

## ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PARK & RECREATION PROFESSIONALS



In its 48<sup>th</sup> year in 2023 the Leisure Development Course is partnering with the Recreation Facilities Association of BC to ensure the continued success of this innovative professional development for park, recreation, culture, and community development personnel. As one of Canada's premiere education opportunities presented by a faculty from varied professions; students receive timely information and modern tools to enhance their personal and professional growth and, in turn, their respective community and/or agency. Course graduates are also eligible to apply for post-secondary credits through Langara College.

Comments from a few recent Leisure Development Course participants:

*"The caliber of instruction offered during Leisure Development Course is outstanding and the networking opportunity invaluable. The program topics offered a direct application to my daily department responsibilities and although it was an intense four days of learning it was worth every moment."*

*"The LDC program for me was a valuable asset. The knowledge I gained in the three years has helped me to develop skills that will continue to help me grow throughout my career. It provided great networking opportunities with other municipalities, and many important tools to utilize in my own department."*

*"This has been an awesome and wonderful experience. The classmates, instructors, accommodations, and organizers were great. The diversity of the Leisure Development Course is an invaluable advantage as practices, views, philosophies, differences, and commonalities are all brought together for the improvement of all the students."*

*"My favorite facet of the Course is the ability to network and share with some incredible people. The Leisure Development Course is definitely an exceptional learning opportunity and would recommend it to anyone working in the parks and recreation industry."*

Students may enter the program at the year of their choosing and do not have to participate in sequential order (1, 2, 3). The following is an abbreviated description of each year of instruction. Please note topics may change from time to time to correspond to current trends and issues in the industry.

### Year One Track – Community Development

Year One discussion concentrates on the community and the role parks, recreation and culture agencies play. The sessions focus on the flexibility required to change and adapt to societal and organizational trends and issues while placing an emphasis on best practices in program management.

#### Featured Sessions:

- Community Programming & Unique Events
- Outcome Based Management
- Marketing Your Organization
- Developing & Using Motivational Skills

### Year Two Track – Facility Development

Year Two provides an introduction to the methods of planning, from developing physical design programs to philosophies of community planning and creating a risk management environment. Students will gain a better understanding for development of public space, facilities and natural resources.

#### Featured Sessions:

- Designing for Risk Management
- Community Development & Recreation
- Creating Better Places - Open Space Planning
- Facility Planning – From the Ground Up

### Year Three Track – Personal Development

Enhancing the effectiveness of the professional is specifically designed in Year Three. Students gain insight to interpersonal communication, problem solving, leadership and educating for leisure - topics critical to personal success and professional development, and for the effectiveness of your organization.

#### Featured Sessions:

- Developing Personal Leadership
- Group Dynamics
- Agency & Community Communications
- Educating for Leisure

### Information

In 2023 the **Leisure Development Course will be presented June 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>** and limited to forty students accepted on a first-come, first served basis. If you would like more information on the program or to receive a registration brochure please reply to [cnelson48@shaw.ca](mailto:cnelson48@shaw.ca). Thank you.

The Leisure Development Course is proud to partner with patron sponsor **Recreation Excellence Inc.** and premier sponsors **DB Perks & Associates, Langara College Recreation Studies** and **Recreation Facilities Association of BC**. This program is also endorsed by the British Columbia Recreation & Parks Association.

