

## Time for an upgrade?

As part of our work to support non-profit organizations in the Basin, we are now offering a NEW \$1-million grant program that offers technology upgrades, including software and hardware that support the operations of your non-profit [...full story](#)



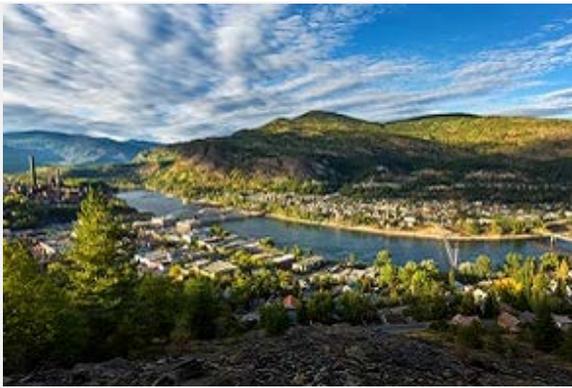
## Broadband on Kootenay Lake

A submarine fibre optic cable will span 36 km of Kootenay Lake and bring a faster Internet connection to communities on the north shore, leading the way for business and economic development [...full story](#)



## Attend #BCTECH Summit 2018

Want to attend BC's biggest ever technology business conference? Apply now to receive \$1,000 in support from the Columbia Basin Trust [...full story](#)



## Poverty Reduction Initiatives

We are now seeking proposals for innovative community-based poverty reduction projects. \$500,000 available for up to four projects that take action to reduce poverty in Basin communities and rural areas...[full story](#)



## Our Trust Magazine

Have you received your copy of *Our Trust* magazine? Give us your feedback and we'll send you a 2018 desktop calendar featuring photographs from around the Basin...[full story](#)



**Save the Date: February 27 - 28, 2018**  
[Columbia Basin Agriculture Forum](#)

## Events & Deadlines

**November 30**

[Kimberley Business Feedback Survey](#)

**December 1**

[Youth Sport Coaching Survey Closes](#)

**December 12**

[First Nations Housing Sustainability Program Coordination RFP Closes](#)

**January 5**

[Basin Youth Network Consulting Services RFQ Closes](#)

**January 12**

[Poverty Reduction RFP Closes](#)

**January 25**

Invermere  
[Board Meeting](#)

**January 30**

[Non-profit Tech Grants Deadline](#)

**February 1**

[Recreation Infrastructure Grant Deadline](#)

[Go to events page.](#)

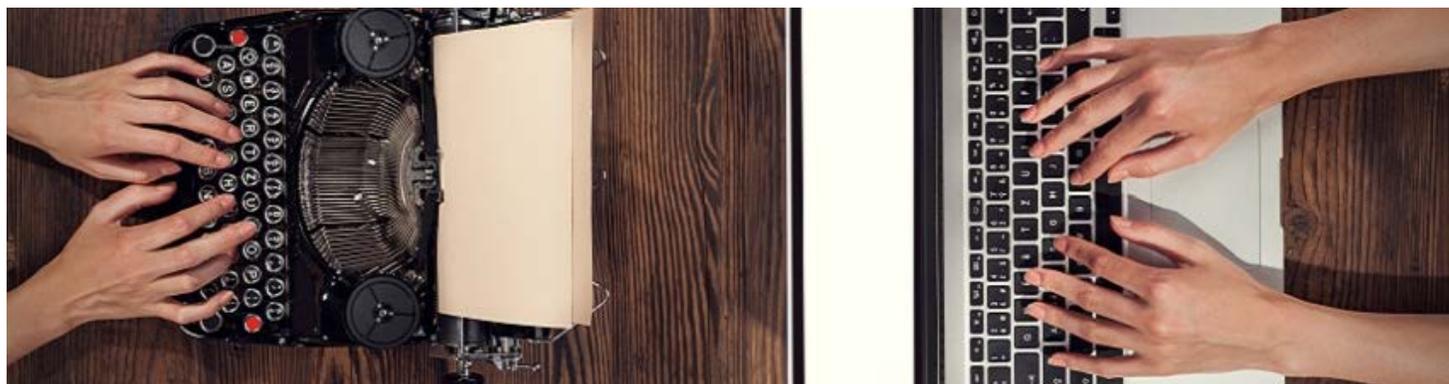
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# Supporting Tech Needs for Non-profits

News: November 29, 2017



## *\$1 million for non-profit organizations to upgrade critical office technology*

Outdated technology is a barrier for many non-profit organizations in their work. Computers, software, hardware and phone systems are increasingly essential in the delivery of community services non-profits provide, but amongst competing resource priorities, these items sometimes come last.

To help these organizations carry out their important work, the Trust is announcing a new **Non-profit Tech Grants** program with \$1 million to support the purchase and installation of office technology.

“The work of non-profits is an important contributor to the social, economic and environmental well-being of Basin communities, and helping them to enhance their organizational capacity is one of the Trust’s strategic priorities,” said Tim Hicks, Trust Senior Manager for Delivery of Benefits. “That’s why we’re providing non-profit organizations with grants to help address administrative, communication and capacity needs through technology.”

