



Breaking Ground to Build Up Trail's Downtown

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[...full story](#)



Dramatic Changes at Charles Bailey



A Great Turnout at the Kaslo AGM &

Theatre

More renovations are waiting in the wings at the Charles Bailey Theatre in Trail. Phase 2 of the project to upgrade the Kootenay's largest performance theatre will take centre stage starting in 2017 [...full story](#)

BBQ

A big thank you to everyone who attended our AGM and community barbecue in Kaslo in September. It's always great to get out into our communities to talk with residents. The [presentation](#) and a few [pictures](#) are now available. [...full story](#)

Events and Deadlines

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Deadline: October 28

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November 3

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November 7 & 8

Castlegar & Cranbrook

[Societies Act Information Session](#)

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[RFP: Basin Youth Network Communications Consultant](#)

November 25

Trail

[Trust Board of Directors Meeting](#)

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Conservation & Restoration Projects Wanted

The Waneta Terrestrial Compensation Program provides a total of up to \$50,000 to projects in the Waneta area that promote conservation and restoration through research, physical works, and other on-the-ground or applied projects. **Deadline is January 31, 2017.**

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Breaking ground to build up Trail's downtown

News: October 14, 2016



Participating in the ground breaking ceremony for the Trail Riverfront Centre on October 13 had special significance for Columbia Basin Trust president and CEO Neil Muth. He was born and raised in Trail and shared some of his fond memories at the ceremony for the \$8.3 million new library and museum.

“It’s always satisfying working with communities to help them realize their aspirations, and Trail’s efforts to revitalize the downtown core strike a personal chord with me. We moved to Victoria when I was a young teenager, but I have always considered Trail to be my home town,” he told the crowd.

“This new library and museum building is going to be a spectacular addition to the downtown core and to the city.”

“Along with many of you, I have always seen the potential for this riverfront area. Your city is making that happen. The plans for the downtown revitalization are exciting,” he told the audience and other dignitaries gathered in Jubilee Park for the ground breaking.

The Trust is contributing \$500,000 towards the new facility. The centre is the latest project the Trust has supported in Trail’s evolving downtown revitalization. The Trust has also provided assistance for the lighting on the Victoria Street Bridge and for the significant upgrades that are underway at the Charles Bailey Theatre.

All of this along with the new pedestrian bridge and other efforts will help put the spotlight on Trail’s downtown core. Congratulations to everyone involved, including the mayor and council, the Riverfront Centre Building Committee, city staff, the Library Board, the Trail Historical Society, and all the volunteers who have worked hard to bring this project to life. Thanks also to Teck Trail Operations for their significant contribution to this project.

Dramatic Changes at Charles Bailey Theatre

News: October 20, 2016



Credit: Ryan Flett

Renovations will debut next spring

More renovations are waiting in the wings at the Charles Bailey Theatre in Trail. Phase 2 of the project to upgrade the Kootenay's largest performance theatre will take centre stage starting in 2017. Columbia Basin Trust is providing \$200,000 to the \$620,000 project.

"We are renovating our kitchen and building a permanent bar and lounge for guests to enjoy a beverage before a show and at intermission. We are building a marquee sign that is era appropriate with our new branding and will create a nice warm welcome as you enter the theatre. And we are purchasing our own sound and lighting equipment which is a step towards our sustainability and keeping the theatre affordable to renters," says Nadine Tremblay, guest services manager at the theatre.

The Trail and District Arts Council (TDAC) operates the 719 seat theatre along with the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) and has been working hard to make the facility a thriving part of the arts and culture scene.

"All of this is about providing a better overall experience to our patrons. The Bailey Theatre has had overwhelming support from our patrons, and I'm so grateful that people are coming out to shows more now than they have in the last 10 years. They are excited at all the new and varied programming, and local businesses are enjoying the vibrancy that the theatre brings to downtown Trail," Tremblay adds.

