



Produced by the BC Road Builders
& Heavy Construction Association
for its members and industry partners

The Voice

FALL 2021



Upcoming Events

AGM & HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS
Fairmont Empress, Victoria
December 2 – 4, 2021

MEET IN MAUI
Wailea Beach Marriott Resort
February 2 – 6, 2022

Subject to Public Health Office Orders

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Betty Spalton was an industry and Association leader who made important contributions to our sector, and in her honour the *Betty Spalton Scholarship* was established to provide financial support to future members of the industry in obtaining an education in fields associated with the road building and heavy construction industry.

About Betty Spalton



The fund honours Betty Spalton, a respected and memorable leader in highway maintenance in BC. She began her career with the Ministry of Transportation and Highways, served as District Highways Manager in McBride and eventually became president of the Okanagan South (Penticton) Division of Argo Road Maintenance.

As a member of the BC Road Builders' Board of Directors, she headed the maintenance sector and was an acknowledged expert in construction, maintenance policy, standards, and business management.

Ms. Spalton's outstanding contribution to the Association and the industry is an inspiration to many.

This year the Betty Spalton Scholarship was awarded to 21-year-old UBC Okanagan student Siera Zandvliet and 22-year-old UBC student Emily Shibata. Learn more about them in their Q&As below!



Siera Zandvliet

AWARD RECIPIENT Q&A WITH SIERA ZANDVLIET

How did you hear about the Betty Spalton Scholarship?

Siera: I was told about the scholarship by the company I was working for at the time, Emil Anderson Construction.

What sparked your interest to pursue a career in road building and heavy construction?

Siera: I am especially interested in bridge and structure building for highways and infrastructure. I think that bridges and structures have so much potential for improvements in efficiency of service for the public, and the more intricate design and construction is intriguing to me. I like the challenge that is posed with larger bridge and structure construction.

What was it like to find out you had been awarded the Betty Spalton scholarship?

Siera: It was such an exciting time; it was my first time since graduating high school to receive a scholarship, so I was ecstatic. I received the email while I was at work, and I immediately shared the news with my mentor.

Do you have a favourite BC highway, road or bridge?

Siera: My favourite stretch of Highway is the Trans Canada 1 between Revelstoke and Golden, BC. I worked there for two of my co-op work terms on a brake check expansion and 4-laning at the Illecillewaet Brake Check. This was my first introduction to road building, and it was such an amazing experience to be a part of building a lasting and useful piece of infrastructure. I think it will always be a special place for me because it was where I started my career.



The Trans-Canada near Revelstoke

AWARD RECIPIENT Q&A WITH EMILY SHIBATA

What program of study are you pursuing?

Emily: I'm working towards my Bachelor of Applied Science in the department of Civil Engineering, with a focus on sustainability and transportation.

What inspired you to pursue a career in road building and heavy construction?

Emily: My strong interest in road building and transportation developed during my four co-op terms with McElhanney's Traffic and Road Safety division. As I learned more about the industry, I became increasingly aware of the environmental impacts of paving over the planet. The climate crisis is one of our generation's greatest challenges, and I am committed to playing my part; my goal is to develop innovative construction solutions to keep the world moving while ensuring the Earth thrives for generations to come.

What was it like to find out you had been awarded the Betty Spalton scholarship?

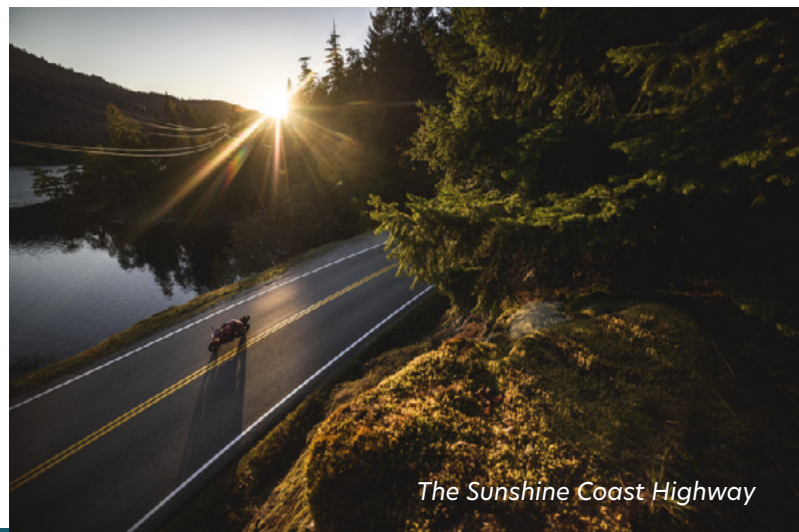
Emily: Finding out I was selected was both very exciting and a big relief. Not only is it a huge honour, but it also provides financial relief as COVID-19 has placed a strain on my family's resources.

