



INTERNS SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN 2009-10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Five students have been selected to participate in an internship where they will gain first-hand experience in local government management. The management interns are post-secondary graduates who wish to pursue a career in local government administration.

The management interns are part of the second year of the British Columbia Local Government Management Internship Pilot Program. This Program is the result of a partnership between the Local Government Management Association of BC, the Municipal Finance Authority and the Ministry of Community Development, which together recognize the challenges faced by local government in recruiting new people to the field of local government. According to Local Government Management Association President Isabell Hadford, "Over the next several years the trend of senior local government staff retirements is going to put pressure on the local government system to find ways to recruit competent individuals from outside the local government field. Individually, many local governments lack the resources or capacity to tackle this issue on their own. The Management Internship Program provides a system approach to the challenges of recruitment and training."

"Young people have so many career choices today," says Hadford. "Working in local government provides the unique opportunity to contribute to community as local government is the essence of where people get their services. I am pleased the Management Internship Program, which is targeted specifically to people just starting their career, provides the opportunity to be involved in making their community a better place to live."

The 3 year pilot project provides funding of \$36,000 for each host local government. This year's host local governments are the Cariboo Regional District, the City of Castlegar/Regional District of Central Kootenay (partnership), the District of Lake Country, the Town of Golden and the City of Port Moody/City of Port Coquitlam (partnership). The host local governments will provide a local contribution toward the cost of management intern salaries and training. Twelve month management internships begin in May or June of this year. Interns will receive broad training opportunities and be exposed to all aspects of local government operations and in turn will contribute to capacity-building of their host local governments.

Additional information about the management internship program is available at <http://www.lgma.ca/careers> or call LGMA at (250) 383-7032.

Attachment: A list of the 2009-10 Management Interns with links to Host Local Government News Releases

For more information contact:

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Backgrounder

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Talented post-secondary graduates begin Internship in local government management

Danielle Johnson, Hosted by Cariboo Regional District

Danielle Johnson will be graduating this Spring from the University of British Columbia with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History. Danielle's work experience includes working as an election official for the 2008 federal election, as an organizer for the annual Diamond Ball Softball Tournament supporting Ronald McDonald House Charities and as Director of Advertising and a member of the editorial staff of the UBC Journal of International Affairs.

Kristin Aasen, Hosted by City of Castlegar/Regional District of Central Kootenay

Kristin Aasen has a Masters degree in Regional and Community Planning from York University, has completed graduate work in International Project Management from Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Training and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics, Astronomy and Math. Kristin's work experience includes organizing and facilitating workshops for local government audiences with the Institute for Integrated Rural Development, advising on a local government advisory planning commission and working with food issues at a non-profit, member-owned cooperative food store. Kristin is looking forward to sharing her enthusiasm and diversity of experiences with her host local governments.

Kate Berniaz, Hosted by District of Lake Country

Kate Berniaz has a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Simon Fraser University and is currently completing her Masters of Public Administration degree at the University of Victoria. Kate has gained relevant experience working most recently with the Ministry of Community Development and as an election official in the last local government election. As well, Kate is a student representative on the LGMA Vancouver Island Chapter. Kate's academic, work and volunteer interests have directed her towards local government because she feels it will enable her to contribute to more economically and environmentally sustainable communities.

David Love, Hosted by Town of Golden

David Love has a diploma in Local Government Management from the University of Victoria. As well, David has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History. David's work experience includes working as a private sector consultant and as a naval officer. As well, David has significant community volunteer experience, particularly relating to emergency programming. David is looking forward to applying his academic knowledge into practice in his host community under the supervision of a senior local government mentor.

Marta Taylor, Hosted by City of Port Moody/City of Port Coquitlam

Marta Taylor has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and will be completing her Masters of Public Policy degree at Simon Fraser University. Marta has gained experience with the provincial and federal levels of government and has worked abroad through CIDA. Marta is particularly excited about her upcoming management internship as she believes it will allow her the opportunity to apply her master's research thesis into practice and help her host local government of Port Moody with its transition to a new waste collection system. Click [here](#) to view City of Port Moody's/City of Port Coquitlam's news release.