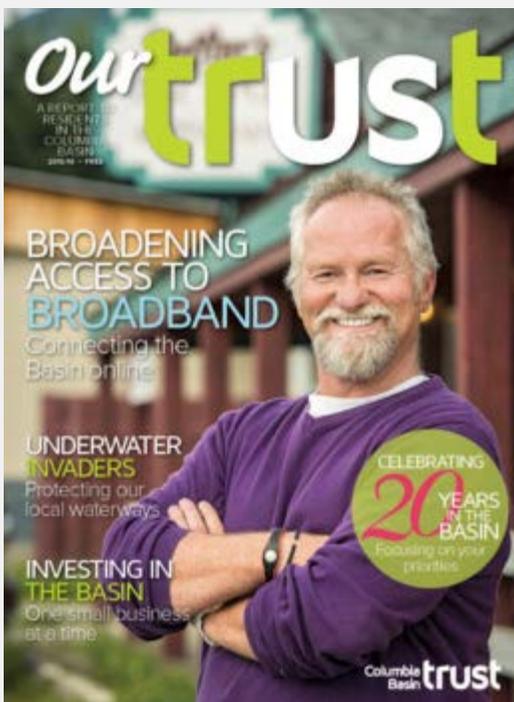




## Over \$1 Million For Environmental Education

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## Old Nakusp Fire Hall Open for Community Use

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## Our Trust Is Here

Flip through the magazine-style report and read about the great things happening in our region and to see the impact our programs and initiatives have on the ground. [...full story](#)

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## Events and Deadlines

**Deadline: January 4**  
New Opportunity

**Request for Proposals:**  
Telecommunication Shelters

[Go to events page.](#)



## Did you miss the Trust's Open Houses?

[Watch a webinar](#)

## Valued Buildings Upgraded

Two buildings that serve important community needs have been upgraded with Trust support: one in the East Kootenay and one in the West.

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## Over \$1 Million for Environmental Education

Friday, December 04, 2015

*Columbia Basin Trust renews support to two environmental education initiatives*

Columbia Basin children and communities will continue to receive opportunities to learn about, appreciate and care for the natural world around them, through Columbia Basin Trust's \$1-million commitment to two environmental education initiatives. These are the Know Your Watershed program and the Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network.

"These initiatives have proven successful, and we're pleased we can commit additional funding to help them become more sustainable, plan into the future and grow," said Tim Hicks, Columbia Basin Trust Manager, Water and Environment. "Through these initiatives Basin students will continue to have hands on opportunities to increase their understanding of the natural environment, which Basin residents have told us is a priority."

The Know Your Watershed program will be receiving \$540,500 over three years. Working with environmental educators in the Basin, the Trust developed this program in 2010 to help grade eight students understand where their water comes from, how it is used and where it goes after it is used. The program is delivered to schools by local educators around the Basin working with Wildsight. Learn more at [wildsight.ca/program/know-your-watershed](http://wildsight.ca/program/know-your-watershed).

"Wildsight is thrilled to continue working with the Trust to deliver Know Your Watershed," said Monica Nissen, Manager for Wildsight's education programs. "We hear from teachers and students across the Columbia Basin how much they love the action-oriented, hands-on learning of the program. Because it incorporates knowledge from local community experts, not only does it make a big impact on students, but it also strengthens the community as a whole."

The Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network (CBEEN) will be receiving \$500,000 over three years. Created in partnership with the Trust in 2002, CBEEN supports environmental education in the Basin by offering professional development for educators and providing them access to training, resources, opportunities and tools. It also delivers the Wild Voices for Kids program, which has local experts deliver curriculum-linked programs to schools across the Basin. Learn more at [cbeen.org](http://cbeen.org).

"CBEEN is excited to continue to play a key role in encouraging environmental stewardship and sustainability in the Canadian Columbia Basin by supporting environmental education," said Duncan Whittick, CBEEN Executive Director. "There are so many educators from across our region who provide excellent learning opportunities for both classrooms and communities, and we look forward to continuing to work hard to support their efforts."

The Trust highlights environmental education and stewardship as one of the five goals in its Environment Strategic Plan 2014-2019. To learn more about the education and awareness projects and programs it supports, visit [cbt.org/enviroeducation](http://cbt.org/enviroeducation).

