

PWABC Emerging Leader Award

Amber McKinnon
Horticulture Foreman
Corporation of Delta
4500 Clarence Taylor Crescent
Delta, BC
V4K 3E2

Amber has been involved in Public Works since 2006, when she started working with the Corporation of Delta as a Parks summer co-op student, while attending Kwantlen Polytechnic University. Upon completion of her Horticultural Technician Diploma in 2007, she continued with Delta as a Trades Gardener, while taking additional night school courses to further her education.

In 2014, Amber was promoted to Horticulture Foreman, which has allowed her to use her leadership skills and her varied horticultural experience to successfully lead and mentor staff in their work. Having performed the tasks herself, Amber has the ability relate and apply her firsthand experience to address the issues or concerns of her staff.

Amber continues to take courses to further her education and expand her knowledge. Examples of recent courses she has completed include:

- BCMSA Supervisors Safety Certificate;
- PWABC Certified Public Works Supervisor Program (Level 1);
- VCC Leadership Certificate Program; and
- Incident Command Systems 100 – 400.

Amber has been participating in the PWABC Emerging Leaders Group, attending meetings and networking with peers from various municipalities throughout Metro Vancouver.

Amber has gained the respect of her peers through her hard work and dedication to her chosen profession. She is passionate about her career, and this is reflected in the quality of work she performs on a daily basis.

Outside of work, Amber volunteers at the Delta Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Store, helping to sort through the many donations the store receives from the public, with proceeds from this work benefitting the Delta Hospital. Amber has volunteered weekly with the Hospital Auxiliary for the past 10 years, and enjoys her time, while making a positive difference in her community.

Summary of Education/ Training:

- Diploma in Horticulture Technology, Kwantlen University College (Spring 2007)
- Certified Arborist (International Society of Arboriculture)
- Pesticide Applicators Certificate, BC Ministry of Environment
- VCC Leadership Certificate Program (Spring 2016- Spring 2017)
- BCMSA Supervisors Safety Certificate
- PWABC Certified Public Works Supervisor Program Level 1 (Nov 2014)
- PWABC Operations Day Seminar at COS (April 2017)

- Intro to Public Works, Organizational Behavior, and Supervisory Skills & Leadership 1- People Skills, (BCIT)
- Incident Command Systems training (Justice Institute of BC)
 - ICS 100 & 200 (Oct 2014)
 - ICS 300 (June 2015)
 - ICS 400 (Oct 2016)
- 2 day Emergency Operations Center Training (Jan 2017)
- (Internal) Snow & Ice Theory Training (Dec 2016)
- (Internal) 2 day Critical Incident Response Training (Jan 2017)
- (Internal) Public Relations Leadership course (April 2017)