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Issue 60

February 2014

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Get Involved

Feb. 28 to March 14: [Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Programs Deadlines](#) (Village of Valemount, Regional District of Central Kootenay and Regional District of Kootenay Boundary)

March 7 and 21: [Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance Deadlines](#)

March 9: [School Works Program Deadline](#)

March 10: [Youth Grants Program Deadline](#)

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Opportunities

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**New: CBT's
2014/15 –
2016/17
Service
Plan**



Save the Date: The [Columbia River Basin Conference](#) takes place Oct. 21 to 23, 2014, in Spokane, Washington.



Do you know a youth who is graduating from secondary school? They can apply for a \$2,000 [Youth Community Service Award](#).



Know someone who might be interested in this email?
Forward to a friend.

Hire A Student, Get A Wage Subsidy

Thursday, February 06, 2014

Application forms for popular Summer Works Program available Feb. 21

If you own a small business in the Basin, you can get financial help to hire a student over the summer by applying for a wage subsidy from Columbia Basin Trust's Summer Works Program. Application forms are available starting February 21, 2014, at cbt.org/summerworks. Because the program is popular, you're encouraged to submit your application form as soon as possible.

Kaslo's Honey Candles was one of the businesses that benefited from the program last year.

"It was so beneficial having a student assist with day-to-day operations throughout the summer," said owner Leah Honkanen. "Her employment allowed me to focus on other areas of the business, and it felt wonderful to provide an opportunity for youth employment in a rural area."

Golden's Cedar House Restaurant and Chalets was one of the businesses that benefited from the program last year.

"The Summer Works Program provided support during our busy summer season by giving us the ability to hire a student," said owner Darrin De Rosa. "The program provides a great opportunity for growth for both the student and the employer."

Rossland's The Red Pair Shoe Store was one of the businesses that benefited from the program last year.

"The Summer Works program is fantastic," said owner Stephanie Robinson. "I can hire a student who needs to work during the summer months, and I can afford to give her those hours. I would be one burnt-out person without this program."

Summer Works also helped The Red Pair Shoe Store's summer student, Jenessa Turner: "I was so thankful that my employer offered me this employment under the Summer Works Program. It gave me the opportunity to work more hours, and thus be able to pay for my schooling next year. Without the program, I would not have been able to work as many hours and learn as many retail skills as I did."

Fernie's Giv'er Shirtworks was one of the businesses that benefited from the program last year.

"The Summer Works Program gave my business an opportunity we wouldn't have been able to take on otherwise," said owner Erin Summers. "The program administrators are extremely helpful, which makes it simple for businesses to participate. I would recommend the program to any business owner looking to add value to their business. Libby was a great addition to our team."

Summer Works also helped Giv'er Shirtworks' summer student, Libby Vanderschuit: "I found working at Giv'er Shirtworks to be very helpful. It is liberating to be in a workplace where you are surrounded by great people who encourage you to progress in your work. I had the freedom to create, which is essential for me. I am very thankful for the experience."

To help businesses offer summer jobs to high school and post-secondary students, the program provides a wage subsidy of up to \$8 per hour for entry-level or career related positions. Since 2010, Summer Works has helped create up to 150 student jobs each summer in the Columbia Basin.

"Businesses benefit from the extra staff support and students earn money for school plus get valuable job experience - it's positive for everyone involved," said Sabrina Curtis, Director, Sector Initiatives at Columbia Basin Trust.

College of the Rockies administers the Summer Works Program. "Delivering this program for the Trust is an excellent way for us to help students throughout the Basin, plus affect the development of local economies," said Tracey Whiting, Manager, Continuing Education and Contract Training, College of the Rockies.

For more information about the program, visit cbt.org/summerworks, email summerworks@cbt.org or call 1.877.489.2687, ext. 3644.



Invermere Apartments Converted Into Affordable Housing

Thursday, February 20, 2014

An 18-unit apartment complex in Invermere was purchased and converted into affordable housing for low-income families. The governments of Canada and British Columbia provided a combined investment of \$744,558 toward the project, while the Trust contributed another \$744,558.

