Skeena District Road Checks See Winter Tire Improvements

Submitted by Nathan Voogd, Roads Area Manager

For many years now, the Skeena District has been partnering with Service Area 26 maintenance contractor Nechako Northcoast Construction, local Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement (CVSE) staff, ICBC and the local RCMP Traffic Services Division, to perform winter tire awareness check stops, in the early part of winter. In the more recent years, the check stops have specifically promoted the Shift into Winter campaign. This winter’s check stops were held on Saturday, Nov. 21, at two locations.

Our group, of around 15 road-safety focused people, first gathered at 9 a.m. on Highway 37, at the Onion Lake chain-off area, roughly halfway between Terrace and Kitimat. It was an overcast day with a little bit of rain, and temperatures of about 5º C. After a short orientation and safety meeting, and setting up traffic control personnel to give vehicles advance warning to slow down, we began stopping traffic at 9:30 a.m. and continued our work until 11 a.m. We then relocated to Highway 16, at the Gossen Subdivision pullout, about 15 kilometres east of Terrace. There we started checking vehicles at 12:30 p.m. and went until 2 p.m.

Our winter check stops are focused on winter tire awareness, and promoting the use of winter tires that have the severe winter conditions rating (otherwise known as the "mountain snowflake" symbol) from the Rubber Association of Canada. We also handed out goodie bags – small DriveBC garbage bags containing our ministry’s winter driving pamphlet, Shift into Winter hockey pucks and some additional items donated by ICBC, including hand warmers and pocket ice scrapers. Maintenance contractor employees also handed out little candy bags with Nechako Northcoast Construction’s 24-hour emergency contact number on a card.

Generally, there is no enforcement at the check stops. However, on occasion, a vehicle without insurance has come through that requires the RCMP to take action. The RCMP still try to avoid issuing tickets if possible, and just require the owner to park the vehicle until they can return with up-to-date insurance papers. The CVSE staff take the opportunity to check over any commercial vehicles passing through, and occasionally they discover an issue that requires immediate action. For them also, the main focus is education and awareness, during these check stops.

This season’s check stops were viewed as a great success by all the agencies involved. At the Highway 37 location, a total of 110 passenger vehicles were stopped and looked over. Of these vehicles, 97 of them were equipped with winter tires bearing the "mountain snowflake" symbol, 12 vehicles had tires with M+S (mud and snow) markings and one vehicle had tires with no winter rating. That driver was advised that the
Editor’s Note

It’s amazing how our five senses, when engaged with a sentiment or event, turn what might be routine, into a rich and memorable experience.

It doesn’t seem to matter whether a person is advising a member of the public about winter tires, or expressing their sincere appreciation to someone who does their job well.

You’ll find some vivid examples of that, in this edition of Road Runner. Hand warmers given out by smiling Skeena District employees and their safety partners, along with a pamphlet about winter driving, deliver a kind, encouraging message to take care. (And may have contributed to the increase in local motorists driving with safer winter tires).

The delicious smell (and taste) of a pancake breakfast, to fundraise (and celebrate) giving to our communities, warms stomachs and hearts. For one employee, walking into her office which was custom-decorated and filled with green balloons by her co-workers, was an unforgettable surprise to mark a big birthday.

And who could ever be ho-hum during an earthquake drill that starts with the shattering sound of an air horn?

There is a lot of information, ideas and feelings all around us to take in. Linking them to the sensory makes all the difference to how we absorb them.

Just think about that, next time you have a brilliantly-hued “Blue Man Santa” drop by your workspace to wish you the best for the season, give you a hug or candy cane, or even sit on your lap!

Nancy McLeod
Editor
tires were not legal to use during the winter season, and that they should be replaced as soon as possible with proper winter tires.

At the Highway 16 location, the results were even better. Of 131 passenger vehicles checked, there were 114 vehicles with winter tires bearing the “mountain snowflake” symbol, and 17 vehicles with M+S rated tires.

In total, more than 87 per cent of all vehicles checked were equipped with “mountain snowflake” tires – the winter tires that provide the best traction on snow and ice, and in cold weather. When we first started performing these check stops in the winter of 2007-2008, the number was in the 60 to 70 per cent range, with many drivers continuing to use M+S rated all-season tires throughout the winter.

We’re all pleased that the number of drivers using the best winter tires for our locale has grown to keep motorists and our highways safer.

