	17
	Koppers	30	Highland Valley Copper	
			Ashcroft Terminal	10



### EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY, 2016

Total Labour Force population aged 15 years and over: 640	Ashcroft	As a %
Industry - NAICS2012	10	0
All industry categories	630	270
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	20	3%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	50	8%
Construction	60	10%
Manufacturing	75	12%
Wholesale trade	20	3%
Retail trade	55	9%
Transportation and warehousing	75	12%
Finance and insurance	10	2%
Real estate and rental and leasing	10	2%
Professional, scientific and technical services	20	3%
Administrative and support, waste management	15	2%
Educational services	35	6%
Health care and social assistance	65	10%
Arts, entertainment and recreation	10	2%
Accommodation and food services	45	7%
Other services (except public administration)	20	3%
Public administration	35	6%



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### 66

Sometimes I just like to go for a quick paddle up at Barnes Lake or a hike through the Inukshuk trail. The terrain around Ashcroft is amazing for hiking, biking, snowshoeing and so much more. ASHCROFT RESIDENT

Photo Credit: Stefanie Murphy

**Regional District** 

%

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#### LABOUR FORCE BY OCCUPATION IN SECTOR, 2016

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		70		/0
Management	50	8%	6,615	10%
Business, finance and administration	60	10%	8,845	13%
Natural and applied sciences	10	2%	3,445	5%
Health	35	6%	5,035	8%
Education, law and social, community and government services	70	11%	7,420	11%
Art, culture, recreation and sport	15	2%	1,400	2%
Sales and service	125	20%	15,740	24%
Trades, transport and equipment operators	155	25%	13,115	20%
Natural resources, agriculture and related production	55	9%	2,865	4%
Manufacturing and utilities	55	9%	2,075	3%

Ashcroft

%

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The top two occupations in Ashcroft are Trades, Transport and Equipment Operators (25.4 percent) and Sales and Service (20.5 percent), however, all occupations are well supported within both the community and the surrounding area.

# Top Five Reasons to Invest in Ashcroft

## 1 one of the most diverse small-town economies in BC.

The businesses in Ashcroft are connected to several primary industries including transportation and distribution, agriculture, hardwood lumber, manufacturing and mining.

#### $m{2}$ STRATEGIC LOCATION – RURAL LIVING WITH URBAN PROXIMITY.

Highways 1 and 97C provide easy access to larger communities in the Thompson Okanagan and Metro Vancouver.

### 3 competitive cost and ease of doing business.

Ashcroft offers real estate prices much lower than what is found elsewhere in the Province, an elected Council and Administrative staff who are committed to working with investors and entrepreneurs, and a transportation network able to get goods from coast to coast and the world through an inland port.

# 4

#### CAPACITY FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS.

Ashcroft is committed to supporting positive growth. The Village is actively pursuing opportunities including housing development, tourism, entrepreneurship and small business.

### A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE.

Simply put, Ashcroft is close to everything you need for business without compromising a lifestyle that includes beautiful outdoor spaces and proximity to expanded urban amenities. Ashcroft's four distinct seasons offer year-round opportunities to get outside: from the beautiful prickly pear cactus that bloom along the hillsides in spring, to the hot, dry summers that are perfect for growing fruit and vegetables, and from the spectacular colours of fall to the mild winters that are perfect for outdoor enthusiasts.



# Our Economy

# AGRICULTURE



Ashcroft and the surrounding region are well known as a consistent and reliable supplier of high-quality agri-food products and livestock. Ashcroft benefits from an ideal climate that allows for profitable agricultural businesses. We receive over 2400 hours of sunlight per year. The abundant sunlight and warm temperatures make Ashcroft the ideal climate for growing. Production in our region is diverse and includes dairy, poultry, vegetables, fruits, floriculture, and nursery products, along with cattle and other livestock. We are a significant economic contributor and an important piece of our Province's agricultural identity. The increasing public concerns about food security have created an opportunity for businesses to turn innovative ideas into reality. No question, the quality of the local fruits and vegetables helps increase the exposure of Ashcroft as a destination for those looking to purchase farm-fresh produce. We are home to many agriculture businesses, including Bradner Farms, Blue Goose Cattle Company and Desert Hills Ranch. There are many investment opportunities to explore including hops, small-scale vegetable crops, vineyards, agri-tourism and value-added processing.