"It is great to see an existing building converted to meet community needs," said Neil Muth, Trust President and CEO. "All partners and community members connected with this project worked hard and worked cooperatively. The Trust is pleased to support increased access to affordable housing for the residents of Invermere."

Located at 218 – 10 Ave., the complex consists of 18 two-bedroom apartments for low-income families. Minor renovations and upgrades to the building, including replacement of windows and exterior lighting, are scheduled to take place in summer 2014.

Read the full release [here](#).

Read more about the Affordable Rental Housing initiative [here](#).



Spacious New Storefront Helps Give Back

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

With funding from Columbia Basin Trust, expanded Castlegar Treasure Shop continues to support regional health fundraising

The unofficial motto of the Castlegar & District Hospital Auxiliary Society is, "the community gives to us and we give back to the community for the health of it!" Supporting regional health fundraising efforts is made possible through the Hospital Auxiliary Treasure Shop in downtown Castlegar.

In existence since 1992, the Treasure Shop's impressive roster of over 60 volunteers run the storefront to raise funds for equipment, training, support, facilities services and other assistance to health care delivery in Castlegar and surrounding areas. Bursaries and scholarship for students entering the medical field at Selkirk College are also offered.

With over three years of planning and a grant from Columbia Basin Trust of \$60,000, the Treasure Shop is expanding their building which will allow them to sell larger items such as furniture - in turn, providing more benefits to the community.

"Our society is extremely grateful for the Trust's support of the Treasure Shop expansion. The expansion of our store allows us to give back to the community faster and we have the whole community behind us—it's all coming together!" said Nettie Stupnikoff, President, Castlegar & District Hospital Auxiliary Society. "We hope to have the expansion complete by the end of March, but we are still open during construction."

The expansion will see the women's and vintage clothing sections moved to the spacious new 3,200 square foot second floor leaving the men's, electronics, books, and housewares section on the first floor. The second floor also boasts a large donation sorting area and a combination break room and meeting room for the hardworking volunteers. Drawing repeat customers from all over the West Kootenays, the Treasure Shop is a popular and affordable store that continues to profit the community.

"The Treasure Shop is a vital part of community-building in Castlegar and an outlet for people to donate time and goods to support health in our region," said Kelvin Saldern, Community Liaison, Columbia Basin Trust. "This expansion will allow the store to attract more volunteers and also bring shoppers to Castlegar's downtown core."

The Treasure Shop expansion project also received funds from Teck, Celgar Pulp, Kootenay Savings Credit Union, Regional District of Central Kootenay Area I and the Wishlow Family in memory of dedicated volunteer Louise Wishlow.

To donate or volunteer, please visit www.castlegarhospitalauxiliary.org.



Creston Celebrates One-year Anniversary of Affordable Seniors Housing

Friday, February 14, 2014

Seniors and people with disabilities in Creston celebrated the one-year anniversary of Crestbrook Gardens, a 24-unit affordable housing development funded by the governments of Canada and British Columbia, along with the Trust and other community partners.

"A one-year anniversary is a wonderful way to celebrate a project that not only was intended to make a difference in the lives of seniors, but has *already* made a difference in the lives of seniors," said Neil Muth, Trust President and CEO. "Credit goes to the community for all its work, and we're pleased to partner with government and local organizations who want to improve well-being for Basin residents."

Under the Seniors' Rental Housing initiative, the Trust has committed \$425,000 to the overall capital costs of eight sites in the Basin, for a total of 116 units. Projects have been built in Baynes Lake, Cranbrook, Creston, Golden, Kimberley, Revelstoke and Valemount.

Read the full release [here](#).



New Family Law Support Program Up and Running

Friday, January 17, 2014

West Kootenay residents who can't afford a lawyer and are navigating the family law system on their own are invited to access a new resource: the Family Law Support Program. Run by the Advocacy Centre in Nelson, this free program can help by offering information, referrals and access to forms, plus support in understanding and navigating the child protection system.

The Advocacy Centre, a program of Nelson CARES Society, received funding from the Trust to establish the program.

"We congratulate Nelson CARES on developing and providing this needed service," said Sabrina Curtis, Trust Director, Sector Initiatives. "It tackles an important social issue and helps families in need in the region."

Learn more at <http://advocacycentre.org/family-law/>.

