Road Maintenance Best Practices

A rural perspective
Carry Grant
The fine print

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• Heckling is encouraged but .....
Outline

• The accepted facts.
• What is a “Best Practice”
• Why we do it this way. Rural vs. Urban
• How we should do it.
• Benefits of doing it right.
• Do we need a program?
• Resources and references
• Questions.
The Accepted facts

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• The rural environment can be as sophisticated as the urban environment.
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• All of these things over the long term.
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• What is the motivation to change?
How?

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- The information age. THE INTERNET.
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- The people we serve have access to all the same sources of information.
The Benefits.

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- Elimination of duplication and wasted effort.
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• Encourage staff and program development.
Programs.

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• This self-assessment could involve a thorough, agency-wide evaluation of current management and operations policies, practices, and procedures, referred to as "management practices," or simply "practices."

• The self-assessment process assumes that the agency already has a fundamentally sound corporate culture which is ready for embarking on a process of improvement.
Programs.

- The self assessment process can be used to identify deficiencies which need correction in order to develop a healthy organization. Self assessment is not a substitute for sound management practices, it is a tool for allowing an agency to identify where the organization can make improvements and offers examples of sound management practices.
Resources.

- [www.infraguide.ca](http://www.infraguide.ca).
- InfraGuide operated from 2001 to 2007 as a partnership between the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the National Research Council and Infrastructure Canada.
Resources.

- [www.apwa.net](http://www.apwa.net)
- Self assessment using the *Public Works Management Practices Manual* is a valuable tool for determining how an agency's policies, procedures and practices compare to recommended practices identified by nationally recognized experts in the field of public works. Agencies can use the recommended practices contained in the manual as a model for developing or improving existing practices to enhance performance, increase productivity, and to strengthen employee morale.
More resources

• Ontario Municipal benchmarking

  a common framework for assessing municipal performance
  standard measures and definitions
  standard protocols for collecting and reporting data
  a shared understanding about the factors that influence each municipality’s results
  peer review of data and processes

www.ombi.ca
Resources.

• www.publicworks.ca
• www.cpwa.net
• www.infraguide.ca.
• www.ombi.ca
Graders

• When our grading practices were first introduced this was the type of equipment we used,
Graders

- Over time and with many small steps we changed the equipment we used.
5 wheels to run?
• Wheels and sticks to control
Wheel & levers
Bigger and better?
Sticks only ?
What is next?
Questions?

- www.publicworks.ca
- www.cpwa.net
- www.infraguide.ca
- WWW.APWA.net
- www.ombi.ca