The increased use of winter tires suited to Northwest B.C.’s climate and road conditions is a great testament to the effectiveness of the ministry’s communications about winter tires, the Shift into Winter campaign and the excellent working relationship the Skeena District has with local agencies.

... Continued from Page 1

Learning Now and for the Future at Project Management Meeting
Submitted by Tara Jones and Steven Lee, Project Management Technicians

On Oct. 21 and 22, the members of our ministry’s various project delivery groups from across the province gathered in Richmond, for the first time since 2012. The event quickly became an excellent forum to revitalize old relationships and build new friendships, as project teams members have changed from year to year.

For those attending, their familiarity with schedule management was immediately proven valuable, as both days were jam-packed with an abundance of presentations and seminars. These sessions were hosted by a fantastic group of professionals from throughout the transportation and infrastructure industry. This congregation of knowledge from all corners of the province facilitated information sharing and the formation of new connections.

Coordination of the event put the organizing committee’s project management skills to the test, as the scheduled venue was stricken by disaster, just as the meeting agenda was finalized. Renovations were underway at the venue in downtown Vancouver. However, the contractor’s efforts unfortunately went awry, forcing the committee to quickly re-evaluate venue options against the allotted budget. After checking the project risk register, a new venue in Richmond was acquired after a few days of rushed procurement.

Once the day arrived, the outstanding hosts Senior Project Manager Deborah Newby and Partnerships Senior Manager Levi Timmermans took the stage as the master facilitators. Through their guidance and avoidance of excessive scope creep, the event quickly became a great forum for learning new project management technologies, sharing lessons learned and hearing about the future of the discipline.
Learning Now and for the Future at Project Management Meeting

Infrastructure and Major Projects ADM Patrick Livolsi began the gathering with opening remarks and an exciting “BC on the Move” video from BC Road Builders. Throughout the day, participants had the opportunity to choose from multiple breakout sessions. These sessions encouraged the attendees to get up, shuffle around into different rooms and ultimately mingle with their colleagues who are usually based far away.

The participants learned from Senior Project Director Murray Tekano (Southern Interior Region) about the future of project management as it pertains to leading a team in the virtual world. His advice will serve us well, as growing technology perpetually fades the barriers of B.C.’s geography.

All attendees were fortunate to engage with a panel of regional managers of project delivery from the three regions – Kyle Drummond (Northern Region), David Mintak (South Coast Region) and Jennifer Fraser (Southern Interior Region) plus Murray Tekano. Through this Q&A session, everyone was presented with an interesting juxtaposition of our three regions. The similarities and differences in our daily challenges between each region were illuminated by each director’s insights on project delivery.

The final afternoon offered participants a visit to the Evergreen Line rapid transit project site. Project managers from beyond the Lower Mainland learned about the complexities of providing efficient and reliable transit in B.C.’s most populated urban centres.

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### Educational Offerings on Agenda

#### DAY ONE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Presentation/Seminar Topic</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Patrick Livolsi</td>
<td>Executive Opening Remarks</td>
<td>ADM of Infrastructure and Major Projects</td>
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<td>Kevin Gillese</td>
<td>Fundamentals of a Contract, A Promise is a Promise and Performance Bonds</td>
<td>Legal Counsel, Ministry of Justice</td>
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<td>Bill Rose</td>
<td>Risky Business – A Case Study of Chancy Creek Passing</td>
<td>WDR Project Services</td>
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<td>Ross Coates</td>
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<td>Trish Rorison</td>
<td>What is GCPE? And how we can help</td>
<td>Communications Manager, GCPE</td>
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<td>Mark Janzen</td>
<td>Utilities – Manual Update and Protocol Agreements</td>
<td>Senior Project Manager, Utilities</td>
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<td>Murray Tekano</td>
<td>Leading a Project Team in the Virtual World</td>
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<td>Mike Hallas</td>
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<td>Mark Lucas</td>
<td>Integrated Project Services Transformation Initiative</td>
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<td>Heather MacLeod</td>
<td>First Nations – Consultation and Accommodation</td>
<td>Portfolio Lead, Information Management</td>
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<td>Dawn Drummond</td>
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<td>Manager, First Nations Relations</td>
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<td>David Marr</td>
<td>Program Monitoring</td>
<td>Executive Director, Planning and Programming</td>
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<td>Jim Turner</td>
<td>Surveying in the New World</td>
<td>Senior Geomatics Resource Technician</td>
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<td>Brent Davies</td>
<td>Utilities – Tips, Tricks and Tribulations! (With Mark Janzen)</td>
<td>Regional Project Manager</td>
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<td>Ralph English</td>
<td>Value Engineering</td>
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<td>Spencer King</td>
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<td>Rodney Chapman</td>
<td>Tales of Two Projects – Loop Road and Sierra Yoho</td>
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#### DAY TWO

