

Winner: Excellence in Asset Management

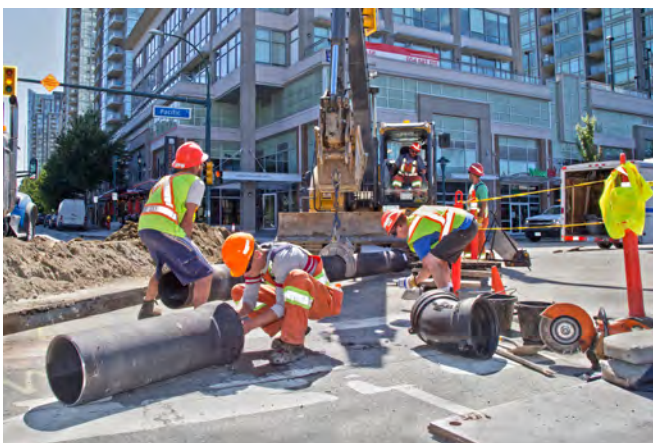
City of Coquitlam – Asset Management Funding Framework

This project integrates various departmental policies and programs in order to better invest in the City’s infrastructure and capital assets, which are vital to the health, safety and quality of life of its residents. By centralizing leadership of all asset types under one department (Finance & Technology), it ensures a consistent and holistic approach to asset management that limits duplication and administrative burden while providing decision makers with a balanced picture of asset funding needs.



The Framework is informed by continually improving asset information systems and optimization software, and its inventory and valuation system is Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) 3150 Tangible Assets Accounting Regulation compliant. This allows for enhanced and informed decision-making capability around timing and cost of asset replacement.

Boasting a 95% taxpayer satisfaction rate and 86% value-for-taxes rating when it comes to service delivery (both above provincial and regional averages), the success of Coquitlam’s asset management program is demonstrated by their track record of sound financial stewardship and taxpayer confidence.



Through internal collaboration and partnership, as well as enshrined asset management practices in the City’s financial policies, Coquitlam has developed a comprehensive process capable of limiting yearly budgetary fluctuations and ensuring quality service delivery for years to come.

Honourable Mention: Excellence in Asset Management

City of Grand Forks – Service Sustainability Assessment Tool

The Service Sustainability Assessment Tool (SSAT) is an innovative and universally available tool designed to help local governments identify services that may become unsustainable, develop plans to improve service sustainability, and effectively communicate these findings to decision makers and the public.

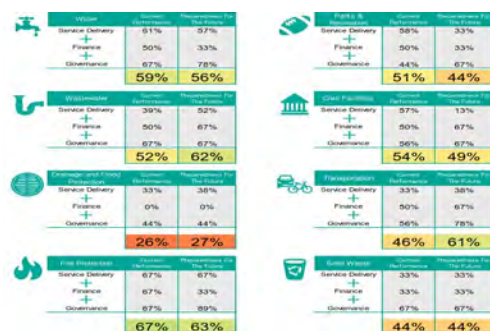


Developed in Microsoft Excel, the SSAT assesses service sustainability in eight core service areas: wastewater, water, drainage and flood protection, transportation, fire protection, parks and recreation, solid waste, and civic facilities.

While tools exist for assessing the overall sustainability of a community, these often leave gaps related to service sustainability in particular that can be costly and time consuming to fill. The SSAT takes an average of 15 minutes per service assessment – effectively saving time and resources that can be dedicated to other community needs.

The project’s most significant achievement is taking an exceedingly complex topic and making it accessible and communicable. In producing a final report that is comprehensible and engaging, the SSAT promotes open dialogue between local governments and community stakeholders.

The SSAT was tested and refined in partnership with the City of Rossland, Village of Salmo, and Districts of Clearwater, Squamish, and Central Saanich. It is designed to reflect common local government services while allowing for substantial personalization to fit the interests of diverse communities. It is the goal of Grand Forks and its partners for the SSAT to find use across Canada.



The Excellence in Asset Management category acknowledges UBCM members that develop comprehensive systems of asset management policies and practices that meet and/or exceed established best practices.