The Trust also provided \$18,100 to TDAC last year to implement Phase 1 of their three year business and facilities development plan for the theatre.

“The theatre is a vital cultural asset for Trail and surrounding communities. These upgrades boost the theatre’s community impact and the increasing theatre activity helps ensure the Trail and District Arts Council’s sustainability,” says Kelvin Saldern, Manager, Community Relationships at the Trust.

“These theatre upgrades are a significant contribution to the City of Trail’s arts and cultural sector and downtown revitalization efforts. The Trust has also supported the Victoria Street Bridge lighting project and the Trail Riverfront Centre, and we are excited about how these community efforts are reshaping Trail’s downtown for everyone’s benefit,” Saldern says.

Supporting the arts and culture sector is a strategic priority for the Trust which has funded several other performance spaces across the region such as the Miners’ Hall in Rossland, the Capitol Theatre in Nelson and the Langham Theatre in Kaslo.

Supporting the arts and culture sector is a strategic priority for the Trust which has funded several other performance spaces across the region in recent years:

- Charles Bailey Theatre, Trail – \$200,000 in 2016 for renovations and \$18,100 in 2015 for implementing their three year business and facilities development plan
- Capitol Theatre, Nelson – \$25,000 in 2016 for theatre improvements and \$96,000 in 2013 for equipment upgrades
- Langham Theatre, Kaslo – \$18,400 in 2016 for theatre and lobby improvements (through CKCA)
- Key City Theatre, Cranbrook – \$75,000 in 2015 for facility upgrades
- Centre 64, Kimberley – \$90,000 in 2015 to install fire suppression and ventilation systems
- Revelstoke Arts Council, Revelstoke – \$48,000 in 2014 to support the development of a vibrant arts venue in Revelstoke
- The Miners’ Hall, Rossland – \$413,000 over 2014 and 2015 for renovations and upgrades



A Great Turnout at the Kaslo AGM & BBQ

News: October 24, 2016



A big thank you to everyone who attended our annual general meeting and community barbecue in Kaslo in September. It's always great to get out into our communities to talk with residents.

We're happy to share the [presentation](#) our chair, Rick Jensen and our CEO, Neil Muth, made at the AGM, as well as a few [pictures](#) of the community coming together at the barbecue.

Thank you to Mayor Suzan Hewat, RDCK Area D Director Aimee Watson and Deb Borsos from Lardeau Valley Opportunity Links Society for providing an overview of the opportunities and challenges in Kaslo and surrounding areas.

A big thank you, also, to all the local businesses and suppliers who helped make our visit to Kaslo such a success.

Please contact us if you have any questions about the Trust's work:

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- 1.800.505.8998



Waneta Expansion Project

Overview

The Waneta Expansion Project went through a comprehensive harmonized federal/provincial environmental assessment as part of the regulatory approval process. The project was considered to not have any significant negative environmental effects. The project is expected to produce positive environmental benefits by directing water through the powerhouse instead of spilling it over the Waneta Dam thereby reducing downstream Total Gas Pressure (TGP) levels that can be harmful to fish.

One of the innovative features of this project is an experimental sturgeon exclusion screen. One of the potential environmental effects of the project is the potential for endangered White sturgeon to swim into the facility when it is offline. As a result, the facility has incorporated an experimental deployable sturgeon exclusion screen as part of the project design. The screen will deploy when the plant goes down to minimum output.

To ensure that construction activities at the Waneta Expansion Project are carried out in an environmentally-sound manner consistent with the regulatory approvals, a comprehensive Environmental Management Plan has been implemented and the project is being monitored by an independent environmental monitor.

Environmental Programs as a Result of the Waneta Expansion Project

Waneta Terrestrial Compensation Program (WTCP)

The Waneta Terrestrial Compensation Program (WTCP) provides annual funding to eligible conservation projects located in the Waneta, BC area. The goal of the WTCP is to provide financial support to projects that promote conservation and restoration of the terrestrial ecosystem through research, physical works, and other “on the ground” or applied projects. The WTCP will allocate up to \$50,000 annually (for seven years) towards projects that are located within the project area. The program compensates for unavoidable terrestrial impacts of the Waneta Expansion Project.