Eligible non-profits can apply for funding for the purchase and installation of items including desktop and laptop computers, tablets, software and hardware such as servers. Photocopiers, scanners and other related office tech items are also eligible.

There is no project funding limit but it is anticipated that individual project grants will likely range between \$1,000 and \$15,000.

The Non-profit Tech Grants program is a one-time intake. For more information read the application guide at [ourtrust.org/techgrants](https://ourtrust.org/techgrants).

The application deadline is Tuesday, January 30, 2018 at 2:00 pm PT / 3:00 pm MT.

# Connecting Kootenay Lake

November 28, 2017



*A submarine fibre optic cable expands the reach of high-speed Internet*

The lakes and rivers of the Columbia Basin have connected the people of our region for centuries. These days, these waterways have become a new means of connection: as conduits for underwater cables that supply high-speed Internet to communities that otherwise might have to go without.

Because of its remoteness, the North Kootenay Lake area surrounding Kaslo has had to work hard to ensure residents have reliable access to this important service. The Kaslo infoNet Society (KiN) has been leading the way on bringing the latest in Internet service to the area for two decades.

“If better Internet can be brought here, it enables many services to come to us that would ordinarily be found in larger cities,” says KiN President Don Scarlett. “The Internet can be a key driver for economic development. It enables young people to come and stay here, and start families and do well.”

As part of its commitment to helping residents of the region fully take part in the digital world, Columbia Basin Trust first helped KiN bring basic fibre optic service to Kaslo in 2014 through its wholly owned subsidiary, Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation (CBBC). KiN then decided to tackle the challenge of how to bring a faster connection to the community and other communities along the northern half of Kootenay Lake.

Scarlett and his team came up with the idea of laying 36 kilometres of fibre optic cable underneath Kootenay Lake. This would connect to the main CBBC network in Balfour—and provide a nearly limitless pipeline of Internet capacity to about 700 homes, from Ainsworth to Argenta.

KiN approached CBBC with the idea and CBBC stepped in to develop the project. It is using an innovative fibre design and new installation approach to laying cable under water, which will be more cost-effective than traditional underwater approaches or laying it on land. This method could also potentially be used in other areas of the Basin where going under water makes sense.

This project, which is also being supported by the Province of British Columbia, expands CBBC's 800-plus kilometres of fibre optic broadband network, and will have "points of presence" (places where Internet service providers can connect to it) in Ainsworth, Loki Lots, Pine Ridge and Kaslo. Points of Presence in Kaslo and Balfour are expected to be complete by January 2018. Through these attachments, KiN will have the broadband capacity it needs to expand its local network and improve wireless service to meet the growing demand.

"It takes a certain amount of fundraising and technical expertise, which is what CBBC is giving us," says Scarlett. "That is enabling us to bring massive bandwidth to a community that would otherwise have to make do with a very small allotment."

For Tammy White, a photographer with a home-based business in Ainsworth, the new service is great news.

"We're looking forward to having the speed increase and being able to send images to clients via the Internet versus having to deliver them," White says. "I think it's going to do wonderful things for our business and it will only improve with time."

CBBC works to bring high-speed Internet connectivity throughout the Basin. One way it does so is through its regional high-speed fibre optic network. Leveraging funding from the provincial and the federal governments, CBBC has completed the design and permitting required for this project and is hoping to have the network constructed and completed by the end of November 2017, testing is expected to be complete by January 2018.

To see our network coverage map, [click here](#).

To see more stories about our work, check out this year's issue of [Our Trust Magazine](#).

# Receive Support to Attend #BCTECH Summit 2018

News: November 29, 2017



Interested in or planning to attend *British Columbia's biggest ever technology business conference*? Apply now to receive \$1,000 in support from Columbia Basin Trust.

The [#BCTECH Summit](#) is a two-day event that showcases B.C.'s vibrant technology industry, builds cross-sector opportunities for businesses and explores the latest ideas and innovations fueling our economy locally and globally. It is the place for connecting industry, government and research under one roof to do business. Hosted by the provincial government in partnership with the BC Innovation Council, the event will help BC tech companies attract customers, connect with investors, network with government representatives and build their brands. It takes place in Vancouver on May 15-16, 2018

Columbia Basin Trust plans to help 50 Basin-based businesses attend the event, by offering up to \$1,000 to offset expenses.

## Eligibility

To be eligible to receive the Trust funds, you must:

1. be a registered for-profit business;
2. be a technology business or be focused on technology adoption;
3. be based in Columbia Basin Trust's region, [see map here](#); and
4. have been in business at least one year.

Note: A group of businesses under the same ownership will only be eligible for one subsidy.

## Eligible Expenses

Selected businesses will be required to submit an expense form with accompanying documentation after the Summit to be reimbursed up to a maximum of \$1,000 for the following eligible expenses:

1. #BCTech Summit Registration fees;
2. Accommodation;
3. Airfare (receipt and boarding pass required);
4. Car rental, taxi or public transit; and
5. Mileage (reimbursed at \$0.53 per kilometre).

