

Having trouble reading this email? [View it on your browser](#)

EVENTS | BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS | FUNDED PROJECTS | BASINLINK ARCHIVES | CONTACT



Brenda Taylor, Wardner, on what living in the Basin means:

The Columbia Basin is a diamond of nature at its best!

[Submit your thoughts and photos...](#)

BASINLink

Issue 31

May 2011

Better Public Access to Koochanusa Reservoir



Public access to the Koochanusa Reservoir will soon be improved as a much-needed Koochanusa boat launch is currently under construction...[full story](#)

Youth Take Action to Benefit Basin Communities



Ten youth projects were successful in the recent intake of the Columbia Basin Youth Grants program, which supports youth-led projects that directly benefit Basin youth and involve youth in project development, planning and implementation...[full story](#)

Become a CBT Advisory Committee Member



Apply by May 20 if you're a Basin resident interested in providing advice to CBT on delivering benefits to the region through volunteer positions on CBT's core social, economic and environment advisory committees...[full story](#)

CBT NEWS

[Staff Shifts](#)

RETURNING TO SCHOOL?

Apply by June 17 for a College Community Service Award.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Visit CBT's new [Community Engagement web page](#) to view resources like an **inspiring video** of three successful stories of engagement in the Basin.

Get Involved

May 13 – 15: [Voices for Sustainability](#) retreat for educators (Slocan Valley)

May 20: [CBT Advisory Committee](#) application deadline

May 26: [Enterprising Non-profits](#) application deadline

May 31: [CBT Board of Directors](#) meeting (Rossland)

June 14: 15th anniversary celebration of [Enterprising Non-profits](#) (Castlegar)

June 15 – 16: [Carbon Management in British Columbia Ecosystems](#) conference (Nelson)

June 17: [College Community Service Awards](#) application deadline

June 30: [CBT Youth Advisory Committee](#) application deadline

[View more events and deadlines.](#)



How does CBT encourage **carbon neutrality**? Read about its efforts in the [Carbon Neutral Action Report](#).

Opportunities

Volunteer Posting

[Advisory Committee Members](#)

[BACK TO TOP](#)



Know someone who might be interested in this email?
[Forward to a friend.](#)

Columbia Basin Trust supports efforts by the people of the Basin to create a legacy of social, economic and environmental well-being and to achieve greater self-sufficiency for present and future generations.

Follow us:



www.cbt.org • 1.800.505.8998 • cbt@cbt.org

You're receiving this email because of your previous interest or involvement in CBT.
You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive this.

Better Public Access to Koocanusa Reservoir Now Under Construction

Friday, May 06, 2011

Multiple organizations collaborate on project

Public access to the Koocanusa Reservoir will soon be improved as a much-needed Koocanusa boat launch is currently under construction. The launch is a collaborative project between several parties, with financial support from BC Hydro, Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) and Teck Resources (Teck) and land made available by the Ktunaxa Nation and the Province of BC.

"Two years ago I approached MLA Bill Bennett and described to him the frustrating situation where folks were having significant difficulties accessing the reservoir and experiencing long waits to get their boats into the water," said Ray Kelly of the Kootenay Power Boat Association. "MLA Bennett has provided strong leadership in working diligently with various community organizations, local government and First Nations to build a two-lane boat launch. We are grateful for the excellent co-operation of the funding organizations."

Located on the northwest side of Kikomun Bridge, the two-hectare site will include a ramp, floating breakwater, floating dock, outhouse, garbage receptacle and parking for up to 60 vehicles and trailers.

"The Ktunaxa Nation realizes the importance of this boat launch to the users of Koocanusa, and we are pleased that we could play a role to ensure that this land was made available for this purpose," said Kathryn Teneese, Ktunaxa Nation Chair. "We are also very honoured that the launch will bear a Ktunaxa name, Yaqakxaqlamki (YA-KAK-HAK-TLAM-KEY), which simply means 'the place where the boat leaves the shore' in the Ktunaxa language."