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DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS





#### **BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

#### Desert Hills Ranch

Desert Hills takes great pride in the over 40 products we grow. Starting 20 years ago we found that with the soil and climate in Ashcroft we could grow at Desert Hills what couldn't be grown many places in Canada. The ability to cultivate these products is combined with our priority for environmental stewardship. We are dedicated to using technology and innovation to be on the leading edge of agriculture sustainability. In addition to growing, we are proud to be a sought out agri-tourism business, too. Come visit and spend a day at our farm market and greenhouse and visit the variety of baby animals. We also have special events held throughout the season including our annual Mother's Day celebration and fall pumpkin patch.

# TRANSPORTATION



Ashcroft is situated on Hwy 97C, only 6.5 kilometres from Hwy 1. Three of BC's

largest transportation companies based in the Village are Arrow Transportation

Systems Inc., Ashcroft Terminal, and Trimac Trucking. Home to BC's largest inland port, Ashcroft is located at the eastern end of CP/CN mainline co-production. Ashcroft is the last location westbound and the first location eastbound at which mainline traffic can stop to or from Metro Vancouver. Ashcroft's proximity to British Columbia's major highways provides critical transportation linkages and advantages. As a result, the sector has a variety of opportunities for businesses focused on distribution, logistics, and addressing the supply chain challenges.



### BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

#### Ashcroft Terminal As British Columbia's laraest inl

As British Columbia's largest inland port, Ashcroft Terminal is strategically located to help shippers, manufacturers and producers prepare their commodities for export or import. Every railcar that travels on the Class 1 mainlines, must go directly through Ashcroft Terminal. Steadily expanding infrastructure since 2007, Ashcroft Terminal now maintains 60,000ft of internal track, 730+ rail car spots, and 40,000 sq.ft. of warehouse space on 320 acres. The Terminal serves 7,000 railcars and 6,000 trucks annually while providing a variety of value-add services to its diverse customer base.



#### REPRESENTED BY THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY

#### **BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

#### Arrow Group of Companies

With over 100 years in business, the Arrow Group of Companies has led the way in developing service-focused transportation solutions by working with a broad range of customers, hauling a wider variety of products, and expanding our presence throughout Canada and the United States. Arrow is an industry-leading transportation, distribution and materials handling organization.

The Ashcroft Mining Division specializes in serving key customers by hauling bulk materials such as copper ore and amended soils, compost and mulches across Western Canada. We employ approximately 20 people at this division which includes our drivers, mechanics and management team.



# MINING



British Columbia's mining industry has flourished over the years and today remains a major contributor to the Province's economy and overall prosperity. BC has a global reputation as a leading jurisdiction for mining with rich, diverse mineral deposits in every corner of the Province; copper, coal, zinc, silver, gold, lead and molybdenum are the primary minerals mined in the Province. BC is Canada's largest producer of copper and steelmaking coal, the second-largest producer of silver, and the only producer of molybdenum.

Teck is one of Canada's leading mining companies and operates Highland Valley Copper Operations (HVC) just outside of Ashcroft. The company provides many career opportunities for individuals looking to locate to a community that offers affordability and a great quality of life. Ashcroft is also home to leading-edge, innovative global companies, like IG Machine and Fibre, with a quarry and colouring plant to produce granules for shingles. In addition to excellent career choices, there are opportunities for sector support services, including welding/fabrication, medium and heavy vehicle maintenance, millwright services and safety supports and supplies.



2 JOBS IN MINING SUPPLY AND SERVICES FOR EVERY 1 DIRECT JOB



#### BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

#### Teck Highland Valley Copper

Highland Valley Copper (HVC) Operations is located approximately 45 kilometres from Ashcroft and produces copper and molybdenum concentrates through autogenous and semi-autogenous griding and flotation.

Annual copper production from 2022 to 2024 is expected to be 135,000 and 165,000 tonnes per year. HVC is proposing to extend the life of the operation to at least 2040, through an extension of the existing site infrastructure.

# MANUFACTURING



Manufacturing plays a key role in British Columbia, making up over 61 percent of the Province's total exports in 2018 and \$51.5 billion in manufacturing shipments in 2020. The industry has transitioned towards creating products based on innovation, new designs and advanced manufacturing techniques. Ashcroft's abundant natural resources, transportation networks, and a steady supply of creative and skilled workforce make us ready to support new and growing manufacturing operations. For example, Ashcroft is home to Rolgear, a small manufacturer of unique and much-praised ratcheting screwdrivers. Rolgear ships around the world and is a great example of how Ashcroft supports a vibrant manufacturing sector. Ashcroft is an ideal location for the relocation of existing manufacturing businesses, or for new start-ups – opportunities in metal products, machinery, and specialized products manufacturing, for example.