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### Our Trust Is Here!

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

Each year, the Trust mails out a reader-friendly annual report to Basin residents. This year we are delighted to share our new report format and name: ***Our Trust***.

The magazine-style report tells the stories of community projects and programs we're proud to be a part of. **Flip through** and read about the great things happening in our region and to see the impact our programs and initiatives have on the ground.

As always, we value your feedback. Please feel free to share your thoughts about *Our Trust* at [cbt.org/ourtrustfeedback](http://cbt.org/ourtrustfeedback).



## Old Nakusp Fire Hall Open for Community Use

Tuesday, November 24, 2015

As the season turns chilly, local food producers, artisans, shoppers and others are glad to be able to retreat inside the refurbished old Nakusp fire hall.

Built in 1949, the building became available after fire and ambulance services moved into the village's new Emergency Services Building in 2011. A group called the Old Fire Hall Collective Society took advantage of the opportunity. With Trust support and through a WorkBC Job Creation Partnership, it has repurposed the old hall for community use by bringing it up to code and designing spaces that residents and community groups can use.

Currently, the most visible aspect of the project is a year-round farmers' market. On Fridays and Saturdays, Nakusp residents and visitors are invited to come and buy baked goods, soaps, knitted items, honey, jams and more. There are also two large meeting rooms available for community use.

Plans for the space also include a community kitchen for processing local produce, a tool library and agricultural workshops.

"We are, as a community, eternally grateful for the Trust's continued support of valuable community projects," said Rosemary Hughes, Society President. "The year-round farmers' market give consumers the opportunity to spend their food dollars locally."

"Nakusp residents made it known that a community space like this is a priority to them," said Lynda Lafleur, Community Relationships Manager, Columbia Basin Trust. "This project created local employment during the construction phase, plus helps strengthen agriculture in the region, which is one of the Trust's priorities."

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## Valued Buildings Upgraded

Friday, December 04, 2015

*Two buildings that serve important community needs have been upgraded with Trust support: one in the East Kootenay and one in the West.*

### Centre 64, Kimberley

In Kimberley, residents and visitors will continue to enjoy a vibrant arts and cultural community thanks to just-completed upgrades to Centre 64, the city's cultural hub. The \$245,000 project was undertaken by the City of Kimberley, with \$90,000 in support from the Trust.

Built in 1926, Centre 64 has been home to the city's arts and culture community since 1976. It houses a theatre, gallery and dance studio, and hosts dozens of events each year. When the building was last renovated in the 1970s, it met the building and fire codes at the time. However, regulations have since changed. The upgrades included installing fire suppression sprinklers and a heating, ventilation and air conditioning system.

"Before the upgrades, the facility did not meet building or fire codes and we were going to have to close it for safety reasons," said Kevin Wilson, Economic Development Officer, City of Kimberley. "This project has now made the facility safe, will improve the patron experience, and will ensure Centre 64's continued operation for years to come."

"Centre 64 is an important cultural and economic asset for the community," said Lynda Lafleur, Community Relationships Manager, Columbia Basin Trust. "It helps support artists and cultural groups in the community and region, increases tourism to the area, and enhances the lives of locals."

### Rossland Thrift Store

The Rossland Health Care Auxiliary Society has upgraded its thrift store with support from the Trust. This project will help it continue to support local health care needs.

"Since the early 1940s, our thrift store business has been enhancing local health care services and increasing the comfort of patients and residents," said Joan Hanson, Society President. "This renovation has made the building more safe and sanitary for our volunteers and customers."

Renovations included improving basement access by installing an emergency door and increasing air quality by installing a heat recovery ventilation system. These follow previous upgrades to items like the sales area, storage spaces, insulation, and fire and carbon dioxide alarms. These have all helped the shop comply with health and safety standards and building and fire codes.

"The thrift store is an important part of the Rossland community," said Kelvin Saldern, Community Relationships Manager, Columbia Basin Trust. "Not only do profits get donated to local health care organizations, but the store itself provides low-cost items to those in need. Plus it keeps used items from ending up in the landfill."



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Renovations at the rear entrance of the Rossland Health Care Auxiliary Society thrift store.

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