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<td>Ed Miska</td>
<td>Brave New Engineering Department</td>
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<td>Kenna Bilek</td>
<td>Property Fundamentals</td>
<td>Provincial Coordinator, Land Survey and Tenure</td>
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<td>Darren Lincoln</td>
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<td>Vicki Willow</td>
<td>Rapid Fire – Trending Contract Topics</td>
<td>Senior Manager, Corp Procurement</td>
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<td>Judy Kirk</td>
<td>Dealing with Media</td>
<td>Kirk &amp; Co. Consulting Ltd.</td>
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<td>Sophie Mas</td>
<td>Let’s get certified! – Project Management Professional and Certified Associate in Project Management Certification; and Secrets to Effective Stakeholder Management</td>
<td>PMI Instructor, West Coast Chapter</td>
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<td>Kyle Drummond</td>
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<td>Regional Manager, Project Delivery, NR</td>
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<td>Jennifer Fraser</td>
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<td>David Mintak</td>
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<td>Regional Manager, Project Delivery, SCR</td>
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<td>Murray Tekano</td>
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<td>Senior Project Director, Infrastructure, SIR</td>
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<td>Mike Hallas</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Project Management Support Services</td>
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Origins of the Snow Avalanche Program

On Jan. 22, 1974, an avalanche destroyed the North Route Café on Highway 16, 45 kilometres west of Terrace, killing seven people.

The avalanche was spotted by a passing helicopter pilot, and the Provincial Emergency Organization responded. Among those killed were a Highways Department employee, and some members of the family that owned the café. There was one survivor.

An avalanche task force was subsequently formed, which made 18 recommendations. In 1975, B.C.’s Snow Avalanche Program began with our ministry.
EAF Reconnects at Kamloops Forum
Submitted by Krysta Groenewegen van der Weiden, Strategic Human Resources

The Employee Advisory Forum (EAF) held its annual meeting Nov. 24 to 26, in Kamloops.
Approximately 35 members attended and over the course of those three days they took part in professional development, produced more than 60 mini-projects for 2016 and provided more than 65 feedback documents on ministry initiatives.

On day one, the EAF leadership team met to prepare for the coming days and to welcome 12 new EAF members. After their orientation, the new members had an opportunity to contribute to existing EAF projects like I Am Transportation, Inspiration Station and Stress Busters.

Day two was action-packed and began with an Executive perspective from Deputy Minister Grant Main. He took a generous amount of his time to update us on ministry priorities. He also spoke of his support for the EAF and talked about how activities like our twice-annual Temperature Checks allow the EAF to relay important information to Executive from ministry staff throughout our province. (Temperature Checks are short questionnaires administered by EAF members to colleagues in their work units, which track employee opinion. Temperature Check topics in 2015 were change management, supervisory-level management, knowledge transfer and workplace tools.)

Another highlight of day two was a presentation by Peter Prendergast from Emergency Management BC (EMBC.) Peter and his colleague Katie Britton gave us an overview of EMBC's work, its mandate and how it is a natural fit with our ministry. If you would like to know more about EMBC, please get in touch with Peter or Katie.

Our ministry's Jennifer Fraser and Nicole Folk provided us with an interactive learning opportunity through their change management presentation. They shared some valuable information about the three stages of change and provided a model for constructively dealing with change. If you feel these materials could help you navigate change more successfully, please speak with your local EAF representative.

We continued our high-energy theme on our last day. Sandra Toth Nacey, Paula Cousins and Melissa Thickens joined us to provide an overview of the ministry's succession planning priorities and to consult on the activities. EAF members were brought up to speed on these initiatives and were able to provide feedback and input to the succession planning team.

We also took a little time to test one of our 2015 projects – TRAN Jeopardy! This game follows the traditional television “Jeopardy” format but all questions are ministry-related. It's great to play during a staff meeting or special event and it makes you realize how much we do here at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. The game is is available to all ministry employees, and if you would like more details, please contact Patricia Zimmel.

