

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL

BC WATER & WASTE ASSOCIATION (BCWWA) is a not-for-profit association dedicated to providing networking and knowledge sharing opportunities for water and wastewater industry workers. BCWWA is the recognized authority for the certification of backflow prevention assembly testers in British Columbia (BC) and Yukon. Our cross connection control (CCC) membership consists of over 1,800 certified testers, administrators and associate members.



WHAT IS A CROSS CONNECTION?

A cross connection is defined as any actual or potential connection between a potable water system and any source of pollution or contamination.¹ Cross connections are present in every water supply system; depending on the size of the system, hundreds or thousands of potential cross connections can exist.²

WHAT IS A CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM?

A CCC program is a program initiated by a regulatory authority to administer and regulate the selection, installation, testing and maintenance of backflow preventers.² The purpose of a CCC program is to protect public health and safety by ensuring that potable drinking water systems are guarded against backflow incidents.

WHY SHOULD YOU START A CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM?

A water purveyor with a CCC program can:²

- Increase potable water protection
- Reduce risk to public health and safety
- Reduce the number of backflow incidents
- Reduce system shut down time and clean-up costs due to backflow incidents
- Increase consumer confidence and raise CCC awareness
- Demonstrate due diligence and regulatory compliance
- Reduce liability

¹ Canadian Standards Association, 2003. *Manual for the Selection and Installation of Backflow Prevention Devices/Manual for the Maintenance and Field Testing of Backflow Prevention Devices*. <<http://www.csa.ca/>>.

² InfraGuide, 2005. *Potable Water: Methodology for Setting a Cross Connection Control Program*. National Research Council and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Ottawa, Ontario. <<http://fmv.fcm.ca/InfraGuide/>>.

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAMS

HOW TO START A CCC PROGRAM

The general steps of developing a CCC program are as follows:

1. Establishment of legal authority through a municipal bylaw
2. Development of employee training and public education programs
3. Installation, maintenance and testing of backflow prevention assemblies
4. Use of certified backflow prevention assembly testers and customer service inspectors
5. Maintenance of records and documentation



For more information about setting up and implementing a CCC program, please refer to *Potable Water: Methodology for Setting a Cross Connection Control Program* available at www.bcwwa.org under Cross Connection Control, CCC Programs.

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL BYLAWS

CCC bylaws are the most important component of a CCC program and are necessary before any program can be set up and implemented. Bylaws define the roles and responsibilities of the water purveyor and the consumer.²

For sample CCC bylaws, go to the website of the following water purveyors:

Capital Regional District Website: www.crd.bc.ca	City of Penticton Website: www.penticton.ca	City of Vancouver Website: www.city.vancouver.bc.ca
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WHO CURRENTLY HAS A CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAM?

Water purveyors in BC that have a CCC program include:

Capital Regional District	City of Parksville	City of Surrey	EPCOR Utilities Inc.
City of Armstrong	City of Penticton	City of Terrace	Town of Gibsons
City of Burnaby	City of Pitt Meadows	City of Vancouver	Town of Oliver
City of Chilliwack	City of Port Alberni	City of Victoria	Township of Langley
City of Coquitlam	City of Port Coquitlam	Comox Valley Regional District	University of British Columbia Utilities
City of Enderby	City of Port Moody	Corporation of Delta	University Endowment Lands
City of Kamloops	City of Prince George	Corporation of Saanich	Westbank First Nations
City of Kelowna	City of Prince Rupert	District of North Cowichan	
City of North Vancouver	City of Richmond	District of West Kelowna	

CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact:

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