



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS LEADING THE WAY WITH VISION, CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION ARE HONOURED WITH UBCM COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Editors: Photos of the award winners will be uploaded to our [Flickr](#) account and are available for publication by media. Please credit: UBCM

Vancouver, B.C. (September 14, 2021): The Union of British Columbia Municipalities presented its 2021 Community Excellence Awards during the UBCM virtual convention. UBCM has offered these awards since 2004.

The Community Excellence Awards recognize and celebrate UBCM member First Nations, regional districts and municipalities that have implemented projects or programs that go above and beyond in meeting the purposes of local government in BC. The awards are intended to showcase outstanding initiatives, and share them with other members to implement in their own communities.

The *Community Charter* and the *Local Government Act* set out the purpose of local government: provide good governance; deliver services for community benefit; ensure responsible stewardship of public assets; and maintain a sustainable framework. Recognizing these goals, the award categories are:

- **Governance** – by utilizing decision-making processes and policies that are outcomes-based and consensus oriented, support and encourage citizen participation, are efficient, equitable, inclusive and transparent, and exemplify best practices in accountability, effectiveness, and long-term thinking;
- **Service Delivery** – by providing effective and beneficial services to the community in a proactive manner and drawing on performance measures, benchmarks and standards to ensure that service delivery is sustainable;
- **Asset Management** – by developing comprehensive, integrated, innovative and effective approaches to the management of existing and new infrastructure in order to maximize benefits, reduce risk and provide satisfactory levels of service to the community in a sustainable manner; and
- **Sustainability** – through commitment to the premise of meeting current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs, and incorporating the four pillars of sustainability (cultural, social, economic and environmental) into local government planning, policy and practice.

In 2021, a new category was added – the **Presidents Committee Choice** award. This category recognizes a community the UBCM Presidents Committee believed deserved special recognition for its outstanding response to the pandemic. The unique circumstances that communities across BC faced during this difficult time brought to light many innovative ways that local governments adapted to the impact of COVID-19.

Videos of the projects from the short-listed candidates are available on UBCM's [YouTube account](#).

UBCM would like to acknowledge our 2021 award sponsors:

- **GOLD: Municipal Finance Association of BC**
- **GOLD: Urban Systems**
- **SILVER: Joint Provincial-UBCM Green Communities Committee (GCC)**

(more)

Excellence in Governance

WINNER:

City of West Kelowna
Community Vision, OURWK

Excellence in Service Delivery

WINNER:

City of Surrey
Urban Forest Resources for Outdoor Learning

Honourable Mention:

City of Richmond
Works Yard - Recycling Depot Upgrades

Excellence in Sustainability

WINNER:

City of Nanaimo
Complete Streets Engineering Standards and Design Guidelines

Honourable Mention:

City of New Westminster
Seven Bold Steps for Climate Action

Excellence in Asset Management

WINNER:

qathet Regional District
Natural Asset Solution for Stormwater Runoff

Honourable Mention:

District of Highlands
Sustainable Asset Management

Presidents Committee Choice

WINNER:

City of Coquitlam
Community Support and Recovery Plan

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Full convention agenda and more information are available by visiting the UBCM online [Media Room](#).

ABOUT UBCM

Formed in 1905 to provide a common voice for local government, the UBCM continues to follow that mandate today. Through its resolution sessions, the annual convention provides a platform for local government leaders to establish policy directions for UBCM's engagement with the provincial and federal governments. More information at ubcm.ca

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