



# Event planning guide

[tourismquesnel.com/plan-my-event](https://tourismquesnel.com/plan-my-event)





# Why host events in Quesnel?

## Events strengthen our economy and community

Events can have a very positive impact on our community both economically and socially. How so?

- Sourcing goods and services from our local businesses keeps money circulating in our community.
- Large or unique events, conferences and festivals draw visitors to our community, filling our hotel rooms and supporting our restaurants. Hopefully, visitors will do a little shopping too!
- Events bring our community members together, strengthening relationships, partnerships and overall, boosting community spirit.

## Our volunteers make it happen

In 2019, Quesnel hosted the BC Men's and Women's Provincial Curling Championships. Over 200 volunteers came together to put on an exceptional event. Testimonials from athletes, officials and Curl BC proved that we have community spirit and a dedicated volunteer base that can create a memorable experience for our guests.

## Our guests can do more

Not only can visitors take in a fabulous event, they can also explore Quesnel in other ways. From outdoor recreation and self-guided tours to an arts and culture scene, there's something here for everyone.

## We have unique venue options

Quesnel is home to many indoor venues but we have a few unique outdoor venues that will add a "wow" factor to your event.

### Hosting Precinct

The Hosting Precinct is the beautiful breezeway between West Fraser Centre and the Quesnel Curling Centre. It offers an outdoor space for tradeshow, dinner events and more.

In 2019, the City of Quesnel hosted Hops & Harvest outside at our Hosting Precinct, welcoming guests from Quesnel and our neighbouring communities to celebrate local food, local craft beer and everything hops! The space accommodated professional catering, live entertainment, a DJ service and over 140 guests.

### Fraser River Footbridge

Our historic Fraser River Footbridge links our downtown and West Quesnel, creating a unique outdoor venue spanning over the Fraser River with beautiful sunset views. The Quesnel Downtown Association and West Quesnel Business Association hosted the first Shore to Shore Dinner on the Bridge to inspire new ways to enjoy and utilize our waterfront. Catering, bartending and a DJ service all took place right on the bridge!





# Plan & host your event

Planning an event can be challenging. That's why we've created an online toolkit with access to business listings and resources including local photographers, venues, catering services, bartending services, accommodations and more. Find exactly what you're looking for, add it to your event itinerary and print, email or share it with your team to make planning a little easier.

## Submit your event

Once your date is set, we can help promote it! [Submit your event](#) details on our tourism website and it'll be added to our Events Calendar, emailed to our Events Newsletter subscribers and it will be sharable to social media.

## Be an ambassador

If your meeting, event or conference is drawing delegates or visitors to Quesnel, we want to encourage them to #explorequesnel; experience our outdoors, dine, shop and feel inspired to visit again.

### We have resources to help with that:

- Share a link to [tourismquesnel.com](http://tourismquesnel.com) prior to their arrival. They can create their own itinerary, browse through existing itineraries or simply view all of our great parks, restaurants or trails in the area.
- Stop by the Quesnel Visitor Centre and pick up a few printed materials to include in welcome packages or swag bags.
- Ask the City of Quesnel about purchasing City swag items to give away.
- Encourage the use of our hashtag #explorequesnel.

## Contact our Event Coordinator

The Event Coordinator, funded by the City of Quesnel and the Cariboo Regional District, can offer support and provide resources for your event planning.

### Ksenya Dorwart

Event Coordinator

[canmakeithappen.event@gmail.com](mailto:canmakeithappen.event@gmail.com)

250-255-2015







## VENUES

We have venues for any occasion: meetings, events, festivals and conferences. From a fully accessible 1,400 seat arena downtown Quesnel, or a quaint lodge surrounded by nature at Hallis Lake, to conference rooms with all the tech you need, or BC's largest free-span turf facility, you can find the right space with all of the amenities your special event needs to run smoothly for your guests.

Our local venues are listed on our website.  
[tourismquesnel.com/plan-my-event](https://tourismquesnel.com/plan-my-event)

## CATERING SERVICES

Delicious food to suit everyone's taste and budget is easy to find in Quesnel. Our local caterers can offer a remarkable food experience for your guests, from small to large-scale events.