Emily Shibata



Do you have a favourite BC highway, road or bridge?

Emily: My favourite highway would have to be the Sunshine Coast Highway, as it leads to our family home in Sechelt. My mum's efforts in creating this space has shown me the meaning of perseverance and overcoming adversity. Our Sechelt home, and by association the Sunshine Coast Highway, represents all that I admire about her. That said, this highway quickly becomes my least favourite when I'm running late for the ferry back to Vancouver...



The Sunshine Coast Highway

IN THIS TOGETHER ROAD BUILDERS HELP FIGHT BC WILDFIRES

BC suffered its third highest wildfire season on record in 2021, and we are proud to say our members rolled up their sleeves and helped wildfire-affected communities throughout the season.

According to BC Wildfire Service statistics the wildfire area this year was also more than twice the 10-year average. More than half of the area was in the Kamloops fire district, with the Cariboo and Prince George regions second and third in area affected, burning an area of 8,680 square kilometres – around three times the size of Metro Vancouver. BCRB Members Emcon Services, YRB Nicola, Emil Anderson, Kiewit, and Argo Roads all pitched in to support emergency services and firefighters with water trucks, fuel and supplies.

Our members were on the ground helping the communities they serve and live in throughout the wildfires.



YRB Nicola donated a water truck in the Nicola Valley/Merritt area in the fight against the wildfire in July.

“ We provided firefighters and emergency services with fuel from our yard in Lytton while they were fighting the fire at a time when all the power was out, and there were no other fuel sources nearby. When our yard was out of power, our mechanical super managed to macgyver in a generator and a gaspump to keep the pumps going for the emergency services and crews. ”

— Dave Duncan, YRB



“ YRB Nicola left us speechless when they showed up with a water truck last night and left it here for our use. From the bottom of my heart, I can't thank you enough. ”

— Rhonda Macdonald



EMIL ANDERSON

Emil Anderson worked with staff from Spuzzum First Nation and other volunteers, and they also delivered supplies from the distribution centre at Tuckkwiowhum Longhouse in Boston Bar, including water, groceries, pet and livestock supplies in July. Emil Anderson donated and delivered much needed fuel for generators, propane, and cooler bags full of fresh produce to Lytton residents recently impacted by the wildfire.



It is actions like this that make us proud of our industry and our contributions to the communities we serve.

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Emcon Services supported firefighters and emergency services in Merritt and Golden BC over the wildfire season in August.

Responding to a call from the BC Fire Commissioner's office in need of a fuel tank, Simon Rizzardo, Manager of Emcon's Salmon Arm Crushing/Heavy Haul Division, transported a large fuel tank to Spences Bridge.

"When the fires started, there was no power in the area to allow the fire trucks to fill up. Some trucks ran so low on fuel they couldn't get back to Spences Bridge, so the first day I transported gas and diesel to Lytton to the fire crews for three trips," said Simon.

Filling the fuel tank with help from their local suppliers, this allowed fire trucks to return and refuel each night.

"I talked to our local fire chief for Merritt and told him we had one of our water trucks available in the area if they needed help. He was able to put me in contact with the BC Wildfire Service. Our tri-drive truck was called out over the entire summer for the fires in the July Mountain and Brookmere areas. We helped set up and fill bladders for ground fighting crews. It's really rewarding to make sure the water keeps coming," said Simon.

In total, Emcon had five employees in the truck over the summer to keep it running full time.



