

## Blake Laven appointed Director of Development Services

(Penticton, BC – January 28, 2020) – Current manager and 10 year employee, Blake Laven, has been appointed to the position of Director of Development Services, filling the vacancy left by former director, Anthony Haddad.

Mr. Laven began his career with the City of Penticton as a Planner I, following which he rose to the position of Planning Manager, a role he has held for the last six years. During his time with the City he has overseen a variety of high profile community planning issues and has frequently appeared before Council as the City lead during policy discussions and public hearings. Mr. Laven holds a Master's Degree in Planning from Dalhousie University and a Bachelor of Arts from Simon Fraser University.

The process of appointing Mr. Laven followed an internal review of eligible candidates.

"Mr. Laven's predecessor established a competent pool of managers which enabled a hiring competition that emphasized opportunities for internal promotion", said Penticton City Manager, Donny van Dyk. "Through a selection process that considered three strong candidates, Mr. Laven emerged as the successful applicant. I, along with the rest of the senior leadership team, look forward to working with Mr. Laven as he takes up his new responsibilities supporting the priorities of Council through his effective leadership, local knowledge and professional experience."

"I am excited to continue the work we have been doing as a division – creating a positive economic climate for investment in Penticton, implementing the newly adopted Official Community Plan and ensuring safe and energy efficient construction in our city", said Laven. "I am fortunate to be taking over such a dedicated and professional team and look forward to providing excellent service to homeowners while serving as a steward of development within our community."

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