

Canada Parks & Recreation Association – National Recognition for Kelsey Johnson

(Penticton, BC – May 7, 2021) – The City of Penticton’s Manager of Recreation, Arts & Culture, Kelsey Johnson has been recognized by the Canadian Parks & Recreation Association (CPRA) with the 2019 Emerging Leader Award. Originally to be announced at the 2020 BC Parks & Recreation (BCRPA) Symposium, which was abruptly cancelled as a result of the pandemic, the BCRPA held their 2021 Symposium this week and presented Kelsey with her Emerging Leader Award.

The Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) is a national organization dedicated to realizing the full potential of parks and recreation as a major contributor to community health and vibrancy. Membership includes the 13 provincial and territorial parks and recreation associations and their extensive networks of service providers in over 90 per cent of Canadian communities.

The CPRA Emerging Leader Award recognizes the importance of supporting and celebrating young Canadians, and the award is in place to recognize outstanding future leaders within the parks and recreation sector.

“Kelsey has been an outstanding employee with the City of Penticton for the past seven years and in late 2020 was promoted to the Manager of Recreation, Arts and Culture, a key leadership position with the City,” said Donny van Dyk, Chief Administrative Officer with the City of Penticton. He added, “Kelsey is responsible for a committed group of recreation and culture staff within our organization and has shown incredible leadership through the pandemic by continuing to provide important services to our community, keeping them healthy, active and safe.”

Kelsey Johnson was also recently elected to the Board of Directors for the BC Recreation & Parks Association (BCRPA) to serve a two-year term. The BCRPA, a not for profit organization, plays a central role in leading the enrichment and improvement of the quality of life of British Columbians and their communities. The Board is responsible for the strategic planning, policy development and overall governance and financial health of the Association, which provides leadership, training, support and advocacy for its members and stakeholders.

“I am both honoured and humbled to receive this national award and be elected to the BCRPA Board of Directors”, said Johnson. “I am very thankful for the support of my colleagues at the City of Penticton, past and present, who have had a profound influence on my career and I look forward to continuing to serve my community and contribute to the parks and recreation sector at the provincial level.”

Contact:

Anthony Haddad
General Manager, Community Services
City of Penticton
250-490-2579

Philip Cooper
Communication Manager
City of Penticton
250-490-2583