



Newsletter

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From a bright idea to a glowing city. And a glowing future too.

Nelson mayor Janice Morrison reflects on Nelson Hydro's remarkable role in our past, present and future.

As a youngster growing up in Vancouver, Janice Morrison vividly remembers the long family drives from the coast to the Kootenays. The old roads of the 1960s were long, winding, and as day turned to night over the massive mountains and deep valleys of the BC interior, pretty darn dark. And for a kid, a little spooky.

"But then you'd come around the old highway through Blewett," Morrison smiles, a little teary in fact, "and out of the absolute black there was this brilliant, glowing little town. And you know why it glowed? Because every house had a free porch light from Nelson Hydro."

Nelson's new mayor knows the city's rich history well. And the vital role Nelson Hydro has had in it. "One hundred and twenty five years ago, someone was smart enough to set up our own hydro generation," says Morrison, listing off the benefits of the municipally owned utility, from then 'til today, and into tomorrow.

At the turn of the last century, Nelson had an electrified transit system, a booming city and a robust economy, well before many other BC communities.

"It's remarkable. We've been ahead of the curve from the beginning and we're still ahead of it."

Today Nelson and its rural neighbours, all our businesses and taxpayers, derive significant revenues from the utility, which keeps taxes down and city coffers up. "The dividends go to our residents," says Mayor Morrison, "not corporate shareholders." Nelson Hydro's role in the future of the communities it serves is, well, even brighter.

"It's going to play a big part in the City of Nelson's transition to more electric power as a source of clean energy for heating and transportation." Local climate and energy initiatives include the battery energy storage system the city is researching to further improve reliability and customer service, the Nelson Next climate action plan, the popular EcoSave program and even the city's innovative E-bike program.

The power Nelson Hydro generates, the mayor adds, is already green. "It's a sustainable resource. It's been ours for over a century. And for another century to come," says the mayor. "I don't think we'd be anywhere near where we are today without it."



NELSON HYDRO ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Nelson Hydro has launched new Facebook and Instagram accounts!

We encourage you to follow along to stay up to date on projects, initiatives, outages, stories, and more!

FOLLOW US!

Instagram @nelson.hydro
Facebook @nelsonbc.hydro

What's Happening

Here is what Nelson Hydro has been working on.

INTAKE GRATE CLEAR-OUT

On January 27 Nelson Hydro brought in diving experts to remove wood debris caught in the trash racks of the Bonnington Falls Generating Station. Nelson Hydro is experiencing a higher-than-normal amount of material coming into the forebay due to FortisBC commissioning their new gates at Corra Linn Dam.

Watch the video on our [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) accounts.



POLE REPLACEMENT

In late 2022 and early 2023 NH replaced 129 poles in the Balfour and Queens Bay areas. Poles have been tested from Balfour to Six Mile for the 2023 pole replacement plan with the majority of the 100 poles planned for replacement this year expected to be in the Longbeach Road area.

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

As the weather gets warmer and the days get longer our crews are busy getting ready for the season's vegetation management (VM).

Quick Stats

- ⚡ Nelson Hydro plans to spend \$4 million on vegetation management in the next 5 years
- ⚡ Budget for 2023 is \$885k, the largest VM budget in NH History
- ⚡ Rural VM budget evenly split between continuing North Shore work and work in the South Shore
- ⚡ VM within the City of Nelson will primarily be emergent issues and removal of hazard trees



Reasons for Project

Fire Safety: Reduce the fire hazard around hydro infrastructure.

Critical Infrastructure Protection: Protect power lines from damage during severe weather events, particularly wind storms and snowfall events.

Long-term Planning: If a tree needs to be regularly trimmed (every 1-5 years) to keep it from interfering with a power line, it is safer and more cost-effective to remove it and plant something more suitable in its place.



Energy Saving Tips



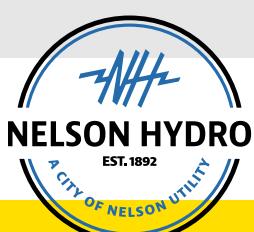
PEAK POWER DEMAND

Did you know peak power draw for Nelson Hydro customers is between 5:00pm-7:00pm?

Reducing our electrical consumption between peak hours will ultimately save all customers money by reducing the peak demand fees charged by FortisBC, our wholesale power supplier.

ECOSAVE

Interested in saving energy and money in your home? The Regional Energy Efficiency Program can help you find rebates, get a home energy evaluation, and figure out your next steps. Learn more at: [nelson.ca/EcoSave](#)



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SIGN UP TODAY!

You can now pay your hydro bills online through the online account portal.

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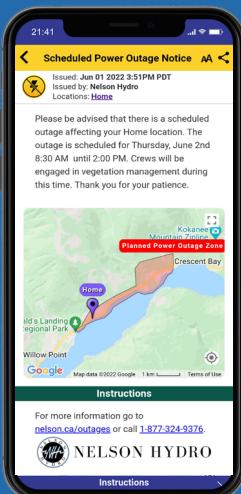
VOYENT ALERT!

Nelson Hydro is pleased to announce the launch the new Voyent Alert! notification service to communicate important information to our customers such as planned power outages.

Get the Voyent Alert app at the App store or Google Play.

For email, sms or phone registration get started here: [nelson.ca/em_info](#)

For more information please visit: [voyent-alert.com/ca/community](#)



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