



  
neelco  
BUILDERS LTD



# BUILDING British Columbia

A large steel truss bridge spans a river in a mountainous, forested area. The bridge is a prominent feature, crossing the river and connecting the two banks. The surrounding landscape is rugged, with steep hillsides covered in dense evergreen forests. The sky is clear, and the overall scene is one of natural beauty and infrastructure.

NEEL-CO Builders (2014) Ltd Inc is an award-winning heavy civil infrastructure company that produces high quality finished projects. They work mainly for the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and specialize in a wide variety of structural works, including: bridge construction,

bridge replacements, bridge rehabilitation, culvert reinforcement and replacement, bridge demolition, water reservoirs, and anything to do with concrete.

The Chilliwack, British Columbia-based company has grown steadily since being





founded in 1980 by current owner and President John Neels. According to Chantay Neels – Mr. Neels' daughter-in-law and Project Manager for the company – NEEL-CO has increased its workforce over the years from four to six employees to upwards of 20-plus, depending on their workload. Today,

they typically have between four to five major projects on the go at any given time and work practically anywhere across their vast home province.

NEEL-CO has successfully completed a number of impressive projects showing the





diversity of their capabilities. Recently, such projects include bridge building for Rogers Creek Bridge in Port Alberni, bridge replacement for Hummingbird Creek Bridge near Highway 97A, the demolition of Old Spences Bridge south of Ashcroft and construction of the Keremeos Water Reservoir in Keremeos. They were also nominated for

Contractor of the Year 2014 by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for their bridge deck overlay work on the Nimpkish River Bridge in Port McNeill.

"Mike Neels, Site Foreman was able to finish the project a month prior to completion," Mrs. Neels recalled. "The ministry rep was



very happy with the work that we did, and nominated us for that award. For NEEL-CO to be put up for an award like that meant a lot to everyone involved with that project."

Mrs. Neels was also quick to credit the full NEEL-CO team – including their suppliers and subcontractors – for the nomination, indicating that they play a very big part in the success of every project the company takes on. Although they generally go to market to acquire the best available prices with every project they bid on, NEEL-CO does

use a few core suppliers and subcontractors on a regular basis who are integral to their operation.

## QUALITY IS KEY

Since its inception, NEEL-CO has built its reputation on the quality of its work, earning a great deal of repeat business from happy clients. As Mrs. Neels explained, the company views each project as an opportunity to strengthen their working relationship with everyone involved in a spirit of partnership, and to collectively enhance our corporate



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Congratulations to Neelco Builders Inc. on your achievements. We enjoy working with you on many interesting projects.

Best wishes for continued success.



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reputations. "It's all about quality," she affirmed. "John has been in this industry for a long time and he has always said that quality is key. We always ensure that quality is number one with our projects."

This focus on quality means providing the

"best onsite crews possible." In addition to employing approximately 15 permanent fulltime crew members, NEEL-CO hires additional labourers from local communities to help manage the workload. In this regard, the company supports First Nations participation as often as possible, providing workers



from First Nations bands with employment opportunities because they're always willing to work hard.

To further safeguard their quality, NEEL-CO ensures that these onsite crews are overseen by the best quality management staff. At the head of that team is John himself, who has over 35 years of construction experience and a very successful track record of delivering high quality outcomes on major projects. As president of NEEL-CO, he manages all ongoing projects and maintains open lines

of communication at all times with the superintendent/foreman to identify any potential issues that may arise on a project and deal with them accordingly. Mr. Neels also handles estimating, cost control and business liaison issues.

Project managers are also integral to the company's success. They are responsible for ensuring that each project runs smoothly and efficiently, and are proactive in dealing with any problems that may arise throughout the course of the project. They also handle sub-



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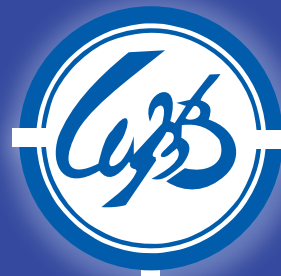


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# CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Since being established 35 years, NEEL-CO Builders (2014) Ltd. has completed many capital construction projects. The company's workforce specializes in this type of work with knowledgeable project managers, superintendents, foremen and construction personnel.