Our catering services are listed on our website.  
[tourismquesnel.com/plan-my-event](https://tourismquesnel.com/plan-my-event)

## ACCOMMODATIONS

From beautiful executive suites to budget motels, we can accommodate your guests. Our downtown accommodations are only steps away from great shopping, restaurants, cafes, and our 9.5 km paved Riverfront Trail. For the mountain bikers and hikers, camping on Dragon Lake allows quick access to the Wonderland Trail Network.

Our accommodations are listed on our website.  
[tourismquesnel.com/stay](https://tourismquesnel.com/stay)

## ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

We encourage our guests to #explorequesnel. A morning hike close to downtown, a walk between sessions to stretch those legs, group activities for team building or just plain fun, there's something for everyone.

Find activities and attractions on our website.  
[tourismquesnel.com/play](https://tourismquesnel.com/play)

## VOLUNTEERS

Our residents are full of community spirit and we love to recognize and show our appreciation to those who give back to our community through the Volunteer Recognition Program. We're proud of our excellent volunteer base and what we can achieve when we come together.

Get connected with volunteers on the [Quesnel Volunteer Connection](#) Facebook page.







# Making the event special

## TOP 10 REASONS QUESNEL IS A GREAT HOSTING COMMUNITY

- 1** Quesnel has nearly 600 hotel rooms, over 300 of these are within walking distance of our beautiful downtown.
- 2** We have experience hosting first class conferences, provincial sport championships & large-scale festivals.
- 3** We want to show off the revitalization of Reid Street (our main street in downtown Quesnel).
- 4** Quesnel is centrally located, with an airport offering daily connecting flights via Vancouver.
- 5** **We like to have fun, it's in our nature!**
- 6** Our caterers make delicious food and we have several pubs and coffee shops for post conference beverages.
- 7** Our venues are great, including our new West Fraser Centre (opened 2017).
- 8** We have an excellent and passionate volunteer base.
- 9** We're excited to showcase our entire community – we go above and beyond to make our visitors feel welcome!
- 10** Quesnel is surrounded by nature and outdoor exploration is only steps away for post conference activities.

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*Curl BC worked very closely with the City of Quesnel for the 2019 BC Men's and Women's Curling Championships. The facility and arena atmosphere were definite highlights for the athletes, as well as a huge draw for spectators. It was clear that the event had the support of Mayor Bob Simpson and the City of Quesnel from day one. The City provided great marketing, technical and organizational support, and Event Coordinator Charlene Lawrence and Quesnel Curling Centre Manager Dave Plant went above and beyond to put on a world class event that will be looked back on as a milestone for curling events in our province and a definite benchmark for future hosts of Curl BC events. Curl BC would definitely work with the City of Quesnel again, and highly recommends this beautiful and welcoming part of BC as a host site for other sporting and non-sporting events.*

– CurlBC

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# Our hosting history

## A FEW EVENTS WE'VE HOSTED

### BC Men's and Women's Curling Championships 2019

Host: Curl BC  
Participants: 100  
Volunteers: 200

### Softball BC Provincial Championships U16C Girls 2019

Host: Quesnel Girls Softball Association  
Participants: 190  
Volunteers: 10

### Cariboo North Central Regional Figure Skating Championships 2019

Host: Quesnel Figure Skating Club  
Participants: 260  
Volunteers: 50

### Shore to Shore Dinner on the Bridge 2019

Host: West Quesnel Business Association & Quesnel Downtown Association  
Participants: 255  
Volunteers: 12

### Bantam Hockey Provincials 2018

Host: Quesnel & District Minor Hockey Association  
Participants: 185  
Volunteers: 60

### Innovation & Entrepreneurship in Rural BC 2017

Host: Community Futures North Cariboo  
Participants: 167  
Volunteers: 0

### North Central Local Government Association 2013

Host: North Central Local Government Association  
Participants: 350  
Volunteers: 45

### SkyFest Biennial

Host: Quesnel SkyFest Society  
Participants: 11,000  
Volunteers: 125

### Billy Barker Days Annual festival

Host: Billy Barker Days Society  
Attendees: 25,000  
Volunteers: 100

### Quesnel Rodeo Club Annual event

Host: Quesnel Rodeo Club  
Participants: 500  
Volunteers: 100







# Stay another day

## ARTS & RECREATION CENTRE

Swim, lift weights, or relax in the hot tub or sauna. Enjoy amenities for all ages and skill levels. Want to take it outside? The kids will love our accessible playground, or a stroll through the Shiraoi Gardens.