These busy and informative days were a way for EAF members to reconnect to one another, and to the forum’s mission to help improve our ministry's work environment. We look forward to continuing to support our colleagues throughout 2016, and welcome your feedback and ideas.

If you want to find out more about the EAF, please talk to your local EAF representative or contact EAF Chair Kevin Volk or Co-Chair Warren Lemky.

EAF members hard at work at the 2015 full-forum meeting in Kamloops.
MICHELLE EVANS
Manager, Rehabilitation and Maintenance, Southern Interior Region

The Birthday

I had a milestone birthday recently and took the day off. The next day, when I went into work, I discovered my office decorated in great detail.

More than 40 balloons (symbolizing money bags) hung from the ceiling. Each one had something written on it related to my work. Money and decorations were strewn everywhere and there was a big poster on my door.

All of the decorations were thoughtful and specific to me and to the work I do.

There was so much effort put into that office. It was thoughtful and funny and very sweet – and totally unexpected. I felt it was an expression of affection and caring.

I value any effort that someone makes to recognize me.

RYAN TODD, Manager, Systems Services
Corporate and Operational Services, Northern Region

My Sticky Notes

I was having a particularly difficult day during the managed print service roll-out and was clearly frazzled with the often negative) questions and comments from staff regarding the change at the printer and printing procedure. A co-worker put a sticky note on the edge of my monitor that said, “I appreciate all that you do.”

That made me feel really appreciated and instantly lifted my spirits.

To this day, that co-worker and I still place sticky notes in each other’s work spaces to let the other know we are doing a good job. That note of recognition had such a positive impact on me, that I also do it for others at random times.

Ryan Todd likes to give and receive random recognition notes.

We’re looking for stories and photos for the May RoadRunner

Please email them to RoadRunner@gov.bc.ca by April 7
The Information Management, Security and Privacy (IMSP) team will be sharing lessons learned from information security incidents, in upcoming editions of the Road Runner, to increase security awareness, provide helpful tips and tricks and prevent similar future situations in our ministry.

One day, a ministry employee could not locate some special purpose software on his computer. He searched all of his shared drives and his H drive but had no luck in finding the software, which he used infrequently. Then, he typed the name of the software into Google and found it. He clicked on the link to get a copy of the software which appeared to be the same software he had previously used. The results even contained an executable file with the same name as the software. He was rescued!

He knew that this special purpose software was unusual, so he assumed that the Google search result delivered the correct one. He then installed the software.

But, after the installation was complete, his workstation started behaving strangely. Windows popped up on his screen and additional shortcuts appeared on his desktop. Then music started to play...

The employee, realizing there was a problem with his workstation, correctly reported the incident by phoning (250) 387-7000 and choosing option 3. His workstation was infected with malicious software and had to be cleaned. While the incident caused some interruption to the employee’s work, it fortunately did not infect any other workstations.

The employee learned a valuable lesson:

“Don’t trust the software you find on the Internet. Ensure you download software only from known, trusted sources.”

Tips:

Use these web-based tools to check unknown websites and files downloaded from the Internet, to see if there is any indication of malicious content:

- VirusTotal (https://www.virustotal.com/en) can analyze suspicious files and website URLs and help with quick detection of all kinds of malicious software (e.g. those containing viruses, worms, Trojans).
- Websense CyberSecurity Intelligence Center (http://csi.websense.com/) can assess the current state and risk level of a web link or Internet Protocol Address (also known as IP). It displays a report of its finding.
- Trend Micro Site Safety Center (http://global.sitesafety.trendmicro.com/) assigns ratings (i.e., safe, dangerous, suspicious, untested) based on factors such as a website’s age, historical locations, changes and indications of suspicious activities.
- Sucuri Website Malware and Security Scanner (https://sitecheck.sucuri.net/) can also check a website for known malware, blacklisting status, website errors and out-of-date software.

Warning: Please do not upload any internal documents or files to these websites. Use only files or URLs you find on the Internet.

If you have any questions about security, privacy or information management, please contact TRANInformationSecurity@gov.bc.ca.
Great BC ShakeOut Hits the Northern Region Office
Submitted by Danny Arndt, Regional Administration Clerk

We at the Northern Region office took part in the 2015 Great BC ShakeOut and celebrated our success too.

Being new to the ministry, this was my first experience with the annual earthquake drill, which happens each fall. I had never even heard of the ShakeOut before starting here, and I was tasked with running the operation.

