



## British Columbia Adopt a Highway Information Sheet

### What is Adopt a Highway?

The BC Adopt a Highway program is a roadside maintenance and enhancement initiative intended to encourage local stewardship of public highway rights-of-way. The Adopt a Highway program offers both non-profit and for-profit organizations opportunities to contribute to their community and province. This program is aimed at promoting community pride, and provides a means of publicly recognizing the organization's efforts. In partnership with the Ministry of Transportation, organizations have the opportunity to "adopt" a section of provincial highway to help carry out, or sponsor such activities as mowing, weeding, landscape beautification, and litter pickup.

### Who May Participate?

You may become involved as an individual volunteer, as an established volunteer organization, or as a business sponsor. Volunteer groups may be an assembly of individual citizens, service clubs or associations, or employees of a business. Corporate / business sponsors may also participate by funding roadside maintenance contractors to perform enhancement work. Participants in the program must be at least 12 years of age and in good health. Supervision is required for those under 19 years (one adult per five participants ages 12–18 years). Three people is the minimum group size.

### How the Community Benefits:

The participating group or sponsor agrees to "adopt" a section of highway for a two year term. The adopted sections can include roadsides, medians, or interchanges. The size of the sections vary depending on the interests of the adopting organization, location, scope of maintenance and enhancement work to be done. Litter pickup is a basic requirement under the Adopt a Highway program and is required to be done a minimum of 4 times per year in addition to any other activities undertaken. Participants may choose a section of highway for adoption, subject to its availability under the program, and approval by the ministry for the work being proposed.

Safety of the participants is the primary concern in determining where, and to whom, sections are assigned. To ensure safety, volunteer adoption projects will generally be limited to activities that do not involve the operation of large equipment. An exception may be made for a specific aspect of the project, if the organization wishes to coordinate with the district to use experienced operators carrying their own insurance.

### How your Organization Benefits:

In recognition of adopting a section of highway, the ministry will install signing to acknowledge the group providing the service. For groups who choose to perform work, the ministry will provide traffic advisory signing, safety information/training, safety vests, trash bags, and disposal of filled bags.

### INTERESTED?

For further information please contact your local BC Ministry of Transportation District Office.