Projects that have been funded include Fort Shepherd Conservancy Area restoration, Yellow Breasted Chat habitat restoration, the Kootenay Camas Project

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and inventories for species at risk such as butterflies and common nighthawks. For more information about the program, please see the links below.

Links

- [WTCP Poster](#)
- [Waneta Terrestrial Compensation Program – Terms of Reference](#)
- [Waneta Terrestrial Compensation Program – Application Package](#)

WTCP Funded Project Reports

- [Reptiles at Risk 2014](#)
- [Restoration of Yellow-breasted Chat Critical Habitat 2014](#)
- [Native Plants for Native Pollinators 2014](#)
- [Lewis's Woodpecker Monitoring 2013](#)
- [Restoration of Yellow-breasted Chat Critical Habitat 2013](#)
- [Life History of the Common Checkered Skipper Butterfly 2013](#)
- [Species at Risk Inventory of Butterflies 2012](#)
- [Waneta Camas Inventory 2012](#)
- [Seepanee Nighthawk Use of Transmission Line Corridors 2012](#)

Fort Shepherd Bar Fish Habitat Enhancement Project

This project involves excavating the Fort Shepherd bar as a means of increasing the amount of time the area is wetted and therefore provides shallow water fish habitat. The project offsets the increased dewatering of shallow water habitat that is the result of incremental load shaping at the Waneta Expansion. The project will also eliminate one of the major fish stranding sites in the Columbia River below Trail.

Links

- [Fort Shepherd Informational Presentation](#)

Waneta White Sturgeon Flow Augmentation and Predation Study (WSFAP)

The White Sturgeon Flow Augmentation Program (WSFAP) was initiated by Teck with the Waneta Dam Upgrades and provides a minimum flow requirement during the sturgeon spawning season to reduce the potential for predation on sturgeon eggs during periods of low flow. Enhancements were made to the WSFAP as part of the Waneta Expansion environmental assessment to come into effect when the plant becomes operational.

A six study of predation on white sturgeon eggs was initiated to help assess whether the WSFAP is effective as a means to reduce the effect of egg predation

as a potential contributing factor to white sturgeon recruitment failure. The program aims to establish a relationship between flow and egg predation. An integral part of the program is a continuation of the long running Waneta sturgeon spawn monitoring program.

Waneta Fish Stranding Monitoring Program

This program monitors the incidence of fish and fish egg stranding associated with flow changes at Waneta. The program has been collecting pre-project baseline data. Post project surveys will be conducted after Waneta becomes operational to assess whether there are any impacts to fish and fish egg stranding from the Waneta Expansion Project.

Waneta Rare Plant Relocation Program

This program involves the collection and culture of rare plants that were unavoidably disturbed within the physical footprint of the Waneta Expansion Project. The plants have either been transplanted to a safe location or will be used in project reclamation. Species included in the project are Spanish Clover, Porcupine Grass, Prairie Rocket, Sutherland's Larkspur, and Small Headed Tarweed.

Waneta Terrestrial Monitoring Program

This program monitors the effects of the Waneta Expansion Project on the following listed species found in the project area: yellow breasted chats, Lewis's woodpecker, common nighthawks and herptile road kill. The only yellow breasted chat nesting in the Kootenay Region has been found in the area of the transmission line. Nesting locations and success are being monitored. Lewis Woodpeckers historically nested in one of the project temporary use areas. The nest has not been active for a number of years but individuals have been observed in another project area. Monitoring takes place on area roads to assess whether project related traffic may be resulting in an increase in road kill, with an emphasis on herptiles at risk, and if so, whether there are any locations where mitigation measures may be effective.
