



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

The Voice

SUMMER 2022

Upcoming Events

Fall Conference – September 18–20, 2022 at the Delta by Marriott Grand Okanagan Resort

December AGM – December 1-3, 2022 at the Fairmont Empress in Victoria BC. Save the Date!

Stronger Together WCRHCA Conference – February 5-9, 2023 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort in Waikiki

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THE IVAN HANCHARD TOURNAMENT RETURNS!

After an extended hiatus due to the pandemic, the BC Road Builders were pleased to bring back the Ivan Hanchard tournament this year. The 51st Annual Ivan Hanchard Charity Golf Tournament took place May 13th, 2022 at Northview Golf & Country Club in Surrey, BC, selling out in record time and raising funds for the BC Children's Hospital and the Betty Spalton Scholarship.

The Golf Tournament was a successful day – the first sunny tournament in years – with golfing and networking. Thanks to our sponsors, those who donated silent auction items, and to everyone who participated we were able to raise over \$25,000 towards the BC Children's Hospital this year.



Tournament Winners

Hole in One on Hole:

Ridge #11 - Mike Connolly, Emco Waterworks

Ridge 1st lowest gross team:

Greg Reiger, Adam Pruss, Scott Perdue, Peter Mihalech. (score -8)

Canal 1st lowest gross team:

Josh Jansen Vandoorn, Luke Vandekerkhove, Rod Saul, Dave Blaker (score -13)



Photo, L – R:

Kelly Scott BCRB; **Robert Hasell** Emil Anderson Group; **Stephen Mc Neil** YRB
Minister Rob Fleming, MOTI; **Steve Drummond** Capilano Highway Services



Join us in Waikiki February 5-9, 2023

We are excited to announce the return of The Western Canada Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction Association bi-annual conference and you're invited.

Join close to 400 attendees from across Western Canada at this always popular conference.

Enjoy networking opportunities with industry leaders and decision makers, participate in educational sessions, engage in interactive discussions addressing regional and national advocacy objectives, immerse yourself in thought provoking keynote speakers, learn of industry innovation and enjoy of course, the beauty and sunshine of Hawaii!

Find more information and register for the conference here: www.wcrhcaconference.com



WESTERN CANADA ROADBUILDERS & HEAVY
CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION
EVENTS TEAM

EMAIL: EVENTS@WCRHCA.COM

PHONE: 1-877-952-5507

HOURS: 8:00AM - 4:00PM PT

ABBOTSFORD HEO PROGRAM

While many high school students across the province are learning to drive their first car, in Abbotsford, British Columbia there's a special program preparing students to get behind the wheel of vehicles with a little more power – and a lot more dirt. The Abbotsford Heavy Equipment Operator program provides specialized hands-on career training to high school students with support from partners like the BC Road Builders, the Ministry of Transportation (MOTI) and companies like Lafarge, Hall Constructors, Riverside Equipment, TYBO, Jacobs BROS and Springline and CAT Rentals.



The Abbotsford HEO program is the only course for high school students of its kind in BC. Each February, the course trains up to 16 young adults from the Abbotsford School District. "We have kids who grew up around dirt and diesel, and we have kids who have never even operated a small lawnmower, that's the really amazing part," said District Vice Principal Career Programs Michael Pearson, who has run the program for five years. "It's amazing to see the amount of confidence this program can build for a timid young adult. There's a sense of power when you jump into a piece of heavy metal and move dirt. We want to teach them confidence. You also want them to be humble, it's a unique trade, it takes time, you need to be on the crew and show you're responsible. They learn a lot with their eyes being around that equipment."



Partnering with Thompson Rivers University, the program was able to secure ITA qualified trainers like Bob Ryl, the current main operator instructor. "He's highly respected in the industry throughout BC and the students love his calm and careful

ABBOTSFORD HEO PROGRAM

approach in and out of the classroom,” said Pearson. “Bob is The MAN as the kids like to say.”

