



Strengthening Opportunities for Youth

The Trust is pleased to announce the formation of a Basin Youth Network. This network will help communities increase local activities and opportunities for youth, enabling youth to learn new skills, such as leadership, and engage more with each other and their communities. [...full story](#)



Social Sector Organizations & Services Receive a Boost

Twenty-eight projects that support social well-being have been approved to receive over \$1 million in funding through the Trust's Social Grants.

[...full story](#)



Lab to Expand Innovation in Our Region

Local entrepreneurs, students, academics and makers will be able to work with innovative materials, test out original products and get help bringing unique ideas and products to market at a new laboratory in Trail. [...full story](#)

Events and Deadlines

February 19 & 23

Salmo and Online

*Arts, Culture and Heritage Grant
Writing Workshops*

February 23, March 1 & March 10

Creston, Sparwood and Castlegar

Me Inc. Workshops

February 25

Deadlines

*Request for Proposals: Non-profit
Advisor*

*Request for Proposals: Basin Youth
Network Regional Coordinator*

Various Dates in February

Deadlines for Applications

*Community Initiatives & Affected
Areas Programs*

March 2

Deadline

*Request for Qualifications:
Renewable Energy and Energy
Efficiency Consulting Services*

Go to events page.



Small Business Owners: Apply Now for Wage Subsidies

Learn more

Art, Culture and Heritage Grants Are Now Available

Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance will also be presenting workshops on how to apply and what to expect from the application process. More session information can be found [here](#).

Learn more

CONTACT

1.800.505.8998
cbt@cbt.org
cbt.org

SHARE

Know someone who
might be interested in
this email?

[Forward to a friend](#)

FOLLOW





[Subscribe](#) to this newsletter. [Unsubscribe](#) from this newsletter.

Strengthening Opportunities for Youth

Monday, February 01, 2016

New Basin Youth Network to increase support to young people in the Basin.

Columbia Basin Trust is pleased to announce the formation of a Basin Youth Network. This network will help communities increase local activities and opportunities for youth, enabling youth to learn new skills, such as leadership, and engage more with each other and their communities.

"We've been offering youth-related programs for over 15 years. Building upon these past successes, we're excited to be strengthening community efforts to increase support to youth," said Lisa Kilpatrick, Columbia Basin Trust Senior Manager, Delivery of Benefits. "We know youth need a range of local opportunities and resources to be happy and engaged in their communities, and we're committed to working with communities to achieve this."

The Trust has allocated \$4.65 million over three years--\$1.55 million annually--to the network. It will build on and incorporate the Trust's successful Community Directed Youth Funds program. Since 2011, this program has supported communities' needs to keeping youth active and engaged.

The Stoke Youth Network in Revelstoke is one of many successful examples. "We are really excited about the new structure," said Megan Shandro Revelstoke's Youth Liaison. "It aligns with what we are already doing; it allows us to identify local priorities and act on them. We were one of the first communities to access the Trust's community-directed youth funds, and we've seen tremendous benefits with bringing together community stakeholders and increased collaboration. I know that others joining the network will see success because of this approach too."

Many communities have already received Trust support to create community youth networks or groups, while others may now receive support to establish them. These groups will then be able to receive help from the umbrella Basin Youth Network to deliver programs based on community priorities--plus have a mechanism to collaborate with each other. The Trust will lead the network by developing programs, hosting youth-focused events and hiring a regional coordinator.

Collaborating is something Lori McNeill, Executive Director of the Cranbrook Boys and Girls Club, looks forward to. "Learning from other youth centres, talking about their ideas and trying them out, is so valuable to providing youth with diverse opportunities. I am also excited to team up with community partners in Cranbrook to build stronger programs that better serve the youth community."

Shannon Isaac, Youth Coordinator at North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society thinks the network is a great idea. "Having a key point of contact in the community who can communicate with and bring local organizations together, incorporate input from the various groups and oversee youth programming has been key for Kaslo and Area D. It's been incredibly collaborative, and the youth programming has been enhanced because of this. We look forward to building on this as part of the network."

The network will also support emerging needs, such job readiness, work experience programming, youth leadership, and others as identified.

To learn more about your community's involvement in the network, contact Michelle d'Entremont 1.800.505.8998 or mdentremont@cbt.org. For information about the Trust's other programs for youth, visit cbt.org/youth.



Social Sector Organizations and Services Receive a Boost

Thursday, February 18, 2016

Twenty-eight projects that support social well-being have been approved to receive over \$1 million in funding through Columbia Basin Trust's Social Grants.

"Through these grants, we're able to help social service organizations meet the needs of Basin communities and residents," said Liz Gillis, Columbia Basin Trust Manager, Social Initiatives. "These projects will positively impact health and well-being throughout the Basin."

One of the successful recipients is Creston's Valley Community Services Society. Its project involves educating families and expectant mothers about how to grow, harvest and prepare healthy food; this will help them reduce the financial costs of obtaining nutritious food and will improve the health of all family members.

"Counsellors and facilitators of the programs we currently provide have noticed an ever-growing trend of families and pregnant mothers struggling to afford to eat," said Justine Keirn, Director of Finance and Administration. "In response to the ever-increasing cost of food and the impact this is having on families and their children, this project focuses on educating parents of young children about ways to have a secure, sustainable, self-reliant source of food."

