

For almost 50 years, Cross Connection Control (CCC) has been an important program in British Columbia. The BC Water & Waste Association (BCWWA) has been integral in the development and growth of the Backflow Assembly Tester Certification program and CCC Community programs.

OUR CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PROGRAMS

A multi-faceted approach

The program encompasses the certification lifecycle of backflow assembly testers, working to ensure quality and consistency across the province and the country.

Maintaining certification

Once testers are certified, their status is maintained through the BCWWA database, which provides real-time information for CCC Community program administrators. The BCWWA also works with software service providers to ensure shared information.

Provincial and national commitment to quality

The BCWWA CCC committees have been a part of cross connection in BC in various forms from the beginning. Currently, the CCC Education Committee meets regularly to discuss program and assessment quality and consistency. Representatives from the Education Committee annually attend National Committee meetings to review the Canadian manual updates, exam questions and other topics related to ensuring a quality certification program.

At the forefront

The BCWWA CCC Technical Advisory Committee meets regularly to discuss topics related to cross connection control in the field, in community programs and regulation.

Engaging the industry

Communities of practice are opportunities for individuals to share ideas, questions and information with others with the same interest. Updates to the BCWWA platform in Q1-2023 will enhance this capability.



BCWWA CCC PROGRAMS

✓ BACKFLOW TESTER CERTIFICATION

- In-person and online exam management
- Proctor management
- Instructor certification
- Institution accreditation

✓ CCC COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

- British Columbia/Yukon active tester database
- Collaboration with backflow test report software service providers

✓ CCC COMMITTEES

- CCC Education Committee
- CCC Technical Advisory Committee

✓ COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

- CCC community program administrators
- Backflow testers (2023)

OUR PARTNERS

The BCWWA joins all Canadian AWWA sections in interprovincial reciprocity through the Canadian National Committee (CCCC), which ensures consistency in backflow tester certification nationally.





PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

850+
STUDENTS PER YEAR

2000+
ACTIVE BACKFLOW
TESTERS

9
ACCREDITED TRAINING
INSTITUTIONS

54
COMMUNITY
PROGRAMS COVER
ALMOST 87% OF THE
BC POPULATION

PROGRAM HISTORY

1971

The program was founded in the City of Vancouver. Committee members begin exploring the significance of backflow and cross connections within plumbing and water distribution systems on private and municipal property.

1984

The Western Canada section of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) creates the first Canadian-based manual.

2001-2007

All five AWWA Canadian sections form the Canadian Cross Connection Control Steering Committee (also known as the National Committee). BCWWA staff takes over administrative tasks related to certification from the CCC Committee.

2010

The AWWA Canadian Affairs Committee drafts a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for all participating sections and a Terms of Reference for the National Committee. This includes certification reciprocity across all Canadian sections. A five-year mandatory recertification takes effect across all jurisdictions.

2011

The BCWWA publishes a position statement that makes a case for water purveyors to develop CCC programs.

2017

The BCWWA manages a review of the AWWA Canadian Cross Connection Control Manual and adds an online exam option to institutions to accelerate the marking process.

2020

New technology allows testers to download their own certificates and access community programs for real-time active tester information. The BCWWA conducts COVID-19 'check-in' sessions with CCC community programs.

2021

The BCWWA collaborates with schools, proctors and CCC Community program administrators to develop an approach to recertifying testers during and after the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown of training institutions.

2022

The BCWWA launches communities of practice for the CCC community.

OUR PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