Land use and equipment donations are the backbone of the program. For the past 15 years, this one-of-a-kind program has trained future operators with the support of local civil contractors who are invested in developing new talent to meet the future demand of equipment operators. Students obtain a Level 1 First Aid Certificate and the BC Road Builders Safety Training System (RSTS). Donor companies have the opportunity to meet the students in the classroom and in the field.

“I was blown away by the amount of willingness to help from MOTI and partners in one of the hardest years for everyone with the atmospheric river and flooding in the province. It’s a lot to call a contractor to ask if you can borrow their \$300,000 piece of equipment,” said Pearson. This connection to the employers is the main goal of the program, transitioning newly trained operators to working with supportive employers.

Learn more about the [Abbotsford Heavy Equipment Operator Program](#) here.



Building bridges is more than just a saying for Williams Lake resident Rudy Johnson, it's an achievement and nearly 50-year legacy for his family and community.

As a skilled tradesperson with a strong connection to the Cariboo region, Rudy had a vision—a bridge that crossed the Fraser River in Williams Lake could critically improve travel and safety for the community.

No one believed Rudy when he claimed that he would put a bridge over the river himself, but in 1968 he learned through a friend that there was a surplus bridge available due to an earthquake in Alaska and purchased it for \$40,000 from the Alaska Department of Highways. The bridge's 3,300 pieces were transported on three railway cars to a dock in Alaska, shipped to Prince Rupert and made the final leg of the journey to Williams Lake by rail via Prince George.

"I couldn't get anyone to put some money in, so I went to the bank manager and said 'I need some money and I don't give a damn how I get it. So he says good luck,'" Rudy reminisced. "I wrote a cheque and they certified it, and after I bought the bridge it was amazing how many people were interested in investing." In the end, says Rudy, they all got their money back quickly. Eventually the Provincial government invited Rudy to Victoria and formally bought the structure.

Macleans Magazine called the Rudy Johnson Bridge "Canada's Biggest Do-It-Yourself Project," in a 1968 article on the momentous, self-driven accomplishment. Running 91.4 metres long, the bridge has been standing strong for 46

years and serves as an important access road for people traveling along the south end of West Fraser Road. It connects two large areas of the Cariboo region, saving transportation vehicles a 55 mile trip, and connects Quesnel with ranches and hiking in the area. The bridge is frequently used for commercial logging vehicles along with school buses and residential traffic. In addition, because of its unique history and vibrant bright red colour, it's also a tourist attraction.

Rudy turns 100 years old in December of this year, and currently resides in a care home in Williams Lake. He continues to be passionate about sharing the story of the Rudy Johnson Bridge. In fact, as part of a recent intergenerational learning program between the elementary school and the Seniors Village, Rudy taught children in the community "bridge math," instructing them on math problems using the iconic local structure as an example—and demonstrating with a field trip.

Rudy has six children, and was married for 77 years before his wife passed away last year. His family is involved in keeping the legacy of his bridge alive. When asked if he thought people would still be using the bridge today, he wryly answered "if it was there, yeah."





Strategic Plan 2022

The Road to a Resilient Future

VISION

The BC Road Builders & Heavy Construction Association is the recognized advocate for investment in resilient core transportation infrastructure, generating economic growth, supporting sustainability, and helping build strong communities.

MISSION

We communicate strong, clear industry positions and expectations to government and stakeholders.

We support the diversity and inclusivity of our workforce, the prosperity of their families and the communities where they live and work.

We advocate for innovative and sustainable solutions that are built to last.

We advance Indigenous engagement and equitable access.

We provide training, safety awareness, fellowship, ethical leadership, and a strong voice for our members.



