



Caboose and Plow to Showcase Nakusp's Lesser-known Past

If you're relatively new to the community, you may not know the railway once held an important role in Nakusp and area. The Nakusp Rail Committee will soon be changing this by installing an old caboose and rail snow plow [...full story](#)



Modern, Multi-purpose Community Centre for Invermere

Construction has begun in Invermere on a new flexible, multi-purpose community hall. The Columbia Valley



We Have a New and Improved Website!

We're excited to offer you an improved experience, which will make it simpler to find the information you need.

We encourage you to take a look

Centre will be able to accommodate as many as 500 people, will house the local library and will offer spaces that can be reconfigured [...full story](#)

around, and as always, we'd love to hear your feedback. Please [let us know](#) what's useful and what could be improved. [...full story](#)

Events and Deadlines

June 28: Crawford Bay

July 12: Nelson

July 26: Invermere

Me Inc. Workshops

July 11

Deadline

Recreation Infrastructure Grants

Applications due at 1:00 p.m. PT/2:00 p.m. MT

July 22

Videoconference

Trust Board of Directors Meeting

[Go to events page.](#)



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Funding Secured for Trail Project

Trails BC is pleased to announce that funding has been secured for Phase 3 and the completion of the Cranbrook to Wardner Trans Canada Trail project.

[Learn more](#)

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Caboose and Plow to Showcase Nakusp's Lesser-known Past

News: June 9, 2016

If you're relatively new to the community, you may not know the railway once held an important role in Nakusp and area. The Nakusp Rail Committee will soon be changing this by installing an old caboose and rail snow plow across from the beach in the village's main park. The project is being funded in part by \$10,000 from the Trust.



The retired caboose and plow have been donated by Canadian Pacific in recognition of its history with the community. The caboose, built in the 1970s, and plow, built in the 1920s or 30s, will be transported from Revelstoke, and installation in Nakusp should be complete by July 1, 2016.

“Nakusp’s history is based on the railway. However, until now we have not had any significant exterior display, and the only remaining evidence of this history are sections of abandoned rail bed and one interpretive sign on the waterfront walkway,” said Beth McLeod, Secretary, Nakusp Rail Committee. “Having these pieces on display as part of our heritage, eventually with interpretive signage, will help significantly increase the knowledge of our rail history. Plus it will be another tourist attraction to help keep people in town longer.”

To support the mining boom, the railway between Nakusp and Sandon was completed in 1895 and extended to Kaslo in 1912. At the terminus in Nakusp, goods and passengers were able to continue by steamship to the main railway line in Revelstoke. Because of dwindling use, the last train out of Nakusp ran in 1988.

“One of the Trust’s strategic priorities is to support arts, culture and heritage, and this project is an important step in expanding the awareness of local history,” said Lynda Lafleur, Columbia Basin Trust Manager, Community Relationships North. “It has also been

an excellent example of groups collaborating to achieve a common goal, backed by strong community support.”



Modern, Multi-purpose Community Centre on the Horizon for Invermere

News: June 9, 2016

Construction has begun in Invermere on a new flexible, multi-purpose community hall. The Columbia Valley Centre will be able to accommodate as many as 500 people, will house the local library and will offer spaces that can be reconfigured to meet various types of needs, including conferences and weddings, arts



performances and film presentations, and martial arts practices and competitions. The building is being funded in part by \$500,000 from the Trust.

Located on the site of the old David Thompson Secondary School, the centre will replace the Lake Windermere Community Hall, which was built in 1946 and is now too small and outdated to meet the community's needs. The new centre is slated to open in fall 2017.

"The new multi-use centre is going to be an incredible and long-term asset and community gathering place for Invermere and the Columbia Valley," said Invermere Mayor Gerry Taft. "The new space is going to replace aging structures and expand the size and quality of everything from community dinners, to arts and culture performances, to our potential to host banquets and conventions. As a community hub and an economic driver, this facility will be a game changer for Invermere."