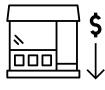
#### BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT Koppers Ashcroft Inc.

Koppers is a world leader in the manufacturing of pressuretreated wood products used primarily for the railroad and electric/ communications industries. Koppers has been serving the railroad industry with treated wood railroad ties and railroad crossing panel products for more than 25 years. In North America, we are the largest provider of railroad crossties for the Class I Railroads and are known for our pre-plated crossties.

The railroad industry is the backbone of the transportation system that serves the North American economies and the Koppers team is committed to ensuring the services we provide will have a positive impact on the growth and vitality of the industry for many years to come.



# SMALE BUSINESS



LOWER START UP COSTS

#### Small Business, Entrepreneurship and Remote Working

Small businesses contribute to a strong, sustainable provincial and local economy. Ashcroft offers a desirable place to live, invest and do business, whether it's a business relocation, new business start-up, or working from home. We have business support services and an excellent connectivity network providing the opportunity to work from home or a commercial space downtown. Ashcroft is well suited to family-oriented virtual workers and entrepreneurs looking to take advantage of technological advances, changing work patterns, and create a real work-life balance. Almost one-quarter of our workforce work remotely or from home because we offer lower start-up costs, affordable real estate and easy access to markets.



WORK REMOTELY OR FROM HOME



Tourism has been a key economic driver and one of our Province's competitive strengths in the world economy. BC's tourism revenues reached \$18.4 billion in 2017, and it is projected to create 106,000 new job openings by 2028 in a wide range of professions. Ashcroft is proud of its history, and the heritage buildings have been used in several Hollywood movies. Beautiful parks, trails, fishing, rock climbing, and river kayaking surround our community. Ashcroft has extraordinary recreational and tourism growth potential. There are significant opportunities, including hotel development (63 room plus) and smaller opportunities for individuals to explore, including tourism operators, restaurants, Indigenous tourism, agri-tourism and outdoor adventure.



ONE OF THE FASTEST-GROWING SECTORS





Photo Credits: GCCS-MPutnam

#### HOTEL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

Ashcroft has an opportunity for new accommodation facilities, including conference facilities. A recent Hotel Study commissioned by the Village has shown that the community is underserved with accommodation services and can support a 64-room hotel with meeting room space and other amenities. Ashcroft is looking for developers and hoteliers who are interested in an opportunity in an untapped market. Some established businesses in our diversified community bring in key staff needing accommodations. In addition, two major transcontinental rail lines that use Ashcroft as a base and have constant work crews and an expanding film industry looking for a local accommodation option increase the need for new quality accommodations. Bring your idea to us, and together with support agencies like Community Futures, we can help make it a reality





#### LAND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

Ashcroft has a diversified range of development opportunities. The Village is three minutes from Highway 1, connecting the Lower Mainland to the Interior. In addition, Ashcroft is home to Canada's only 320-acre private terminal with CP and CN mainlines offering transloading facilities with opportunities for global export or import. The Village has municipal and private properties available for development within all sectors, including manufacturing, commercial and our expanding tourism sector. Please get in touch with our office for a detailed list of available land for your next residential, commercial, or industrial development opportunity.

Doing Business

Ashcroft makes starting a business easy. Our economic development department is ready to answer your questions and facilitate the relationships you need to be successful. We will help you through your unique requirements as you begin and throughout the entire process. We assist local businesses in connecting to resources which can help meet individual goals, as well as help attract and support new investment into our community.

Economic Development staff is here to help with start ups, expansions, site selection and relocation. We provide guidance on how to navigate municipal processes.

Our services include:

- Information and statistics on Ashcroft
- Assistance with site selection for your new or expanding business
- Information on government programs for business
- Information on relevant networking and industry events
- Assistance in connecting with municipal regulatory and planning staff
- Marketing assistance/strategic introductions to existing businesses and support organizations

#### CONTACT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STAFF

#### In person:

Stop by our offices at 601 Bancroft St. Mon to Fri: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

T: 250-453-9161

E: edt@ashcroftbc.ca

The economic development staff will walk you through the entire process.

Frequently asked questions include:

- Do I need a business license?
- Do I need to check zoning?
- Do I need to speak to a planner?
- What is a building permit? Do I need one?
- What are development charges?
- What signage is allowed?





Photo Credits: GCCS-MPutnam

Are there other business resources I should know about?

