



123 Slater Street, Suite 700
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CPWA Selects County of Grande Prairie as Winner of National Public Works Week Award

OTTAWA, ONTARIO – November 1, 2021 – The Canadian Public Works Association (CPWA) is pleased to announce the County of Grande Prairie, AB, as a winner of the CPWA 2021 National Public Works Week (NPWW) Awards Contest. Grande Prairie’s 2021 NPWW celebration competed for the award with other Canadian municipalities entering the contest for the first time.

CPWA Past President Patty Podoborzny presented the 2021 NPWW award during Grande Prairie’s November 1, 2021, council meeting. Reeve Leanne Beaupre and Public Works Project Support Lead Craig Allison accepted the award for Grande Prairie.

National Public Works Week annually recognizes the tens of thousands of men and women in North America who provide and maintain the infrastructure and services collectively known as public works. In May of each year, municipalities throughout the U.S. and Canada celebrate NPWW with open houses, project and facility tours, parades, education, media events, school visits, and career events. Municipalities also use the week to recognize their staff – the women and men who play such an important role in their community’s quality of life.

“Public Works is responsible for the delivery of important services to our communities, and National Public Works Week is a great way to recognize that critical role,” said Ms. Podoborzny. “By engaging residents in activities that highlight public works, Grande Prairie’s excellent outreach and public relations efforts show how central these services and personnel are to our communities.”

Grande Prairie’s National Public Works Week celebrations began with County Reeve Leanne Beaupre designating the week of May 16-22, 2021, as National Public Works Week.

County staff developed a Public Works Week scavenger hunt comprised of a series of public works-themed “missions” to give the public a chance to earn points and become eligible for prizes. Participants who completed the challenges learned about all areas of public works: recycling and waste management, road jurisdiction, types of road work and their definitions, dust control, streetlights, water and sanitary services, road signs, water pumphouse locations, roadside cleanup, the driveway snowplow program, bridge construction, construction and design standards, culvert repairs and maintenance, barricade and excavation permits, and legal land descriptions.

Participants were invited to share photos of public works projects and to visit certain public works-themed locations throughout the county. One hundred twenty-seven ratepayers and county staff participated, and 2,185 missions were completed.



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“CPWA is honoured to recognize Grande Prairie’s efforts to celebrate National Public Works Week,” said Podoborzny. “Grande Prairie’s NPWW scavenger hunt was a great hands-on way to engage residents about county public works services and I hope represents the first of many successful NPWW celebrations!”

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About CPWA: *The Canadian Public Works Association (CPWA), or Association Canadienne des Travaux Publics, was founded in 1986 to enhance the services of the American Public Works Association (APWA) to the Canadian public works community and to improve the quality of public works products and services to Canadian citizens. APWA’s members in Canada, plan, build, operate, maintain and sustain the public works and infrastructure that improve our quality of community life.*