

From April until September 2024, Mike McCulloch was employed via Local Journalism Initiative funding awarded to CIVL through the Community Radio Fund of Canada (CRFC) to create two stories per week to air on CIVL and publish on CRFC website [frequencynews\[dot\]ca](http://frequencynews.ca). The audio file included in this submission contains portions of the civic journalism highlights.

1) 240502 - Celebration of Life ceremony for overdose victims:

Mike reported on a ceremony in Jubilee Park, Abbotsford, to honour the lives of people who died of drug overdoses. Mike gathered event audio and interviews from the assembled attendees, including local area harm reduction service providers, and the friends and family of the victims.

2) 240503 - B.C. re-criminalizes illicit drug use in public:

B.C. premier David Eby announced the province asked Health Canada to amend an exemption to the controlled drugs and substances act which allowed B.C. to pilot allowing public use of illicit drugs. Mike collected the audio from Eby's press conference in Vancouver, secured a telephone interview with BC Green Party leader Sonia Furstenau, and incorporated leader of the opposition Kevin Falcon's comments from the B.C. Legislative Assembly.

3) 240509 - Mission RCMP deliver Q1 report to city council:

Mike McCulloch reports on a Mission City Council meeting in which the council receives a crime statistics update from RCMP Inspector Ted Lewko using public audio.

4) 240515 - Abbotsford South MLA Bruce Banman under fire for 'dog whistle' comment:

Then BC NDP MLA for Chilliwack-Kent Kelli Paddon accused BC Conservative MLA Bruce Banman of Abbotsford-South of making an anti-abortion "dog whistle." Mike interviews both Paddon and Bannan. Report includes audio from the B.C. Legislative Assembly, and from Banman's social media activity.

5) 240524 - Sound of Music in Abbotsford is closing:

Mike interviewed Dean and Eloise Irving, the couple that owned Sound of Music, a long running music instrument and music lessons store in Abbotsford a month before closing up shop. This piece was later rebroadcast on the CRFC weekly recap show Viewpoints.

6) 240606 - Abbotsford Firefighters ratify new collective bargaining agreement:

Mike interviews Shane Petrie, president of IAFF Local 2864, the union that represents city of Abbotsford Firefighters, following the ratification of a collective bargaining agreement with the City of Abbotsford.

7) 240801 - Abbotsford calls meeting with province, organizers of protest encampment:

A little over a month after a group called Abbotsford Drug War Survivors (ADWS) formed a homeless encampment at city hall, Abbotsford mayor Ross Siemens called for a joint meeting between the city, ADWS and provincial authorities. Mike interviewed Brittany Maple of ADWS, and gathered written statements sent from the staff of Mayor Ross Siemens, and Minister of Housing Ravi Kahlon.