**COMMUNITY FUTURES SUN COUNTRY** (cfsun.ca) provides services and program supports to small to and medium sized business owners and entrepreneurs. Through the regional head office, located in Ashcroft, they provide a variety of services, including small business loans, business planning support, small business training, and one-on-one start-up or expansion consulting.

T: 250-453-9165

**SMALL BUSINESS BC** (smallbusinessbc.ca) helps entrepreneurs grow successful and sustainable businesses through expert business advisors, educations services and easy-to-use free resources. Supports include a business plan template, seminars/webinars, one-on-one expert advisories and other programs.

T: 1-800-667-2272

E: askus@smallbusinessbc.ca

**WORKBC CENTRE** – **ASHCROFT** (workbcentre-ashcroft.ca) connects job seekers and employers – helping people find jobs, explore career options and improve their skills, and helping employers find the right talent and grow their business.

T: 250-453-2499 E: centre-ashcroft@workbc.ca



#### WATER SYSTEM

Ashcroft has a new Water Treatment Facility, which is regulated by Interior Health, that removes organic and in-organics through membrane filtration. The water treatment facility is state of the art and capable of ultra violet disinfection.

#### WASTE WATER SYSTEM

Village waste water is transported through sewer lines to the municipal Sewage Treatment Plant, operated by the Public Works department. Bio-solids are processed through a centrifuge, and the resulting product is sent to a bio-solid management program.

#### **ELECTRIC POWER SUPPLIER**

Electric power for the Village of Ashcroft is provided by BC Hydro, a crown corporation of the provincial government and is regulated by the BC Utilities Commission.

Electricity rates for business customers will depend on the annual peak demand and total annual energy usage. Detailed rate information can be found at

#### https://www.bchydro.com/accounts-billing/rates-energy-use/electricity-rates/business-rates.html

#### NATURAL GAS SUPPLIER

Fortis BC provides the natural gas service to businesses and residents in Ashcroft. It is a Canadian owned, BC based company. Their primary service is for heating and hot water. Rate information can be found at https://www.fortisbc.com/services/natural-gas-services

#### TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Ashcroft has many options for high-speed internet, cable, and wireless providers with TELUS supplying the main telecommunications infrastructure for the municipality.



Photo Credits: Josh Ford / Lonely Wolf Productions

### "

I started my art career here over 40 years ago. With low rents and properties, it was exactly what growing an art business needs for financial stability and support. Our sister city arrangement with Bifuka Japan led me to amazing opportunities to paint murals, teach children and adults, and 7 solo shows, including Bifuka, Sapporo and Tokyo.



Photo Credits: Village of Ashcroft

Ashcroft is a beautiful and diverse community that continues to build and invest in the future for its residents and businesses. The Village represents a key service centre for many of the surrounding communities and the municipality offers a high quality of life in a rural setting with proximity to urban amenities.

#### **HEALTH CARE SERVICES** (interiorhealth.ca • 250-453-2211)

Ashcroft Hospital and Community Health Centre offers a variety of health care services, including laboratory and radiology, urgent care, outpatient ambulatory care, community health services, long-term care services and in-home support, and an on-site medical centre with physician services.

Other health care services are available within the community including:



Ashcroft Counselling 250-842-8552

Ashcroft Dental Clinic 250-453-9147

Ashcroft I.D.A. Pharmacy 250-453-2553

Ashcroft Mental Health & Substance Use 250-453-2250 BC Ambulance Dial 911

Hearing Life 1-888-617-5649

Support Services and Programs Ashcroft Elizabeth Fry Society 250-376-3660

#### ASHCROFT COMMUNITY HALL (250-453-9161)

The Ashcroft Community Hall is one of Ashcroft's many historic buildings. The recently renovated Community Hall is level entry and equipped with limited kitchen facilities, a stage, washrooms, tables and chairs. The hall is available for rental to the public.

#### ASHCROFT POOL (250-453-9031)

As Ashcroft experiences hot summer temperatures, the Ashcroft Pool is a very popular place. The pool opens on the Saturday of the May Long Weekend and runs through to the Sunday of the September Labour Day weekend. The pool is wheelchair accessible and contains a lap pool, wading pool, slide, diving board, and hot tub. Throughout the summer months, the pool staff offer many fun-filled theme swims and swimming lessons in addition to the regular pool schedules.

#### VILLAGE PARKS

Ashcroft offers many inviting parks, including the Heritage Park on Railway Avenue – described as an 'oasis in the desert' – and a popular skateboard park, as well as playgrounds, softball diamonds, and soccer fields.

