

Outstanding Public Works Employee Award – Nomination

Name: David Best

Agency / Organization: City of Penticton

616 Okanagan Ave E, Penticton , BC, V2A 3K6

Phone: 250-490-2500

Email: david.best@penticton.ca

Nominating Individual – Len Robson, Public Works Manager, City of Penticton

Employment History:

Involved in many aspects of the Public Works Industry – Labourer, Equipment Operator, Senior Pipe Layer, Meters – Dams – Irrigation Foreman, Utilities Supervisor. David literally started at the entry level labourer and is now working as the Utility Supervisor for Public Works Department.

In 2000 David commenced his career in Public Works as a labourer quickly advancing to the position of Works Maintenance II. His ability to operate any piece of equipment proficiently resulted his next promotion of Equipment Operator III operating Backhoes, Dump Trucks, Snow and Ice Control Equipment, Loaders and the Grader.

After mastering these aspects of Public Works David set his sights on the Underground Utilities aspects of Penticton's Public Works Department. David was promoted to Sr. Pipelayer and has worked his way to achieving an EOCP Level III Water Distribution Certification as well as a Level II Waste Water Collection Certification.

David's EOCP certifications drive and leadership abilities resulted in David's next promotion to the supervisory role of Foreman – Meters, Dams, and Irrigation. In this position David excelled in developing his crew, new systems, and safety of the crew. David's natural leadership ability became very evident during his time in this position.

More recently David was awarded the newly created Utilities Supervisor position with the City of Penticton. During David's short time in management he has excelled in the position and is well respected by Penticton's Management Team and the Utilities Department he leads.

Membership and Participation in Organizations:

- BCWWA
- EOCP – WDIII & WWC II
- Canadian Dam Association
- PWA – Conference Participant if not already will be a member in 2019/20

Example of David's Initiatives – Occurred Literally as I was submitting the nomination.

Len,

As we discussed earlier, see the attached photo of Brandon. Brandon was the young man with autism I told you about who loves everything to do with fire hydrants and fighting fires. When I was contacted by one of his care givers regarding his fascination, I couldn't help but get the guys to repurpose a recently removed Clow hydrant. B&L Machine shop was nice enough to donate the material and time for the base we mounted it to. After delivery, the guys said Brandon was elated and already mock fighting a fire on the play house in the back yard. I received a thank you card from Brandon as well as a thank you email from his care takers. Good way to start a Wednesday and the crew was excited to have been involved.

Thanks

Dave Best, Utilities Supervisor

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August 13, 2019

Nomination Committee of the Public Works Association of BC

Re: Letter of Endorsement for David Best - Award of Outstanding Public Works Employee

Dear Nomination Committee:

I have had the pleasure of supervising David for the past 19 years. It is an absolute honour to nominate him for the Award of Outstanding Public Works Employee.

He is truly one of those rare exceptional individuals that has started at the entry level Public Works position of Labourer and progressed his way to his current exempt position of Utilities Supervisor. Excelling at all of the various promotions he has earned along the way.

David's natural mechanical aptitude, equipment operating abilities, solid work ethics and drive to achieve more, resulted in a steady progression of positions from Labourer, Works Maintenance II and Equipment Operator III. Through the support of his employer and a significant amount of initiative and effort of his own David has attained his EOCP Certification of WD III and WWC II which resulted in David excelling in the positions of Sr. Pipelayer and Foreman – Meters, Dams, and Irrigation leading him to his current position of Utilities Supervisor.

David mentors our employees that wish to follow his path of success in Public Works through assisting them find related courses, educational opportunities and offering coaching as required.

David's understanding of all of the Public Works operations, people skills, and leadership abilities make David a key asset of our Public Works Team.

Sincerely,

Len Robson, ASCT
Public Works Manager



August 14, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT DAVID BEST

I am proud to provide this letter of endorsement for David Best, City of Penticton Public Works Utility Supervisor, as part of the nomination package for the Public Works Association of BC Outstanding Public Works Employee Award.

My position at the City of Penticton is that of General Manager of Infrastructure and one of my areas of responsibility is the Public Works Department. Over the course of the last four years, I have had the fortunate opportunity to work closely with David Best in his role as Foreman Meters and Dams and more recently in his role as Works Utility Supervisor. David's leadership abilities, technical skills and professional dedication to his areas of responsibility were recognized early in his career and he quickly moved up the ranks. David is now a valued member of the Leadership Team at the City of Penticton.

David takes his certification responsibilities as an EOCP Level III Water Distribution and Level II Waste Water Collection operator seriously. David has taken steps to improve efficiencies and ensure that the job is being done right. David empowers his staff and ensures that they have the tools and education to do the job safely and properly. David also has a professional and tactful approach when dealing with staff and the public.

David is one of Penticton's stars and he has a bright future with our organization. David is truly an outstanding Public Works Employee and I whole-heartedly support him for the Public Works Association of BC Outstanding Public Works Employee Award.

Respectfully yours,

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PENTICTON

Mitch Moroziuk, P.Eng., MBA
General Manager of Infrastructure

August 14, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

Re: Letter of Endorsement Regarding David Best,

This letter is to highlight the many qualities David brings to work and shares with his colleagues. David has shown in many ways the ability, desire and leadership skills to be an individual that his colleagues and The City of Penticton can rely on. David is extremely organized and his knowledge of the city's infrastructure is astounding, his attention to detail results in meticulous and accurate work, the thoughtfulness and respect David brings to work help create an environment that is productive and fun to be a part of. David's strong interpersonal skills and open honest communication have allowed him to develop a strong working relationship with his colleagues and his fellow managers as he embraces his new role of Utilities Supervisor.

Over the many years of public service David has proven to be someone you can count on in times of crisis and times of celebration. David has a passion for knowledge and isn't afraid to help and share his learning with fellow workers thus creating a diverse and talented workforce.

I personally have benefited from David's mentoring skills. I was the successful candidate to replace David in his past role of Foreman – Irrigation, Dams & Meters with the City of Penticton. David has worked endlessly to prepare me for the job ahead while also embracing his current role as Utilities Supervisor. David has always found the time to answer my questions and never misses an opportunity to test me along the way. David's presence at the City of Penticton was the deciding factor in my decision to apply for his past role. This speaks volumes about the respect David has from his colleagues.

It is with great privilege that I write this letter endorsing David and his accomplishments. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely



Derek Phillips, Foreman – Meters, Dams, Irrigation

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To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that David Best is being nominated for outstanding Public Works employee of the year. I would like to fully support his nomination and am happy he is being recognized as a valued employee. I have been the Public Works Utility Foreman for the last thirty-two (32) years for The City of Penticton and Dave has worked for me for many of these years.

Dave started off working in the ditch where he learned the trade of Utility installation and progressed his way to becoming an equipment operator for the City. His ability to strive to try new position and learn the overall aspect of the department has proven him to be an all-around team player and a leader. He has been a rock solid employee and this shows in him by now becoming the Utility Supervisor for the City of Penticton; Management.

Dave has worked his way from an entry level position to the front office and has earned the respect of his fellow employees.

Best Wishes to Dave!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron Johnson", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Ron Johnson
Utility Foreman
City of Penticton