"Thank you to BC Hydro, to Columbia Basin Trust and to Teck for stepping up and giving to our region a recreational asset that thousands will use and enjoy," said MLA Bennett. "Thanks to the Ktunaxa people for supporting this important community venture. And a sincere thank you to the Kootenay Power Boat Association for the original idea. This project would not have happened if not for the generosity and thoughtfulness of the Ktunaxa and these community organizations and the dedicated people who work within them. I am so proud to be a part of this."

Although BC Hydro does not hold a water licence for Koocanusa Reservoir, the circumstances around this reservoir are unique in that BC Hydro benefits from the flow regulation provided by Koocanusa at its downstream power plants. Local BC residents are affected by the U.S.-based Libby Dam, which is responsible for reservoir operations. BC Hydro recognizes the community's concerns about recreational opportunities and public access on the reservoir. This new boat launch will bring a similar benefit to Koocanusa Reservoir as to other reservoirs where BC Hydro is legally obligated to provide access.

In addition to their direct financial contributions, BC Hydro will provide construction management for the project.

The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations—Recreation Sites & Trails (RSTBC) has also been involved. Once construction is complete, the launch will be a recreation site managed through a partnership of RSTBC and the Regional District of East Kootenay (RDEK).

"As the eventual operators of the boat launch, the RDEK looks forward to working with residents and visitors to ensure they have a positive experience accessing the Koocanusa Reservoir for years to come," said RDEK Vice-Chair Rob Gay.

The launch's opening is expected to take place in July 2011.

RELATED ITEMS

 [Two artist's renderings of the Koocanusa boat launch \(305.44 KB\)](#)

 Like

Youth Take Action to Benefit Basin Communities

Friday, May 13, 2011

Ten youth-led projects supported by CBT

Ten youth projects were successful in the recent intake of the **Columbia Basin Youth Grants** program. Offered by CBT, the grants support youth-led projects that directly benefit Basin youth (ages 15 to 29) and involve youth in project development, planning and implementation.

"CBT, along with our Youth Advisory Committee (YAC), which adjudicates the grant applications, is excited by the number and quality of applications we received this round," said Wayne Lundeberg, CBT Director, Youth Initiatives. "It is encouraging to see that applicants are using the support available from our Basin Youth Liaison, Michelle d'Entremont, who assists groups with the project ideas and offers grant writing workshops to help get them started."

Youth in the community of Valemount will be hosting an event similar to the television show "The Amazing Race" (\$3,500). Organizer Jared Smith said, "I wanted to create an event that will inspire youth to take initiative and create connections."

The project is supported by Valemount Secondary School principal Dan Kenkel: "We are excited to have this opportunity to get our youth involved in leadership roles in this race. Great things happen when youth get involved in supporting and creating community events."

Other successful projects include:

- West Kootenay Youth Peace Summit (\$485) (Robson Community School): Youth will be informed about peace, leadership and team building.
- Consciousness in Consumer Society Workshop (\$1,650) (Revelstoke Secondary School): Youth will learn about the influence of media and how it impacts their lives.
- Thinking sustainably (\$3,000) (School District #8, Kootenay Lake): A three-day workshop on sustainable building and permaculture practices.
- Veggie Bus Project (\$3,000) (created by students from Self Design High, based in Nelson): The project involves converting a diesel fuelled school bus to a vegetable oil fuelled one. Students will travel and connect with other youth providing a space for conversation and creating an inspiring vehicle for learning.
- Respectful Relationships (\$4,380) (Robson Valley Support Society): A project which will address violence in relationships by helping youth develop emotional intelligence around social justice issues.
- Gender Action Project Theatre (\$14,370) (West Kootenay Women's Association): An interactive theatre presentation to help youth think of positive ways to improve issues in their lives and their communities.
- Youth Social Action Theatre (\$8,330) (Creston and District Community Resource Centre Society): Interactive plays about youth-identified issues.

The leadership class of Invermere's David Thompson Secondary School will receive support for two projects: the I Am Beautiful workshop (\$1,000), which promotes self-esteem and confidence for grade seven girls, as well as assists the girls in making a connection with each other and senior girls before they begin high school; and the Breakfast Program (\$2,200), which provides breakfast to local middle school students. This project not only tackles the growing issue of students coming to school hungry, but also develops relationships among young people and encourages volunteerism.