It was pretty exciting to my surprise – a fun way for us to practice the drill – but it’s also sorrowful. I say that because when I was looking into some earthquake facts, to share with everyone, I learned quite a bit about just how devastating it really is for people who have gone through such tragic events.

To get the office engaged with the event, I put up posters with photos of demolished homes, buildings and highways. I sent out emails doing the same, trying to tug at the ol’ heartstrings while providing some interesting facts about earthquakes.

The day of the Great BC ShakeOut was quite exciting, to me at least. You see, I get a little, tiny bit excited when there’s a countdown. There I was, watching the clock, ensuring I had my phone’s stop watch ready and a camera at hand, heart racing with anticipation, while keeping the air horn used to signal the start of the “earthquake” just out of my reach (I’m a little trigger happy) until exactly 10:15 a.m. (Yes, it was quite hilarious for a few co-workers to watch me as I sat there, not so patiently.)

The blast of the air horn was a success, and I highly recommend using it for your earthquake drills. First, it is so loud that pretty well the entire office heard it. Second, it is just so much fun to make that thing go off! Wow, all that build up from the countdown and then you get to be the kid with the loud, obnoxious, awesome toy!

I recruited two accomplices to help me photograph as many people as possible while they were taking cover underneath their desks. Not the most flattering position, I’m sure that not everyone would like to be snapped in, but the photos turned out great and you can see giggling smiles on all their faces.

We also had a little game during the ShakeOut. There were envelopes taped under each desk with either a fact about earthquakes or a prize won! Once the time was up, I signaled with – yes, you guessed it – air horn time again!

Afterward, we celebrated our successful drill with a giant piece of cake and some coffee and we handed out the prizes. Prizes of coffee mugs, a small flashlight or a lanyard went to our winners Warren Lemky, James Luo, Sean MacIsaac and Linda-Lee Schell.

I hope everyone enjoyed themselves as much as I did, and I definitely look forward to doing it all again next year!
Rolling out the Red Carpet for 2015 Long Service Awards

Submitted by Susan Paton, Manager of Divisional Operations, Finance and Management Services

Cast your mind back a couple of decades…

Do you remember your first day of work with the BC Public Service? Were you nervous, excited or curious about what to expect? Did you set out your work clothes the night before and leave the house early to make sure you were on time?

You probably wondered what working for one of B.C.’s largest employers would be like. Would there be a lot of forms and rules? What would it be like to contribute to your ministry? And, as one individual, could you really have an impact?

Perhaps at the time, you deliberated about how long you would work for the public service, or maybe life took over and before you realized it you were celebrating the milestones as they flew by: your first anniversary, then your tenth and when you reached your twentieth you wondered, “Where has all the time gone?” Along the way perhaps you had a family, changed jobs, got promoted and watched colleagues come and go. Life happened.

Now 25 years have passed. And again you are looking in the mirror and getting dressed up to celebrate that first day of work, and the approximately 9,000* days that have gone by since, because now you are getting ready for your Long Service Award.

Our ministry employees with 25, 30, 35 and 40 years or more of service had a chance to celebrate last October at a special ministry reception, and a ceremony at Government House. The reception was held prior to the official Long Service Awards ceremony to honour our ministry’s 97 award recipients. The event, which was hosted by Deputy Minister Grant Main, was also attended by Assistant Deputy Ministers Nancy Bain, Deborah Bowman, Lindsay Kislock, Patrick Livolsi and Kevin Richter.

Later that evening, we were joined at the ceremony by Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Todd Stone, who brought his mother as his guest. We also celebrated the milestone career achievements with our colleagues from Advanced Education, Government Communications and Public Engagement and the Legislative Assembly. There was a palpable sense of excitement in the air and it was a meaningful event for all involved.

Congratulations to this year’s Long Service Awards recipients. We hope that you enjoyed your evening of recognition, and that you have taken some time to reflect on your career to see where you started, to where you are now. As career public servants with considerable experience, your contributions have helped build a vibrant public service. Thank you!

* 25 years x 365 days per year = 9,125 days

Sandy Evans (with her mother, Barbara Judson) has worked 35 years in the public service.

Jennifer Snead (accompanied by spouse Greg) has 25 years of service.

