



Left to Right: Terry Hoehn (Ainley Group), Rachel Prudhomme (Town of Newmarket), Sepideh Majdi (Town of Newmarket), Andrew Miller (Ainley Group). Image Credit: Town of Newmarket

On January 24, 2019, the Ainley Group, in conjunction with Rabcon Contractors Ltd. (general contractor) and the Town of Newmarket (client), was the recipient of OPWA’s 2018 ‘Public Works Project of the Year Award’ for the Gorham Street Watermain Project, in the ‘Structures’ category for projects less than \$2 million

The Town of Newmarket retained the Ainley Group for design, contract administration and inspection services for replacement of 425 metres of new, 300mm diameter watermain along Gorham Street from Carlson Drive and Doak Lane to Leslie Street, fire hydrants, water service connections, a pre-assembled pressure reducing valve (PRV) chamber and all site restoration. The purpose of the project was to replace a critical section of watermain that was over 40 years old and had suffered severe breaks due to corrosion.

Gorham Street is a major east-west collector road through the town with a fire station, two retirement homes, a busy church and businesses all located within the project limits. The project was awarded the 2018 Project of the Year for its excellent project management techniques and innovative technologies that focused on minimizing active construction and traffic disruptions in a sensitive area. This included a strong communication plan which facilitated open, two-way communications with the neighbouring parties, and the use of a pre-fabricated PRV chamber to significantly reduce installation time and minimize disruption to affected customers and the surrounding areas.



Use of a prefabricated pressure reducing valve (PRV) chamber reduced installation time and minimized disruptions.

ABOUT THE OPWA AWARDS

The Ontario Chapter Public Works Project of the Year Award was established (2001) to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works projects by recognizing the alliance between the managing agency, the consultant/architect/engineer, and the contractor who, working together complete public works projects.

Awards are divided into five categories that include Structures, Transportation, Environment, Historical Restoration/Preservation, and Disaster or Emergency Construction/Repair. Each category is further divided based on the cost of the project – less than \$2 million; \$2 million to \$10 million; 10 million to \$50 million; and more than \$50 million.