"These projects got approved because young people identified what is important to them in their community and took action," said CBT YAC member Laura Archer.

"Invermere's two projects are excellent examples of youth coming forward with the ideas and working through the whole application process through to project implementation. These students and their applications have everything we look for and we are excited to see more applicants like this in our next intake," added Lundeberg.

While the deadline for the next intake of Columbia Basin Youth Grants is in October 2011, it's never too early to begin your application. Residents with project ideas are encouraged to start their applications by contacting Michelle d'Entremont, CBT's Basin Youth Liaison, at cbtyouth@cbt.org well before the deadline. The Liaison provides support to applicants throughout the process, including discussing project ideas, providing application assistance and giving grant writing workshops. For more information, visit www.scratchonline.ca/grants.

CBT takes an active role in developing opportunities for youth in the Basin by investing in projects brought forth by young people 15 to 29 years old, and has a variety of programs and initiatives that encourage youth engagement. Visit www.cbt.org/youth for more information, and pick up the next issue of *Scratch* magazine at outlets throughout the Basin.



CBT Seeks Advisory Committee Members

Tuesday, April 19, 2011

Members provide advice on how CBT delivers benefits to the region

Basin residents interested in providing advice to CBT on delivering benefits to the region are invited to apply for volunteer positions on CBT's core social, economic and environment advisory committees. The application deadline is May 20, 2011.

"We rely on our advisory committee members for their community perspective, as well as their experience in their area of expertise," said Neil Muth, CBT President and CEO.

"Committee members play an important role in providing us strategic advice on our activities and priorities."

Committee members provide input according to the vision and principles outlined in the Columbia Basin Management Plan. Advice is sought on a range of issues specific to the committee's area of focus, or more generally in regard to CBT's overall direction.

For more information about the social, economic and environment advisory committees or to apply before May 20, 2011, visit: www.cbt.org/committees.

CBT also invites youth to apply to both the core committees and its Youth Advisory Committee, which has separate recruitment processes and timelines. For more information on the Youth Advisory Committee or to apply before June 30, 2011, visit www.scratchonline.ca/aboutus/application.



Engaging Communities

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Communities and organizations striving to involve people in their planning processes can now access information about effective community engagement at www.cbt.org/communityengagement.

The web page includes a new inspiring video highlighting three successful stories of community engagement in the Columbia Basin. Other online resources include creative engagement techniques, case studies of community engagement in Basin communities and a detailed list of smart practices for community engagement.

The page and resources were created by CBT in collaboration with Fraser Basin Council, Smart Planning for Communities, and are a result of research into effective community engagement strategies.

"There are a number of communities that are undertaking their own visioning or planning processes and that have a genuine desire to make sure a diversity of voices are involved," said Sabrina Curtis, CBT Director, Planning and Development. "These communities can now access a suite of tools to help them shape their processes."

"Community engagement is a process of bringing people together to talk about important decisions," said Laurie Cordell, Sustainability Facilitator, Fraser Basin Council. "It builds stronger communities that are connected to each other, to the individuals within the community and to the vision of their future."

Providing useful, credible, accessible information and expertise is one of the ways CBT serves the residents of the Basin. To learn more about CBT's work with people in the Basin, visit www.cbt.org/workingwithcommunities.



CBT contributes \$20,000 to Centre 64 in Kimberley BC

Monday, June 13, 2011

Kimberley's Centre 64 receives a \$20,000 contribution from CBT

CBT contributed \$20,000 to the Kimberley Arts Council (KAC) "Centre 64 expansion project in Kimberley. Kimberley has a strong arts-orientated community, and the expansion of the centre will greatly benefit not only the city, but surrounding communities as well.

"Centre 64 is a great asset to the residents of Kimberley and a great venue for showcasing the many talented individuals we have in this area," said Carrie Schafer, CBT Community Liaison, "We are honoured to help enrich the arts community in Kimberley and in all areas of the Basin."

CBT's support will be used toward the costs of purchasing the land adjacent to Centre 64.

Learn more about the expansion project and Centre 64 at

<http://www.kimberleyarts.com/index.htm>

