



The City of Castlegar

is Proud to Celebrate...



LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARENESS WEEK & NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK May 20-26, 2018

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local governments build and sustain the systems that make our communities possible. They also deliver programs that enhance the quality of life for all.

This week acknowledges the efforts of local governments who build communities that British Columbians can take pride in and to celebrate and educate the public on the contributions made by the City of Castlegar employees.

PUBLIC WORKS

The City of Castlegar's Public Works Department is comprised of 24 outside staff who are supported by three Managers, an Engineering Technician and an Administrative Assistant. This dynamic group looks after all facets of the City's infrastructure. In the summer months, four students are hired to assist in parks maintenance.

ROADS

The Roads crew is comprised of 11 individuals. The staff makeup includes a crew Foreman, a journeyman Carpenter and several Heavy and Light Equipment Operators. The Roads crew responsibility is vast and job duties are diverse – almost every day holds different challenges.

Pot hole patching, sign installations, sidewalk repairs, garbage collection, snow plowing, street sweeping, playground construction, special events preparations, and some capital construction jobs name a few duties that the crew may carry out in any given day. During the winter months the Roads crew builds and maintains an outdoor ice rink at Kinnaird Park which is always popular with the community.

PARKS

The City's Parks crew is comprised of 4 individuals; a crew Foreman, three parks Maintenance people and in the summer months four college students are hired to assist the parks maintenance crew.

The parks crew is responsible for all work related to the City's parks and cemetery including mowing, weed-whipping, garbage collection, sports field maintenance, grave preparations, special events preparations and irrigation. During the winter months the parks crew assists the roads crew with winter operations.

UTILITIES

All the Operators within the Utilities crew are registered with the BC Environmental Operators Certification Program (BC-EOCP). The BC Safe Water Drinking Act requires Operators to be certified. Continuing education and a series of exams ensure Operators are aware of the latest guidelines and employ the latest and best practices for the provision of water services within the city.



MECHANICAL SHOP

The Mechanic's Shop crew isn't large with two members but the work put through is extensive and varied.

The Mechanical Shop crew is responsible for keeping the City fleet of vehicles and equipment in top running order. The Mechanics ensure that the many pieces of equipment are always available for use and when required, are called upon for emergency field repairs.

WATER / SEWER TREATMENT

The Treatment crew for the City consists of four Operators. The Operators are responsible for the disinfection and quality monitoring of drinking water and the treatment of sanitary waste. The crew works a rotation shift to ensure operator coverage 7 days a week. Water is drawn from the Arrow Lakes and is disinfected with chlorine and UV treatment as well. Tests of the drinking water are done throughout the City daily. Parameters such as chlorine levels, turbidity and the absence of bacteriological counts are closely monitored with weekly water samples being sent away for independent testing. A Treatment Operator can have a very diverse day; from site inspections and equipment trouble-shooting to performing high level tests in the lab.

Monitoring of the City's treatment, pumping and storage facilities is aided by the City's SCADA system (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition), and is a system of sensors that communicate with a main computer to alert crews if problems arise no matter the time of day.

WATER / SEWER MAINTENANCE

Three operators make up the Water/Sewer Maintenance crew. Their task is to maintain all underground infrastructures for the distribution of drinking water and the collection of sanitary waste. Preventative maintenance such as water and sewer main flushing, hydrant maintenance and infrastructure inspection consumes much of the maintenance crew's time. This crew installs new services in the City and responds to water leaks and sewer backups.

The three person crew operates a range of equipment from backhoes and dump trucks, to large vacator trucks and mobile cranes.



Quick Facts

Local Government Awareness Week is the result of a partnership between UBCM, Civic Info BC, the Local Government Management Association, the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, the Ministry of Education, the British Columbia School Trustees' Association and the Public Works Association of British Columbia.

Local Government Awareness Week coincides with National Public Works Week – recognizing the importance of building and maintaining infrastructure and providing services that improve the quality of life in communities.

There are 188 local governments in British Columbia.



More Information

For more information about a dynamic career in the operation and maintenance of Water and Wastewater systems and Public Works, the following provides excellent information:

BC Environmental Operators Certification Program
www.eocp.org

BC Water and Waste Association (BCWWA)
www.bcwwa.org

BC Public Works Association (BCPWA)
www.pwabc.cpwa.net

Thompson Rivers University Water Treatment Technology Program
www.tru.ca/distance/programs/science/water.html

To Learn More

About Local Government Awareness Week:
www.lgaw.bc.ca

About National Public Works Week:
<http://pwabc.cpwa.net/Index.html>

For more information about working in BC's local government sector:
<http://www.civicinfo.bc.ca>