Twenty-Five Year Award Recipients

Ken Aura  
David Bachynski  
Daniel Bader  
Jaswinder (Jessie) Bains  
Lisa Canfield  
Brent Case  
Joyce Chang  
Doreen Cook  
Roanna Cruz  
Susan Doddridge  
Ron Domanko  
Tammy Donison-McKay  
Denis Doyle  
David Edgar  
Michelle Evans  
Heidi Evensen  
David Fisher  
Michael Goodhelpsen  
Catherine Grisewood  
Brad Hannah  
Joanne Hipkiss  
Cindy Katchmar  
Debbie Koehl  
Henry Lew  
Heather Libburn  
Terry Merluk  
Kirsten Meyer  
Suzanne Moore  
Janine Muri  
Michael Neill  
Kirsten Pedersen  
Deanna Ramsey  
Randy Rattray  
Dana Richards  
Alan Schmidt  
Jennifer Snead  
Veena Sundher  
Doris Sundquist  
Gina Tober  
Marina Woywitka

Todd Hubner (with his wife, Tracy) spoke at the dinner and was honoured for 30 years of service.

Jennifer Snead (accompanied by spouse Greg) has 25 years of service.

Sandy Evans (with her mother, Barbara Judson) has worked 35 years in the public service.

Jennifer Snead (accompanied by spouse Greg) has 25 years of service.

More on Page 11…
Healthy Workplace Month took place in October 2015 and a variety of events and activities were held to encourage ministry employees to focus on their health and well-being.

Bio-Metrics Clinics

This year, there was an opportunity for employees to attend bio-metrics clinics offered at Headquarters and at the regional offices in Kamloops and Prince George. These clinics provided a basic health screening that assessed blood pressure, fasting plasma glucose, cholesterol ratio, carbon monoxide breath analysis, body mass index measurement and waist measurement.

Participants rotated through each screening station and were provided with an explanation of the results, and at times, given some recommended action to maintain or improve their health. Quit Kits to help with smoking cessation, and pamphlets about resources that support employee health and well-being were also available for people wanting to make a change.

Participants received a record of their results so they could complete their My Good Health profile on CARESnet. The entire screening process took about 20 minutes per person. The information collected at the clinic was confidential, taken away by the participant and not kept by the clinic providers.

Other Healthy Workplace Month activities included:

- **Two Live Meeting Homewood Health** sessions:
  - **Eating Well to Optimize Performance** focused on the prevention and management of stress through balanced meals and snacks.
  - **Managing Your Time and Energy** defined a key premise — that your time, energy and attention dictate your productivity. (Consider all three factors in creating a time and energy management process that works for you.) The session also looked at clarifying priorities and reflecting on strategies to improve personal effectiveness and efficiency.

The Employee Advisory Forum (EAF) also launched two projects to support Healthy Workplace Month: TransAction: Healthy Workplace Challenge and the Living Well: EAF Healthy Recipe Book, featuring dozens of tried and true healthy recipes from your EAF members.

While Healthy Workplace Month provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of healthy living, our ministry’s Living Well at Work wellness program supports this approach throughout the year. We encourage you to investigate the resources and have fun exploring your health!

From banana split smoothies, to 44-clove garlic soup with parmesan, the EAF has some tasty, healthy recipes for you.

- **Two Live Meeting Benefits Buffets** that highlighted the array of benefits available to us as BC Public Service employees. Topics included nutritional counselling, legal advice and family support. (If you were unable to participate, you can access the presentations and handouts on Living Well at Work.)

**Rolling out the Red Carpet for 2015 Long Service Awards… Continued from Page 10**

***Thirty year recipients***

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dawn Beck</th>
<th>Debbie Fritz</th>
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<td>Sheldon Harrington</td>
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<td>Leslie Elder</td>
<td>Todd Hubner</td>
<td>Richard Philbrick</td>
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<td>Chuck Hutchinson</td>
<td>Wayne Ronald</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monica Ferguson</td>
<td>Patricia Jenkins</td>
<td>Grant Smith</td>
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**Thirty-five year recipients**

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<th>Jim Gallagher</th>
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<td>Svein Haugen</td>
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<td>Samuel Lam</td>
<td>Clifford Owen</td>
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<td>David Watling</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Evans</td>
<td>Crystal MacLean</td>
<td>Rod Ralston</td>
<td>Dale Wood</td>
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**Forty year recipients**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Robyn Clifford</th>
<th>Chris Keir</th>
<th>Ivana Mazuch</th>
<th>Ron Sanderson</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jim Hegan</td>
<td>Lynda Lochhead</td>
<td>Brad Rikley</td>
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Celebrating PECSF – 50 Years of Caring For Our Communities
Submitted by Kim Sawatsky, 2015 PECSF Campaign Coordinator

The Provincial Employees Community Services Fund (PECSF) marked its 50th anniversary in 2015, and our ministry aimed high, with a goal to raise $50,000 in honour of the milestone.

