

Winner: Excellence in Sustainability

City of Castlegar – Columbia Avenue Complete Streets Project

In 2018, the City of Castlegar undertook an \$8 million project to turn the main roadway into a complete street. The project reflected the community priorities – it took an existing commercial street and turned it into the centrepiece of the downtown core – using green infrastructure to attract citizens and businesses downtown.

The final project included raised bike lanes traveling in both directions that were separated from the main vehicular travel lanes by a roll-over concrete curve.

In addition, a 3-meter wide sidewalk was constructed to develop a pleasant environment for pedestrians.

As well, there were many benches and innovative amenities installed throughout the project for users partially funded by sponsorships.



The sustainable nature of the project extends below the surface where a modular suspended pavement system was installed to use soil volumes to support large tree growth and provide rainwater management through absorption, evapotranspiration, and interception.

This will support the health and growth of many the new street trees that were planted as part of this project.

The Excellence in Sustainability category acknowledges UBCM members that incorporate a long-term sustainability lens by considering the four pillars in planning, policy and practice.



Municipal Finance
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GREEN COMMUNITIES
COMMITTEE



Honourable Mention: Excellence in Sustainability

Village of Harrison Hot Springs – LED Lighting Upgrade

In March 2018, the Village of Harrison Hot Springs retrofitted 75 streetlights with LEDs.

The \$250,000 project, funded by the Union of BC Municipalities Federal Gas Tax Priorities Fund, covered 14 streets and eight cul-de-sacs in the village.

The life cycle of the new LED lighting is much longer, which means less time and money spent replacing bulbs and less waste generation. This type of long-term thinking ties in perfectly to the community's asset management planning which helps enhance their community sustainability.

The new LED lights have reduced energy consumption by 70 percent in the Village of Harrison Hot Springs, saving the local government approximately \$4,500 a year in residential street lighting costs.



The new lights were developed with the University of the Fraser Valley and tailored to each location to reduce back lighting, up-lighting and glare. This meant more wildlife friendly night skies and improved quality of life for residents by eliminating night time glare and allowing for better stargazing opportunities.

Harrison Hot Springs is the first B.C. municipality to send its old streetlights to El Salvador, as part of a new partnership between an Agassiz company and the University of the Fraser Valley.