#### LEGACY PARK CAMPGROUND (250-453-2642)

Legacy Park Campground is a shaded oasis in Ashcroft's desert landscape and is situated beside the Thompson River. The park sites have 30 amp service with sewer hook ups, and four tenting sites. Our campground is within easy walking distance of local restaurants, museum, and Ashcroft's welcoming businesses and services. Legacy Park is open May 1 to September 30.

#### THE HUB (ashcrofthub.ca • 250-453-9177)

The HUB is an enterprising non-profit society with a mission to reduce the rural population decline by providing more opportunities for wellness, recreation and the arts. The facility includes a commercial quality work-out gym, full-sized gymnasium, theatre stage, fitness studios & meeting/training rooms. The HUB offers a wide variety of recreational, wellness & arts programs, events & services.



#### DRYLANDS ARENA (250-453-9161)

The Village owns and operates the Drylands Arena which has one ice sheet and is home to the Thompson Cariboo Minor Hockey Association. Generally the arena season begins in October and ends in March. The arena has bleachers equipped with overhead heaters, a concession, washroom facilities, a skate sharpening facility, dressing rooms, sound system, and a 16' x 12' stage for dry floor usage. In the summer months the arena is host to dry floor events such as our annual Fall Fair and music venues.

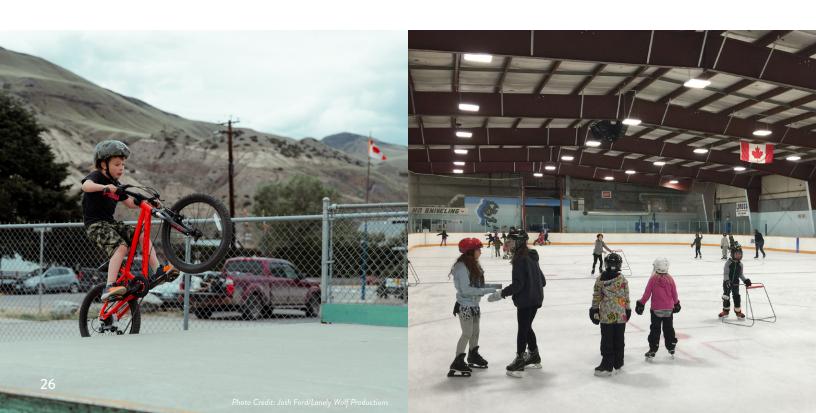
#### ASHGROFT CURLING CLUB (250-457-7387)

The Ashcroft & District Curling Club has four sheets of ice. Curling begins in mid-October and continues through early March. The curling club offers adult league curling, senior league curling and junior league curling. The curling club is a very friendly organization and always welcomes new members to the sport. The curling club is located at 610 - 7th Street.

#### ASHCROFT MUSEUM (250-453-9232)

Located in the brick "Dominion" building, built in 1917, the Ashcroft Museum is located at the corner of Brink and 4th Street. Originally the Village Post Office, the Ashcroft Museum moved into the building in 1980.

Considered one of the best museums located in any BC Village, the collection includes artifacts that date back to the early 1900's and bears witness to Ashcroft's "Glory Days". Displays honour the local Indigenous People, the Chinese community and other pioneers of the area. Entrance to the Museum is by donation and a lift enables visitors with mobility issues to access the main floor.





#### ARTS GULTURE AND DIVERSITY

Ashcroft is an Arts community. Take a walking tour of our community's many historic homes and buildings, view the dozens of stunning glass mosaics, sculptures, paintings and murals that celebrate Ashcroft's heritage and natural beauty, or pause for reflection at the historic Chinese cemetery. Visitors from around the world are amazed with the variety of Arts for people to participate in and enjoy. As well, one of the many things that makes Ashcroft special is the community's diverse population and cultural history; something our residents are very proud of.

#### **EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Ashcroft residents enjoy a safe community, complete with a full array of health and protective services offered by other government agencies and health care professionals. These include a volunteer fire department, RCMP detachment, the Ashcroft Hospital, and an ambulance station.

#### COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Ashcroft provides many opportunities to get involved, including minor soccer, hockey, and softball; club basketball; karate; dance classes; a seniors' centre; Yoga and Zumba classes; a number of service organizations, including Lions, Rotary, and the Royal Canadian Legion; and much more. A full list of organizations is available on the Village website.

#### VILLAGE OFFICE 601 Bancroft St., Ashcroft, BC.

MAILING ADDRESS: Village of Ashcroft PO Box 129, Ashcroft, BC. VOK 1A0 P: 250-453-9161 F: 250-453-9664 E: admin@ashcroftbc.ca