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2022 STRATEGIC GOALS

1. Increased and Sustained Investment in Resilient Core Infrastructure

- Advocating for Predictable and Consistent Infrastructure Investment
- Providing Informed Project Delivery Models
- Data Driven Decision Making

2. Lead an Innovative, Efficient, and Sustainable Industry

- Building a Strong Industry Foundation
- Leading Industry Innovation
- Advocating for Improvement in Project Procurement and Delivery

3. Align Capacity with Industry Demands

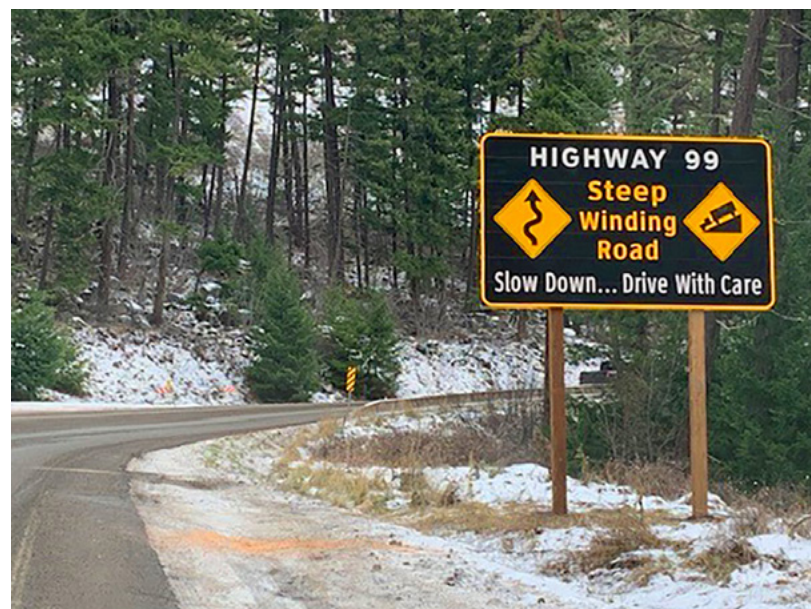
- Attracting Future Talent
- Building Effective Career Development Programs
- Building Effective Programs that Promote Worker Health and Safety



The atmospheric river and flooding that overtook major highways and caused mass destruction of essential public infrastructure in the province in November of 2021 is an event that no one working in and around the road building and heavy construction sector will ever forget. Amongst the many companies and contractors who went above and beyond during the recovery efforts is MOTI's current highway sign supplier and BCRB member Sherine Industries Ltd, run by Steve and Sarah Hocaluk.

"If it wasn't for their help, I wouldn't have been able to pull off what we needed to do to support the Ministry and open up those roads," said Larry Macko, Manager of the Provincial Sign Program, who reached out to BC Road Builders to express his immense appreciation Steve and Sarah Hocaluk's incredible effort to support his program. He called and asked, "We have to get a whole bunch of signs in the ground as of yesterday, can you help us out? They were happy to step up and help us achieve our goal."

Sherine Industries is a long-running family-run business and an approved sign supplier for the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI), holding a supply contract with the Ministry for this year and has been a tremendous contributor for the last decade. During the flood recovery they provided the Provincial Sign Program with 425 custom and standard critical safety signs for highway re-opening—an astounding amount of signs in a short span of time. Under their contract with MOTI, Sherine normally has a 14-day window for delivery; however during



the flood emergency they were asked to produce and deliver within days. Sherine rose to the challenge, managing to quickly source the necessary materials like aluminum and reflective sheeting and deliver each large sign order in record time. Shipping and delivery was especially challenging due not only to expediting production, but also navigating extreme weather, like freezing rain and black ice.

“Before any road can open you need signs,” said Larry. “Especially with the flood recovery, so many of them were warning signs and regulatory signs with reduced speeds. A lot of it was safety related signage so people can get through these devastated roads as we pieced them back together. ”

Our strong working relationship with this contractor is key to our successes in many ways.



→ Visit <http://www.sherineindustries.com/> to learn more about Sherine Industries

UPCOMING EVENTS

FALL CONFERENCE

September 18–20, 2022

REGISTER TODAY

Delta by Marriott
Grand Okanagan Resort
Kelowna BC



DECEMBER AGM

December 1–3, 2022

Save the Date!

**Fairmont Empress
Victoria BC**



WCR&BHCA 2023 STRONGER TOGETHER CONFERENCE

February 5–9, 2023

Hilton Hawaiian Village
Waikiki Beach Resort
Waikiki, Honolulu

REGISTER NOW