"I was personally out on the front lines with the water truck filling bladders to help save houses till almost midnight on the worst night the fire jumped the Coquihalla Highway. There was nothing we could do other than make sure we were safe and sprinklers had enough water in the bladders to be started and run before getting forced out. I have never been that close or heard the roar of that much fire."

The truck has been returned to regular duties in Revelstoke, with crews getting ready to brine highways in preparation for winter storms. Emcon plans on having a truck based in Merritt again next year and may even expand that to multiple trucks depending on the fire season.

IN THIS TOGETHER ROAD BUILDERS HELP FIGHT BC WILDFIRES



Emcon Services supporting firefighters and emergency services in Merritt, BC in August 2021.



Established in 1986, over the last 30 years MacKay Contracting has grown from a single loader in the Rockies to a company with over 200 employees across Western Canada—from Cranbrook to Calgary.

“We’ve worked as far west as Vancouver Island and as far east as Fort MacMurray,” says President and CEO Robert MacKay. “At the moment we’re doing a lot of municipal work. We just finished completing the services for the largest development that Cranbrook has ever seen at 300 units, and we partnered with a local paving company to create the road in front of the development. We also recently finished a subdivision in Kimberley, and we’re working on a commercial and residential project in Kimberley as well.”

MacKay has successfully completed a wide variety of civil construction and transportation projects over the years, including airport runways (where working within the tight tolerances required on a runway for a Boeing 767 is required), a major railway line, and a National Highway with a daily average of 25,000 vehicles. Earlier this year MacKay also contributed to the massive Kicking Horse Canyon project, with the company’s crews performing clearing and grubbing.

“Our three projects on the Trans-Canada were pretty impressive. We did the Ford Station four-laning,” says Rob about milestone projects for MacKay. “We’re proud of the Illecillewaet curve safety project and Beaver Valley—I always said I wanted to work on the Trans-Canada at some point in my career and we’ve now managed to do that three times.”

In addition to transportation and infrastructure, MacKay also specializes in mine services, energy sector services, and most recently environmental remediation projects. MacKay’s Mount Michael access road and bench construction project in Sparwood is an example of serving both the mining sector and the road building industry.

“We’re heavily involved in mining, and it’s kind of neat that we get to build roads that support the industries we work in, and where we live.”

To learn more about MacKay Contracting visit <https://www.mackaycontracting.com/>



Rob MacKay, President & CEO,
MacKay Contracting



Hwy 1: Donald to Forde Station Lining



Alaska Highway No. 97 Mile 63 Passing Lane



Illecillewaet Curve Safety Improvements

SUNNY DAYS AHEAD MEET IN MAUI 2022

The BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association is once again looking forward to offering members a break from the cold winter months this upcoming February. BCRB is planning a return to Wailea Beach Resort in Maui for the upcoming Meet In Maui 2022 Conference, February 6-10, 2022 after a two-year hiatus.

At the last (pre-COVID) Maui conference in February 2020, members enjoyed an unforgettable experience and the opportunity to network with road builders from the Western Region of Canada. Maui 2022 delegates may expect to enjoy a variety of fun island activities and industry development opportunities, just like last time.

See you at the beach!

Visit <https://meetinmaui.com/> to register and for details about the event.

Register Now!

Meet in Maui February 6 – 10, 2022
Wailea Beach Marriott Resort MAUI, HAWAII

Visit meetinmaui.com to register today!





Did you know that winter driving can more than double the risk of being in a motor vehicle crash in BC?

The 13th annual **Shift into Winter** campaign starts on October 1 to remind all employers and drivers of the urgent need to prepare and plan ahead for winter driving.

The Winter Driving Safety Alliance is counting on BC Roadbuilder members to help spread the word. Your continued partnership in improving winter driving safety across the province can help save lives.

We've made it easy for you to share our message with your audiences throughout the campaign, which runs through March 31.

