



Wishing You a Wonderful Holiday and a Happy New Year!

The staff and Board at the Trust wish you a wonderful holiday season and all the best for the new year. As a token of our appreciation for all you do to improve well-being in the Basin, we would like to offer you a free 2015 desktop calendar. To sign up for one, please [click here](#).



Trust Receives Environmental Award

Supporting efforts to enhance environmental well-being through education has earned the Trust an award in environmental education and



Valemount Community Forest Makes Purchase

The Valemount Community Forest has inked a significant land purchase deal that will help to expand the forestry industry in the Robson Valley [...full](#)

Events and Deadlines

December 18

Deadline

Request for Proposals: Strategic Consultant

January 14 to 21

Kimberley, Cranbrook, Invermere, Fernie

Our Trust, Our Future Workshops

January 15

Online

Columbia Basin Watershed Network Webinar

January 30

Cranbrook

Trust Board of Directors Meeting

January 31

Deadline

Waneta Terrestrial Compensation Program

Go to events page.



There's Still Time: Tell Us What's Important to Your Community

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Help Us Create Our New Website

We're working toward creating a new website. Your feedback will help us understand the needs of our website visitors and how we can serve you better. Please complete our short survey.

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Columbia Basin Trust Receives Environmental Award

Monday, December 01, 2014

Success due to many Basin efforts

Throughout the Columbia Basin, many educators, volunteers, community groups and organizations dedicate themselves to enhancing environmental well-being through education. As a supporter of these efforts, Columbia Basin Trust has earned an award from the Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication. It received the 2014 Award of Excellence in Environmental Education and Communication.

The award was presented to the Trust by the nominating organization Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network (CBEEN) at the Environmental Education Soiree & Expo held in Creston on November 28.

"We were both surprised and humbled by this recognition," said Neil Muth, Columbia Basin Trust President and CEO. "This achievement would not be possible without the incredibly committed and passionate educators, volunteers, community groups and organizations in the region, like CBEEN, that help us deliver on our mandate to enhance environmental well-being in the Basin. We accept this award on behalf of all of our environmental partners."

"CBEEN nominated the Trust for this national award to recognize its long-term commitment to environmental education," said Duncan Whittick, Executive Director, CBEEN. "Since its inception, the Trust has provided critical capacity for key environmental education and stewardship projects. As a result, we wanted to recognize the Trust for its important role in allowing a small area of Canada to become a national model for success. We also wanted to recognize the Trust's strong vision for environmental education which is showcased in their new Environmental Strategic Plan. This will allow for the continued development of high-quality learning opportunities for residents of the Basin."

Over the past 20 years, the Trust has invested over \$5 million in 185 environmental education projects across the region, including the following four major education programs:

- Wild Voices for Kids, delivered by CBEEN
- Education in the Wild, delivered by Wildsight
- Know Your Watershed, delivered by Wildsight
- Wildsafe BC, delivered by BC Conservation Foundation

Learn more at cbt.org/environmentaleducation

CBEEN acts as a regional umbrella network for environmental education which encourages environmental stewardship and sustainability in the Canadian Columbia Basin by supporting environmental educators. To learn more about their work, visit cbeen.org or call 250.341.6141.



[Click to Enlarge](#)

Directors of the Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network present Columbia Basin Trust with the 2014 Award of Excellence in Environmental Education and Communication. In photo back (left to right) Susie MacDonald, Wild Voices for Kids Program Manager; Erika Momeyer, Director, CBEEN; Yann Loranger, Director, CBEEN; Neil Muth President and CEO, Columbia Basin Trust; Ingrid Liepa, Vice-Chair, CBEEN; Dave Hillary, Board member, CBEEN; Duncan Whittick, Executive Director, CBEEN. Front (left to right) Kim Deane, Director, Columbia Basin Trust; Laurie Paige, Vice-Chair, Columbia Basin Trust; Greg Deck, Chair, Columbia Basin Trust; Gillian Cooper, Chair, CBEEN; Sonja Seher, Wild Voices for Kids Program Assistant.

 Like 3

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Valemount Community Forest to spur economic opportunity in the Robson Valley

Friday, November 28, 2014

Forestry gets a boost in the Valemount area

The Valemount Community Forest has inked a significant land purchase deal that will help to expand the forestry industry in the Robson Valley.

With the help of Northern Development, Columbia Basin Trust and others, the Valemount Community Forest Company has purchased 240 acres of land at the former Carrier Sawmill site where it plans to build an industrial park and log sort yard.

The deal means that smaller mill operators in the Robson Valley will be able to co-locate at the industrial park, which will minimize their costs and maximize their access to the fibre they need to manufacture wood products.

"We are pleased to support the efforts of the Valemount Community Forest in taking a significant step toward achieving its longer term goals," said Neil Muth, Columbia Basin Trust President and CEO. "It's clear their success will have a tremendous impact in the Robson Valley."

Under co-location, the small mills are able to acquire only the fibre they want in the species profile that meets their customer's needs.

Northern Development has approved a \$250,000 grant through its Economic Diversification Infrastructure program to support the land purchase.

Columbia Basin Trust has approved a further \$200,000 grant to support the deal.

Northern Development's Economic Diversification Infrastructure program has previously provided funding to support major infrastructure upgrades at airports, arenas, marinas and elsewhere throughout central and northern B.C.

Read more [here](#)

