



Katie Ward

Area Manager-Roads

Operations
West Kootenay District
Neslon, B.C.

Job Stream: Trades and Operations

1. What do you DO in your current position? Describe the responsibilities, or a day in your life.

I work with the maintenance contractor to ensure a high level of service to road users. I also respond to public and stakeholder concerns and work to address them accordingly. My work also involves responding to emergencies on our highways.

2. Why did you choose your current position? What was it that interested you in this line of work?

This position is challenging and always changing. My day is never the same and can change in an instant. I also enjoy the opportunity to work both in and out of the office.

3. What do you like most/feels rewarding about your current position?

It's very rewarding to have the ability to make a difference in small communities or areas. Being the "front line staff" during emergency events, such as washouts, is exciting and challenging.

4. What formal or informal education has been important to you?

My Forestry diploma has been unbelievably applicable to my work as an area manager. Having gone through the Area Manager Certificate Program is helpful for the day-to-day work.

5. So far, how does your current position fit into the career path you expected to have?

I did not anticipate finding a career with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to be mentored as a TELP and now be in the position of road area manager.

6. What is your favourite thing about working at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure?

I work with a great group of people who also happen to be very talented and passionate about their jobs.

7. What attracted you to the area you currently reside in/ (i.e. Nelson – Skiing)

I have a beautiful river and lake almost at my doorstep.

8. What type of personal interests do you have? (i.e. Married, kids, single, favourite sports, hobbies, etc.)

I enjoy almost any outdoor activity; hiking, cross-country skiing, boating, paddling. I have bought a house since starting this job which is endless fun.