From Sept. 29 to Nov. 13, our ministry’s coordinators, canvassers and volunteers joined forces to create fun and exciting ways to raise money and awareness for PECSF. This campaign is an opportunity for us to contribute to our communities and give back to more than 900 organizations that have been there for us and for our families, friends and colleagues when extra support was needed.

With the full support of Executive Sponsor Patrick Livolsi (also known as Infrastructure and Major Projects ADM), and the rest of the Executive team, campaign volunteers stepped up to coordinate a number of events across the province.

Many fantastic events were held within the districts and at regional offices. Employees showed their generosity by holding 50/50 draws, pancake breakfasts and cook-offs involving chili, bread and chicken wings.

Here at Headquarters, our events included:
- a campaign kick-off pancake breakfast served by Executive
- 50/50 draws on Thursdays
- a silent auction
- a shoe, purse, wallet, tie and pie sale
- two bake sales
- a campaign wrap-up soup and sandwich lunch served by Executive

As the campaign progressed, it was exciting (and a little nerve-wracking!) to see us inch closer and closer to our goal. At the halfway mark of the campaign, we had raised $16,000…almost a third of our goal. We were at $28,000 with two weeks to go; and with one week to go, we had raised $42,000. The day before the campaign’s end, we were about $4,000 short, and thanks to a final push and our incredible generosity and team spirit, we achieved our goal.

Our final tally was an impressive $50,139.45!

Rumour has it that this accomplishment may have had a little something to do with a promise that if we met our goal, a member of our Executive team would make an appearance in a Blue Man suit. This commitment was fulfilled during the Executive Open House on Dec. 9, when our mystery “Blue Man Santa” made his rounds at headquarters, handing out congratulations, candy canes and good cheer!

Shoes galore tempted those looking to score a bargain and benefit PECSF.

None of our success would have been possible without the help of a dedicated army of volunteers, and a special mention is due to everyone who took the time to bake, cook or provide services and items for the various events.

Congratulations to all ministry staff on a job well done and thank you again so much for your support. You have once again made a profound difference in your communities!

More on Page 13…
Celebrating PECSF – 50 Years of Caring For Our Communities... Continued from Page 12

PECSF 2015 Executive Sponsor Patrick Livolsi

Ian Pilkington is congratulated by “Blue Man Santa” on a job well done. Lisa Gow and Finance and Management Services ADM Nancy Bain hand out a healthy start to the day.

PECSF 2015 Executive Sponsor Patrick Livolsi

Peace Puts on Pink Moustaches to Show Support
Submitted by Hali Davenport, District Program Manager

Peace District Development Approvals staff showed their Movember support, for prostate and testicular cancer research, in November. Not able to grow thick moustaches of their own, they went with the more feminine version in pink cardboard.

Nicole Hansen, Hali Davenport, Nikki Hogg, Melissa Nitz and Cailey Brown (kneeling)

Employee Advisory Forum’s 2016 Recognition Calendar

The Employee Advisory Forum’s (EAF) 2016 Recognition Calendar is now available in electronic format. You can print March’s calendar page or download the full 2016 calendar by clicking on the title above and accessing the EAF page on TRANnet. It will also be posted monthly on your local EAF Bulletin Boards. The EAF Recognition Calendar is a way to share and showcase successes and celebrate our diversity. Thank you to everyone who contributed photos!

Employee Advisory Forum’s 2016 Recognition Calendar

Easter basket draw winner – Cariboo District SIR: Lynn Ann Cheverie

Office visit Williams Lake SIR: Sandra Wagner and new baby Ethan

Lumby subdivision inspections – SIR: Audrie Henry, Desiree Lantenhammer

Square dance class – CVSE HQ: Nancy Fairs-Natland, Jackie Hucal

Nicole Hansen, Hali Davenport, Nikki Hogg, Melissa Nitz and Cailey Brown (kneeling)
Welcome to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – home of the acronym. (Before I get too far, have you ever used this site Wikilumia GovSpeak?)