1. **Use the marketing resources in the Shift into Winter campaign resource kit.** You'll find social media messages, images, posters, email signatures, and newsletter/website copy. You can customize all of them.
2. **Consider purchasing Shift into Winter ads, customized with your logo, in local media.** We can add your logo at no cost. Just email a high-resolution eps, ai, tiff or jpeg file of your logo to anita.deiter@roadsafetyatwork.ca. We'll send you back the finished version.
3. **Promote our free online driving safety tools.** We have a lot of them. Here are a few to get started:

- **NEW Keeping Your Employees Safe During Winter Driving webinar**
NOVEMBER 25 2021

In just one hour participants will learn all about the tools we offer to employers to help plan, implement, and monitor a winter driving safety program. There's no charge but pre-registration is required.

- **Winter Driving Safety for Employers and Supervisors** course on demand

It covers everything you need to know to develop and implement a winter driving safety program within your organization. Everyone who completes the course and exit survey by December 15 gets entered into a draw for a set of winter tires courtesy of Kal Tire (value up to \$1,000).

- **Practical BC Winter Driving Tips webinar** for employees on demand

It's one hour of relevant advice on dealing with winter driving conditions such as snow, rain, fog, and fewer daylight hours. It'll help drivers prepare themselves and their vehicles for the change in season.

Got questions?

Campaign manager Anita Deiter will be happy to help.

Contact her at **604-786-9566** or anita.deiter@roadsafetyatwork.ca



BC ROAD BUILDERS
& HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION



EVENT REGISTRATION

November 5:

Conflict Resolution: Getting Along in the Workplace:

<https://bcroadbuilders.simplesignup.ca/8608>

November 8:

Effective Construction Meetings & Meeting Minutes (Live Online Training)

<https://bcroadbuilders.simplesignup.ca/en/9238/index.php?m=eventSummary>

November 8 – 10:

Proposal Pursuit -Strategies for Success! (Live Online Training)

<https://bcroadbuilders.simplesignup.ca/en/9639/index.php?m=eventSummary>

November 9:

CCA Subcontracts 101 (Live Online Training):

<https://bcroadbuilders.simplesignup.ca/en/9575/index.php?m=eventSummary>

November 10:

Microsoft Excel Basics for Business: <https://bcroadbuilders.simplesignup.ca/9812>

November 15 – 18:

Construction Project Management (Live Online Training):

<https://bcroadbuilders.simplesignup.ca/en/9209/index.php?m=eventSummary>

November 16:

Difficult Conversations in the Workplace (Live Online Training)

<https://bcroadbuilders.simplesignup.ca/en/7430/index.php?m=eventSummary>

November 16 – 17:

Effective Management Skills:

<https://bcroadbuilders.simplesignup.ca/en/7545/index.php?m=eventSummary>

November 24:

Maintenance and Rehabilitation of Highway and Municipal Pavements:

<https://bcroadbuilders.simplesignup.ca/9215>

Visit www.trainingnetwork.ca/bcrb to see all upcoming courses for road builders.



In his impressive 46-year-long career in paving and contracting, BCRB Chair Paul Simpson has earned a reputation as a dedicated and passionate member of the road building industry in British Columbia.

Entering the industry in 1975 at Columbia Bitulithic Ltd, a founding member of the Association, Paul has worked for BCRB members for the span of his career. "I couldn't get into the program I wanted at BCIT so my friend's dad, who worked at Columbia Bitulithic, suggested 'why don't you come weigh trucks for the summer.' It turned out to be a great fit for me."

Notable accomplishments in his long career include stewarding completion of an extensive award winning gravel pit reclamation and stream relocation, working alongside environmental groups and municipal politicians to protect the endangered Nooksack Dace and Salish Sucker and providing leadership during Columbia's Bitulithic's change in ownership from the Warren Group to Lafarge.

Currently VP Corporate Relations at Hall Constructors, Paul became an active member of the Association in 2001 on the MoTI/BCRB Joint Paving Committee, and has held a place on the Board or Committee ever since. He believes the next big opportunities for the Association will be in encouraging diversity, in both the membership and Board of Directors, along with a focus on climate change and Indigenous relations.

This past year has seen many industries re-inventing the way they operate, with BCRB successfully advocating for road builders and construction to be designated an essential service.

"We implemented office and on-site COVID related safety protocols and participated in government/industry update meetings," says Paul.