"The new centre will give residents more options when it comes to finding space to do the activities that are important to them," said Lynda Lafleur, Columbia Basin Trust Manager, Community Relationships North. "The facility will also make it possible for the community to host larger events that will draw people to the region and boost the economy."

Learn more in this [news release](#) and on the [centre's website](#).



Welcome to Our New Website!

News: June 7, 2016

We're excited to offer you an improved experience, which will make it simpler to find the information you need.

For example, these pages will help guide you and your project:

- [I Have an Idea](#) helps you develop your project idea so you have a solid plan you can use to approach potential supporters like the Trust.
- [I Need Funding or Other Support](#) helps you find which Trust programs are applicable to your situation, based on subject matter or type of organization.
- [I Have a Grant](#) gives you the information you need *after* you've obtained support. (Plus gives you a chance to share your success stories.)



We'd also like to point out:

- our [Strategic Priorities](#) page, which outlines our focus and support methods and updates you on our progress
- our [The Basin](#) website, which offers interesting information about our region.

We encourage you to take a look around. (And sign up for our informative [BasinLink e-newsletter](#) while you're at it.)

As always, we'd love to hear your feedback. Please [let us know](#) what's useful and what could be improved.

Happy surfing!



Funding Secured for Completion of the Cranbrook to Wardner Trans Canada Trail

News: June 10, 2016

Trails BC is pleased to announce that funding has been secured for Phase 3 and the completion of the Cranbrook to Wardner Trans Canada Trail project.

At a ceremony on Wednesday, June 8th at one of the current work sites off Ha Ha Road, an announcement was made by multiple funding partners.



The Trans Canada Trail (TCT) — represented by Sarah Meunier, TCT Trail Coordinator, British Columbia — confirmed that TCT will provide \$263, 000 in funding to the project. “We are thrilled to contribute to the realization of this beautiful section of Canada’s Great Trail,” said Deborah Apps, TCT President & CEO. “Our volunteers and partners working on the Cranbrook to Wardner Trans Canada Trail are creating a world-class destination Trail, and we are proud to count it as part of our national network.”

Columbia Basin Trust is contributing \$220,000 to the Trail through its new Recreation Infrastructure Grants program. “Our recreation infrastructure grants fund projects that support residents to lead healthy lifestyles,” said Neil Muth, Columbia Basin Trust President and Chief Executive Officer. “We are proud to support this community trail as we know it will be well-travelled by locals and visitors alike.”

The Regional District of East Kootenay was represented by Board Chair Rob Gay who was on hand to announce \$50K from the RDEK’s Community Works Fund

The Cranbrook to Wardner Trail is a tremendous asset for the region,” says RDEK Board Chair Rob Gay “Supporting the development of recreational trails is a cornerstone of our regional sustainability strategy and we are proud to provide this funding for Phase 3.”

RSTBC of the BC Ministry of Forestry, Lands, Natural Operations was represented by Rockies District Recreation Officer Lisa Cox who confirmed a \$50k contribution from the province.

Trails BC director and trail project team lead Al Skucas says, “These significant funding developments will allow us to finish the great work that has already been done over the last two years. We are already looking forward to a celebration event upon project completion next year.”

Phase 3 will see resurfacing of rail trail for 3 kms from Ha Ha road to Steamboat Hill as well as improvements to Cranbrook City owned rail corridor of up to 4.5 km. 17kms section of new trail on the Mayook section started last year will be completed. A short section of 1.4km of new trail within Highway 3 ROW will also be built near Wardner.

The overall budget of the project over the three phases will be \$1.35 million when done.

As a rustic and scenic complement to the already popular NorthStar Rails to Trails, the 40+ km trail will enhance outdoor recreational opportunities for the regional communities as well as serve to make the area a popular destination for trail users.

The trail will be complete in time for Canada’s 150th Anniversary of Confederation on July 1st of 2017 which also coincides with the Trans Canada Trail’s vision of having the national trail connected by then.

For more information, [click here](#).

