FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

When you hear the words "Water Industry" what comes to mind? Maybe you think of water technicians who repair equipment to ensure the water quality meets the standards. Or maybe you think of water engineers who work on the design and planning of water-related infrastructures. The truth is that like any industry and business, there are people in every area and department who work together to ensure their customers are taken care of.

One area of the water industry that is not often discussed enough is the Financial and Accounting aspects. Recently, I had the privilege of sitting down with the Finance and Accounting Team to ask them the question "What does finance and accounting look like in the water industry?", "What does finance and accounting look like at Pennichuck?", and "Why is finance and accounting so important for any business?"

What does finance and accounting look like in the water industry?

Finance and accounting in the water industry are different than general finance and accounting because there are additional procedures that must be followed as a water utility. In addition, there are different fixed assets that most people would not even realize are fixed assets. One example of a fixed asset that is specific to the water industry is water main pipes. When they begin to deteriorate, accounting is the department that factors the cost of fixing and replacing these pipes into the company budgets to ensure water gets to our customers.

What does finance and accounting look like at Pennichuck?

In the water industry, and specifically at Pennichuck, there are many different areas of finance and accounting that our team learns compared to a traditional accounting firm. At Pennichuck the finance and accounting department is 100% deadline-driven, many of these deadlines are also reliant on other departments to get information to finance and accounting to process financial reports.

Additionally, the finance and accounting department experienced some of the greatest changes following the Covid-19 pandemic. Before the pandemic, the work in Finance & Accounting was performed onsite at its corporate office in Nashua, so when everyone was forced to a remote environment, much of the workload shifted to online. This was one positive that came out of the pandemic, as the team no longer having to rely on a fixed location to perform their responsibilities, which helped to increase productivity, redundancy, and sustainability.

Why is finance and accounting so important for any business?

Every kind of business in any industry deals with finance and accounting in some capacity. It plays a crucial role in ensuring that business is abiding by the laws and running properly. Without a finance and accounting department, many companies would not be up to date with their records, which can impact a business's decision-making and performance.

One of my favorite things about Pennichuck is that it is like any other organization or business. There are so many opportunities in the water industry that people do not realize. Some of them may gear towards people who are business-minded in departments such as Human Resources, Communications, or Finance and Accounting which are exciting to them. To people who think scientifically or would like to be more hands on and would love to work on the treatment side or operations. There are jobs for every kind of person in the water industry, and I am excited to be able to shine a light on these opportunities. For more information on career opportunities, visit our career page.

www.pennichuck.com/career-opportunities/