To decipher the title of this article, our 2015 EIT/GIT AGM was the Engineer and Geoscientist in Training Annual General Meeting, held on Nov. 17 and 18, in Richmond. The event is put on by the ministry for current engineers in training (EITs) and Geoscientists in Training (GITs), mentors and special guests.

More than 40 attendees participated in the two days of presentations, networking and career development. This year’s AGM Planning Committee was led by Krysta Groenewegen van der Weiden, and supported by John Babineau, Alexandra McGladrey, Michelle Li and Christine Laforce. These individuals were key in bringing together the best AGM in recent memory.

Day one kicked off with opening remarks delivered by Highways Executive Director Norm Parkes. In his presentation, Norm stressed to new ministry engineers the importance of developing connections and taking chances with their careers. The ministry is full of exciting future opportunities.

The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia presented this year on the new Members in Training program which the ministry is piloting, to improve the application process for newly-minted professional engineers. New Executive Director of Engineering Services Ed Miska gave a welcome update on recent restructuring which has seen engineering services move toward a provincial model and away from the existing regional structure. “Engineering is a thoughtful process” says Ed, requiring a strong and unified group to address the many projects our ministry delivers.

New to this year’s AGM, was a presentation from our two geoscientists in training, Alexandra McGladrey and Ragan Danford. Speaking on Northern Region aggregate sourcing and metal leaching/acid rock drainage, they presented a sometimes overlooked aspect of our work; the science of the earth.

Mike Oliver and Joost Meyboom brought the crowd up to speed on the George Massey Tunnel Replacement. We hope to see them back next year for another update on the design. Director of Rehabilitation and Maintenance Rodrigo Disegni closed out the day with a discussion about the Roadway Pavement Management System, a database used to compile provincial road surface condition surveys and determine road rehabilitation scheduling. This function of the Construction and Maintenance Branch was new to many of the attendees.

Day two started with a presentation by John Babineau, on the variable speed limit systems being installed on three corridors in the province. This is an intelligent transportation system solution aimed at reducing severe weather-related collisions. Attendees then broke into two groups – EIT/GITs participated in a closed-door session, while mentors received time management tools from Randeep Tut of Strategic Human Resources. Chief Engineer Dirk Nyland closed the AGM with an update on engineering adaptation to climate change. B.C. has become a leader in the development of design guidelines to address climate change impacts to our infrastructure. Dirk will be making additional presentations on this topic at regional offices, in the future.

It’s been very beneficial that we have been able to maintain these annual gatherings of our senior leaders, engineers, and new engineers and geoscientists. It has always been and will continue to be a great opportunity for learning, and to grow and build strong connections within our ministry.
Back to the Future in Kamloops
Submitted by Jeff Knight, Business Management Services Regional Manager

Would Oct. 21, 2015 turn out like the film predicted?
That was the date in “Back to the Future Part II” where Marty McFly and his girlfriend, Jennifer Parker, came back to the future with Dr. Emmett “Doc” Brown in his flying DeLorean time machine, to help their future children. Fans of the “Back to the Future” movie trilogy always wondered if any of the representations of 2015, such as flying cars, hovering skateboards, self-tying shoes and the Chicago Cubs winning the World Series would turn out to be true.

Staff in the Southern Interior Region office celebrated the day when “Back to the Future” became the present by dressing up as characters from the trilogy, as well as from 1980s television shows. Chad Dalpre was chosen as the winner of best costume by the judging panel, for his characterization of Dr. Emmett Brown.

Elf Adventures in the Peace Office
Submitted by Hali Davenport, District Program Manager

The Peace District had a playful visitor who stayed throughout the month of December, at its office in Fort St. John.

A plusher and less creepy version of the popular Elf on the Shelf hung out with us! The Elf was sent to keep an eye on the employees and report their naughty or nice behaviour back to the big jolly man in red. But he sure was mischievous himself!

Some contentious, especially small “p” politics put our impish visitor in a difficult spot for a spell.

Elf couldn’t resist pulling the old high school toilet paper prank.

A caffeine overdose?

Overseeing road construction alongside the Peace District Christmas tree.

Ron Sharp, Chad Dalpre, Laura Benson, Pam Grosjean, Dave Retzer and Debbie Koehl.

Elphad fun making photocopier selfies.

Trevor Demerse, Chad Dalpre, Dave Retzer, Debbie Koehl and Pam Grosjean.