[quesnel.ca/arts-recreation](https://quesnel.ca/arts-recreation)

## MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

Quesnel's history is fascinating! Proclaimed as one of BC's top 10 community museums, your guests will find a little piece of history for all ages and interests.

[quesnelmuseum.ca](https://quesnelmuseum.ca)

## QUESNEL ART GALLERY

See the world through another's eyes at the Quesnel Art Gallery where local and BC-wide artists share their creations and inspiration.

[quesnelartgallery.com](https://quesnelartgallery.com)

## WEST FRASER CENTRE

Walk a few loops at our indoor walking track or lace-up for public skating or drop-in hockey. Visit our website for the current arena schedule.

[quesnel.ca/arts-recreation/facilities](https://quesnel.ca/arts-recreation/facilities)

## SHOPPING & DINING

Quesnel has 3 vibrant shopping districts and a beautifully revitalized downtown! There's no shortage of variety when it comes to dining to suit all tastes and needs.

[tourismquesnel.com](https://tourismquesnel.com)

## INDOOR SPORTS CENTRE

British Columbia's largest freespan indoor turf building is right here in Quesnel! An indoor walking track for those cold days or drop-in free play for the kids. For fees, schedules and rental charges, visit the Quesnel Youth Soccer Association's website.

[qysa.ca](https://qysa.ca)

## LOVE QUESNEL

Love Quesnel is part of a large shop local movement called Love Northern BC.

Our unique, independently owned businesses have character, personality and soul. You can view over 90 business profiles and learn more about their stories and services conveniently in one place.

[lovequesnel.com](https://lovequesnel.com)







# Adventure in our backyard

## TRAILS

We have trails for days! Our Riverfront Trail is accessible downtown and in West Quesnel, offering a scenic view of the Quesnel and Fraser rivers.

[tourismquesnel.com/play/trails](https://tourismquesnel.com/play/trails)

## PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS

Our parks and playgrounds are located throughout the city boasting new structures and loads of green space to run and play. West Fraser Timber Park is our most diverse with amenities to suit all ages and interests.

[tourismquesnel.com/play/parks-playgrounds](https://tourismquesnel.com/play/parks-playgrounds)

## GOLFING

Hit a bucket of balls or play a round at one (or all!) of our three golf courses: Quesnel Golf Club, Richbar Golf & Gardens and Cresta Luna Country Golf.

[tourismquesnel.com/play/golf](https://tourismquesnel.com/play/golf)

## LAKES & RIVERS

We live in the land of lakes and rivers! Borrow a fishing rod from the Visitor Centre or take a paddle on Dragon Lake. Your guests won't have to go far to fish, swim or kayak!

[tourismquesnel.com/play/outdoor-adventure](https://tourismquesnel.com/play/outdoor-adventure)

## GOLD PANNING

Your guests can test their gold panning skills on the Fraser River. They might just strike it rich! Gold pans can be borrowed free of charge from the Visitor Centre.

[tourismquesnel.com/play/gold-panning](https://tourismquesnel.com/play/gold-panning)

## MOUNTAIN BIKING

From black diamond to green and blue trails, you'll find trails for guests of all ages and abilities in Quesnel. South Quesnel Park and the Adventure Skills Bike Park have pump tracks for beginners and for those wanting to fine-tune their riding skills.

[tourismquesnel.com/play/mountain-biking](https://tourismquesnel.com/play/mountain-biking)







# Contacts & resources

## MEET US

### Amy Reid

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### Ksenya Dorwart

Event Coordinator  
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## PLAN & HOST YOUR EVENT

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## FOLLOW US

### City of Quesnel

 [@cityofquesnel](https://www.facebook.com/cityofquesnel)

 [@cityofquesnel](https://twitter.com/cityofquesnel)

### Explore Quesnel

 [@explorequesnel](https://www.facebook.com/explorequesnel)

 [@explorequesnel](https://www.instagram.com/explorequesnel)

 [@explorequesnel](https://www.youtube.com/explorequesnel)

### Love Quesnel

 [@lovequesnel](https://www.facebook.com/lovequesnel)





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**Quesnel**

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