The Hospice Society of the Columbia Valley also received support for its project, which involves training the staff and volunteers of hospice societies around the region on how to provide bereavement support to specialized groups. The society will also be setting up bereavement support groups in the Columbia Valley for those affected by death due to traumatic events or suicide.

"These support groups will enable people who are bereaved for traumatic reasons to explore their grief and go through the mourning process in a safe environment," said Maria Kliavkoff, Executive Director. "The groups are an important way of normalizing the experience, working through the pain and minimizing incidents of depression in our community. We will also expand the training of our own staff and volunteers, and those of other hospices, so that they are able to provide support to these specialized groups."

Another project is supporting West Kootenay Boundary social service organizations. Called Establishing a Regional Data Gathering System, this project is part of the larger project PRISM: Partners in a Regional Integrated Service Model. Through PRISM, 14 non-profit social service organizations are coming together to organize and streamline their services. The goal is to have integrated service streams across the region in areas such as family support services, victim services, early years services and more.

"Currently, each organization delivers similar services and yet collects data a little differently," said Rona Park, Executive Director, Nelson Community Services Centre and PRISM Co-Lead. "Through collaboration, we will develop a regional system to collect, share and analyze data. This will enable us to generate more meaningful information, deliver more consistent programming across the region and better support the health, well-being and resilience of some of our region's most vulnerable residents."

Since the program was launched in 2012, the Trust has been able to distribute slightly over \$4 million to improving social well-being in our communities. Granting decisions are made by the Social Grants Program Selection Committee, a volunteer group of Basin residents that includes individuals who have experience and expertise in the social sector and individuals who have broader community development experience.

Social Grants is one way the Trust is assisting communities to improve the social well-being of residents in the Basin. Learn more about the goals and objectives of the Trust's Social Initiatives in the [Social Strategic Plan 2014-2019](#).

For more information about the program, visit cbt.org/2016socialgrants. To learn all the ways the Trust supports social well-being in the Basin, visit cbt.org/social.



Lab to Expand Innovation in Our Region

Thursday, February 04, 2016

Columbia Basin Trust commits up to \$850,000 to MIDAS initiative

Local entrepreneurs, students, academics and makers will be able to work with innovative materials, test out original products and get help bringing unique ideas and products to market at a new laboratory in Trail.

Known as MIDAS, the laboratory will help create new business opportunities, expand the skill sets of people who live here and increase regional competitiveness. It is being financed in part by up to \$850,000 over four years from Columbia Basin Trust.

MIDAS stands for Metallurgical Industrial Development Acceleration and Studies, and is being spearheaded by the Kootenay Association for Science and Technology (KAST). There are two main parts to the laboratory.

The first is a fab lab, or "digital fabrication laboratory," intended for rapid prototyping and training in additive manufacturing, which is a method of building 3-D objects by adding layer upon layer of material, such as plastic, metal or concrete. Users will be able to quickly create a model of an item--for example, a mechanical part or a snowboard--using 3-D computer-aided design and a 3-D printer. There will also be areas focused on electronics, laser cutting, molding, casting, metalwork and woodwork.

Companies and researchers can also explore commercial uses for metallurgical and chemical materials at MIDAS. KAST and partners will provide research-and-development and business-development services via the research organization Mitacs and the BC Venture Acceleration Program; if a new product developed in the lab has commercial potential, these services can help it reach the market successfully.

"In our region, with our metals expertise, MIDAS will enable us to use materials in new and novel ways that will provide us with a competitive advantage," said Amber Hayes, MIDAS Project Director. "It will also provide businesses with the opportunity to get prototypes made locally--they have to be made elsewhere now. And it will allow us to train local people on how to use this equipment, which will be a high-demand skill as new technologies change the way manufacturing is being done."

"This collaborative project will bring all sorts of people together--business people, students and researchers--to increase expertise and innovation in our region," said Johnny Strilaeff, Columbia Basin Trust Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer. "We have so much local talent and so many resources, and with MIDAS we'll also have the physical space and equipment. The potential for meaningful economic impact is exciting."

The MIDAS lab is currently under construction, with specialized equipment training opportunities available. MIDAS will welcome the public in September 2016. To follow the development of the lab and learn more about the technologies, like the MIDAS Facebook page at [facebook.com/midasfablab](https://www.facebook.com/midasfablab).

In addition to KAST and the Trust, MIDAS is supported by Community Futures of Greater Trail, Fenix Advanced Materials, Western Economic Diversification, Selkirk College and the Rural Development Institute, University of British Columbia Okanagan, Mitacs, BC Innovation Council, Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust, Lower Columbia Community Development Team Society and the Lower Columbia Initiatives Corporation.

The Kootenay Association for Science & Technology (KAST) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the continued growth of science and technology as key economic drivers in the West Kootenay-Boundary region of BC. KAST works with business and communities to support and showcase the opportunity provided by science, technology, entrepreneurship and innovation in our region. Visit kast.com.

Like 0

Summer Works Program

Summer Works helps small businesses hire high school and post-secondary students full-time in entry-level and career-related jobs during the summer break.

Contact:

summerworks@cbt.org

1.250.489.2751 ext. 3644

1.877.489.2687 ext. 3644

How To Apply:

[Summer Works 2016 Guidelines](#)

[Summer Works 2016 Application Form](#)

Applications are accepted on a first-received, first-served basis and are assessed as they come in, and continue until all funding for the program has been committed.

