

2019 PIBC Awards for Individual Achievement



Distinguished Professional Contribution
Winner:
Robert Smailes RPP, MCIP

Leadership in Advocacy & Innovation
Winner:
Christopher Osborne RPP, MCIP

During his 22-year career at the Regional District of North Okanagan, Rob has been a critically important staff member in the areas of Planning and Building, making strong efforts to build relationships, facilitate dialogue, and carry out planning processes that improve the quality of life of residents within the North Okanagan. Throughout his planning career, he continues to mentor and provide guidance to new planners imparting strong ethics and a practical outlook on planning, imparting a solid knowledge base and a sense of confidence in tackling both long-range planning processes and the complexities and challenges posed in current planning files. His skills as a negotiator, his passion as a planner, and his principled leadership continue to inspire both his team and the many communities that he provides professional advice.

A classically trained pianist, an award-winning nuclear physicist at the graduate level, and presently, long-range Senior Planner for the City of Campbell River, Chris is known for his depth of knowledge on a variety of timely planning issues, and his energetic, and hilarious, presentations. He brings a strong science-based perspective to the development of long-range planning and sustainability policy, and this is best seen in his work shepherding climate change adaption in the City. His work on sea level rise is quickly becoming the standard practice throughout coastal communities and he continues to make himself available to support other jurisdictions as they recognize the urgency of sea level rise in their own communities. At his core, Chris believes that it is the role of a planning professional to mitigate the spread of ill-informed opinions by propagating the spread of good, evidence-based information.