## **NEEL-CO Builders (2014) Ltd has completed the following successful projects:**

- Highway No. 7, Stave River Bridge Replacement
- David Road, Scott Creek Bridge on Westwood Plateau
- Almondel Bridge, Cypress Creek – Neelco launched the steel structure and worked with All-Span Engineering.
- Old Capilano Bridge Replacement – Neelco put into place the lateral slide of the existing through truss bridge spans into the construction detour position and worked with All-Span Engineering. Subcontractor for the construction of the New Capilano Bridge.
- Rodgers Creek
- 99 Mile Overhead No. 1597 Concrete Overlay & Deck Joint Replacement
- Chilcotin Bridge No. 0010 Concrete Deck Overlay & Deck Joint Replacement
- Bridge Culvert No. 2 Relining KM 380.7 Alaska Highway – A project that was completed in advance of the contract completion date.
- Hwy 1 Clanwilliam Overhead No. 0354 Replacement – Where Neelco was a subcontractor for the construction of the new bridge.
- Kawkawa Lake Road Bridge Replacement
- Sprout Falls Bridge Hwy No. 4 Port Alberni
- FTG S14 – Hwy 17 at Ladner Trunk Road No.

8224, Hwy 17 O/P at Burns Drive No. 8234 & Hwy 17 U/P at 72nd Street No. 8240.

- FTG S18 – 5 Creek Bridges
- FTG S31 – Concrete Work for Approaches in Segments 2, 3 and 4
- Cypress Creek Bridge No. 2498 Rehabilitation & Seismic Upgrade.
- KM 230 Culvert Replacement, Alaska Highway
- Port Mann/Highway 1 – Sound Reflective Walls (Surrey/Langley)
- Nicolum Creek Bridge No. 02828 Rehabilitation
- Rogers Creeks Creek Bridge #00676
- Nimpkish River Bridge No. 02162 Deck Rehabilitation
- Golden Ears Connector – Leoran Brook Bridge – Subcontractor for the bridge structure.
- Evergreen Line Soundwalls – Subcontractor for Installation of the Soundwalls.

## **NEEL-CO Builders (2014) Ltd. continues to deliver high quality capital construction projects today. Ongoing projects include:**

- Malakwa Bridge No. 0871 Replacement – Where Neelco acts a subcontractor for the bridge structure.
- Highway No. 95 - Luxor Creek Bridge No. 8486 – Where Neelco also acts as subcontractor for the bridge structure.
- Highway No. 6 – Heart Creek Bridge No. 8519 & Approaches
- Philip Avenue Overpass Project – Where Neelco is a subcontractor for the Arch Structure.





mittals, bonds and insurance-related paperwork to keep the project moving in a timely manner, and they act as NEEL-CO's liaison in their dealings with client representatives and company stakeholders.

Additionally, NEEL-CO understands the importance of having a highly qualified and experienced superintendent/foreman onsite for every project. They are responsible for organizing and supervising the labour force, overseeing the day-to-day construction activities and performing backup duties as required.

"If you don't have a strong foreman who re-



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spects the employees and who has their respect in return, your project won't work, so we make sure that from the top to the bottom it will all work together," Mrs. Neels said.

"Health & safety is a major key for any projects that we take on," she continued. "We have a health & safety coordinator who does all the site specific health & safety plans, safe work procedures for the tasks at hand and Fall Protection Plans to name a few. We employ an onsite certified safety officer to manage the projects and look after all the day to day safety, dealings with WorkSafe BC, and





ensure that all personnel onsite are doing their job safely.”

Lastly, NEEL-CO appoints a quality control manager for each project to perform quality control onsite and to also provide quality assurance for subcontractors. QC managers thoroughly check every area of the worksite to ensure that the structure complies with the corresponding blueprints, and are also responsible for addressing any problems that may arise.

## CONTINUED GROWTH

In addition to delivering exceptional quality

and workmanship, NEEL-CO also incorporates leading edge environmentally sustainable methodology into their projects. The company goes above and beyond in this regard, regularly working with an environmental consultant to ensure their work does not negatively impact the surrounding ecology.

“Howard Ratzlaff from HCR Environmental Consulting does the majority of our environmental plans,” said Mrs. Neels. “He is the one that comes to make sure that we are doing as much as we can to preserve the environment we live in. He has also trained a number of our employees to do the daily on-









site monitoring."

Moreover, NEEL-CO prioritizes establishing and maintaining excellent worksite safety conditions. The company recently became a member of the British Columbia Construction Safety Alliance and has received their WorkSafeBC Certificate of Recognition in 2013. They also employ a fulltime construction safety officer/safety manager to bolster the management and administration of their safety program.

Currently, NEEL-CO is utilizing these leading edge practices for their ongoing projects,

which include work on the Malakwa Suspension Bridge, Luxor Creek Bridge, Heart Creek Bridge and Philip Avenue Overpass. Beyond that, Mrs. Neels said she expects the company to keep progressing as they continue to impress clients throughout the province.

"We would like to continue to grow," she concluded. "We're a smaller company that's growing a little bit every year and if we can just keep doing that over the next five years, we'll be able to get more bonding and possibly be able to do even larger projects compared to what we're doing now."



