

Winner: Excellence in Service Delivery

Thompson-Nicola Regional District – A New Road Travelled – Mobile Library Provides Advanced Voting Opportunities for Rural Communities

In 2018, the Thompson-Nicola Regional District rolled out a brand new mobile library vehicle.

This also coincided with the 2018 local general elections. The legislative services and library services departments came together to encourage civic engagement by providing advance voting opportunities for electors that are geographically restricted and may not have the opportunity or ability to travel to larger centres to vote at a more conventional polling station.

This was an innovative response for a local government that serves 130+ rural unincorporated communities that are scattered over a 45,000 square kilometres service area.

Advanced polling via the Mobile Library demonstrated out of the box thinking and inter-departmental collaboration in the delivery of an outreach service and electorate engagement in an efficient and cost effective manner.



153 rural voters, representing 7% of the total votes cast, participated in civic decision-making when the Mobile Library was in the area.

Having access to voting opportunities is a fundamental right and anything that a local government can do to provide this opportunity supports the democratic process.

The Excellence in Service Delivery category acknowledges UBCM members that provide effective service delivery in a proactive manner, demonstrate benefit to the community, and utilize performance measures, benchmarks and standards to ensure sustainable service provision.



Municipal Finance
Authority of BC



GREEN COMMUNITIES
COMMITTEE



Honourable Mention: Excellence in Service Delivery

City of Surrey – Integrated Sustainability Education Program

In 2015, Surrey’s Sustainability Office and Engineering Department worked together to develop an Integrated Sustainability Education Program geared to students in grades 2 through 10.

This program embodies a comprehensive approach to sustainability education by integrating energy, water and waste concepts across grade levels that are aligned to BC curriculum objectives.

Now in its fourth year, this free program is offered in partnership with local schools and reaches 16,000 students across the city every year.

The City of Surrey is proud to have provided a well-regarded and systems-focused program that cultivates a culture of sustainability through community education and engagement.



The integrated sustainability education program empowers youth and newcomers to take environmental stewardship into their own hands, with knowledge they can take back to their families and carry into the future.

Consistent feedback from students demonstrates how their new understanding of these energy, waste and water issues allows them to take pride in being part of the solution.