"When major work was shut down, at YVR for example, all employees were utilized on other job sites and minimal layoffs occurred." According to Paul, long-term benefits of the pandemic will include an increased awareness of a stable career in construction. "With a massive infrastructure plan for roads, ports, Metro Vancouver utilities, rapid transit, LNG and hospitals combined with private sector investor confidence the future of our industry looks bright."

Respectful relationships with stakeholders are at the core of the Association's success and a source of pride as Chair, says Paul. "During my time as the BC Board of Director of the Canadian Technical Asphalt Association, at annual conferences across Canada I became aware of how unique and valuable BCRB's stakeholder relationships are in comparison to many jurisdictions."

One of the key partner relationships that Paul points to is with the Ministry of Transportation and In. "I've always felt that the BCRB had a sense of family; however, after working on joint committees with MoTI over the years and having the privilege of attending some MoTI retirement celebrations (and sadly some funerals) I know MoTI is also a big family and we are all very proud of our contributions to British Columbia. I am very hopeful we will continue to enjoy our productive relationship and find it quite the coincidence that my eldest son has married into an MoTI family and my niece is engaged to do the same!"

Establishing the committee and navigating goals for the first year of the Indigenous Engagement and Relations Committee during the COVID-19 pandemic presented difficulties; however, the Association managed to meaningfully identify challenges facing our industry surrounding reconciliation, forming plans of action and meeting with key stakeholders to address them.

In the last six months, the Committee has committed to learning about the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and how to use it as a framework to serve and include the many Indigenous groups throughout our province in regards to the industry.

Government

The committee recognizes that before we can start taking action to move forward we must first learn how stakeholders are addressing their commitment to reconciliation. Meeting with high level Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure representatives, and with key stakeholders like the Port of Vancouver, Translink, and BC Hydro, the Committee related our stance that the Ministry should take a leadership role to create consistency in the approach to First Nations procurement throughout all government led stakeholders.

First Nations

In addition to meeting with government stakeholders, we have also met with leaders from various First Nations throughout the province. First Nation representatives we communicated with agreed that the current process is flawed, for example the time between consultation of a project and the execution of the project is not long enough to build relationships with potential bidders, and some nations do not have the same resources as others.

Although reconciliation is the responsibility of all, and BCRB&HCA are leaders in Indigenous engagement, the committee advocates that our government show increased leadership and provide clarity and fairness for all nations and contractors alike.



Worker at Tahltan Nation Development Corporation, Dease Lake

BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association

Presents **'Purpose Presentation'**

November 5, 2021, 2 – 4 pm

Anona Fawn Kampe
Penticton Indian Band



BCRB presents 'Purpose Presentation,' presented by Anona Fawn Kampe

MEETING WITH MINISTER FLEMING AND ADM KRISHNA

On October 5th, 2021 the BC Road Builders executive committee met with Premier Horgan and Minister Fleming to discuss the state of the industry. Topics discussed included: Covid-19, labour opportunities/challenges, major projects, climate change, and Indigenous engagement.



↑ From left to right: Kelly Scott, Paul Simpson, Premier Horgan, Minister Fleming, Sandi Paulson, Rob Hasell, Matt Pitcairn



SAVE THE DATE BCRB 55TH AGM AND HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

It's back – our AGM and Holiday Celebrations are here to kick off the season! BC Road Builders and Heavy Construction Association is hosting its 55th Annual General Meeting & Holiday Celebrations in Victoria at the beautiful Fairmont Empress Hotel and Victoria Conference Centre from December 2-4, 2021.

The Association is please to once again host:

- The Leaders' Luncheon
- The Contractors Awards Luncheon – the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's opportunity to recognize our industry's leaders in project delivery, safety and community service.
- The Grand Reception
- The Jingle Bell Ball

These events provide great opportunities to mix and mingle with colleagues, industry partners and stakeholders, and we can't wait to see you there to celebrate the season together. Your presence is the present!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in sponsoring please contact our conference team at events@roadbuilders.bc.ca or 604 952-5507. We are excited to partner with you and ensure that your sponsorship is customized to meet your goals and objectives.

The conference will follow all current guidelines as outlined by the Provincial Health Officer at the time of the event. Guidelines and recommendations will be updated as new information is provided. If the conference cannot proceed we will be issuing full refunds on all registrations.

