

NEWS RELEASE

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A Successful Seventh Year Celebrating Public Works Advancing Quality of Life

National Public Works Week Commemorated in Nanaimo

Summary

Taking on the National Public Works Week theme of "Advancing the Quality of Life for All", on Wednesday, May 22, 2024 the City of Nanaimo Public Works department welcomed nearly 400 enthusiastic grade four and five students from 11 schools to celebrate National Public Works Week. The Regional District of Nanaimo also participated as part of a partnership in water, wastewater, solid waste sustainability, as well as public transit. During the day, students had the opportunity to visit various interactive stations to learn about the many services the department performs for Nanaimo's residents.

The stations provided students with demonstrations and opportunities to participate and learn about the following City services:

- Wastewater
- Roads
- Traffic
- RDN Public Transit
- Canadian Union of Public Employees
- RDN Water Smart
- Occupational Health & Safety
- Sanitation
- Zero Waste
- Water Distribution
- Emergency Preparedness
- Parks
- Water Supply & Treatment
- Stores
- Fleet
- Engineering

Also, as part of the celebration, public tours were offered on May 22 to the general public. Each of the booths had a focus on highlighting the many different ways that the quality of life we enjoy is underpinned by the work done by Public Works staff here at the City of Nanaimo.

The City of Nanaimo would like to thank the following community organizations who generously sponsored Public Works Day: Knappett Industries (2006) Ltd, Cascara Engineers Ltd., Herold Engineering, Koers & Associates Engineering Ltd., Newcastle Engineering Ltd., Roto-Rooter Plumbing & Drain Service, Copcan Civil LP, Capex Projects, Regional District of Nanaimo, Hub City Paving, Country Grocer, CUPE 401, Camargue Properties, Urban Systems, ASTTBC Technology Professionals, ISL, Hazelwood Construction Services, Save On Foods, Nanaimo Clippers, Nanaimo Buccaneers, Nanaimo Night Owls, VI Raiders Football and Caged Athletics.

Strategic Link: Taking responsibility to be an excellent municipal government by providing educational opportunities for Nanaimo's youth.

Key Points

- On May 22, 381 students from 11 schools visited sixteen booths at the City of Nanaimo's Public Works yard in celebration of this year's Public Works Day theme, "Advancing Quality of Life For All".
- The City of Nanaimo would like to thank the following community organizations who hosted booths at Public Works Day: Regional District of Nanaimo WaterSmart, Regional District of Nanaimo Public Transit, and CUPE 401.

Quotes

"Through this partnership, hundreds of students and a handful of community members were given a bird's eye view of the people, equipment and facilities needed to keep our city running smoothly. By fostering this hands-on learning environment, the event not only nurtured a deeper understanding of civic infrastructure but might have inspired future generations to appreciate and contribute to the sustainable development of their community."

Leonard Krog
Mayor
City of Nanaimo

Quick Facts

- National Public Works Week is an initiative to bring awareness to the essential role Public Works plays in the quality of life for a community. It also recognizes the workers who serve in these roles and promotes it as a viable career choice.
- Giving school-aged children the opportunity to experience the various functions the department performs and the reason for doing things like recycle or conserve water provides a foundation for them to become engaged citizens and stewards for sustainability.
- The City of Nanaimo began hosting Public Works Day in 2017, seven years ago. During the pandemic, the event was hosted virtually. Throughout the five years where the event was held in person, more than 2,450 children experienced the Public Works yard and the various jobs performed by each department.

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Contact:

For media enquiries, please contact
Communications
City of Nanaimo
Media.Requests@nanaimo.ca
250-754-4251



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