## How to Apply

Send an email to [rgresiuk@cbt.org](mailto:rgresiuk@cbt.org) with the following details:

1. Subject line: #BCTECH Summit Support
2. Business Name
3. Business Number
4. Business Owner Name
5. A brief description (maximum 300 words) of your business, and how your attendance at the #BCTECH Summit will help you grow your business.

## Application Deadline

Apply by midnight on Monday, January 15, 2018.

## Notification

We will notify you by email by January 31, 2018 to inform you if your request for support is approved.

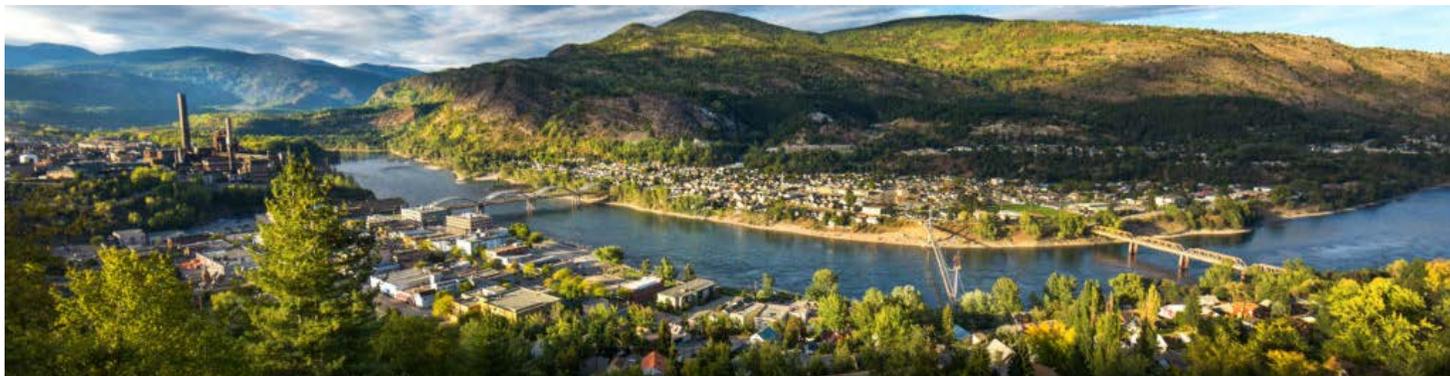
The information collected by the Trust in this form and your subsequent submissions regarding the Trust's Support to Attend #BCTECH Summit 2018 are pursuant to the authority under Section 4 of the Columbia Basin Trust Act and under Section 26(c) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The security of your personal information is important to us and we will protect it in accordance with the law. The authority to collect and use this information flows from the Trust's mandate to promote the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Columbia Basin. The information is related directly to and will be used to enable your participation in this program and for the purposes of bringing people together around key issues, focusing on local priorities, providing useful credible and accessible information and gathering ongoing input from Basin residents.

If you have any questions about the collection and use of this information, please contact: Dwayne Lau, Senior Manager, Information Services, by email at [dlau@cbt.org](mailto:dlau@cbt.org) or phone at 1.800.505.8998.



# Strengthening Community Efforts to Reduce Poverty

News: November 24, 2017



Columbia Basin Trust envisions a region where all Basin residents thrive – having their basic needs met, experiencing a sense of belonging and getting support when they need it. We’ve built this into our [Social Strategic Plan](#), with an objective to “undertake steps to understand and reduce poverty across the Basin”. This is why we’re helping communities address this complex challenge and supporting their efforts to prevent and reduce poverty over the long term.

Today, the Trust announced a Request for Proposals (RFP) for community-based poverty reduction projects. The RFP will make \$500,000 available for up to four innovative projects that take action to reduce poverty in Basin communities, including rural areas. Successful proponents will develop and implement their proposed projects and keep track of lessons learned so they can be shared. For details, visit the [BC Bid website](#).

Innovative work is already underway by the Columbia Basin Poverty Reduction Working Group. This group brings together Basin communities focused on poverty reduction and encourages collaboration by sharing knowledge and experience, enabling these community leaders to be better positioned to have tangible impact.

The working group, in collaboration with the Columbia Basin Rural Development Institute, has been recognized regionally and nationally. The group recently held a webinar for Vibrant Communities Canada highlighting their approach to poverty reduction in rural and remote communities, so other regions across the country can learn from their approach. View the webinar and presentation slides [here](#).

This RFP is just one of the ways the Trust is strengthening social well-being in the Basin. For example, we are also addressing affordable housing, workforce development, literacy, economic development

and early childhood development. Learn more about our social programs and initiatives at [ourtrust.org/social](http://ourtrust.org/social).

The Trust is also committed to addressing affordable housing, literacy, workforce development, economic development and early childhood development. Learn more about all our social programs and initiatives at [ourtrust.org/social](http://ourtrust.org/social).



# 2017 Our Trust Survey

You can see this years issue of *Our Trust* Magazine [here](#).

Thank you for taking the time to read *Our Trust*. We're pleased to share these Columbia Basin success stories with you, and hope you found the information interesting and valuable. Your feedback below will help us create the best magazine possible in years to come.

**Through this magazine, we strive to help Basin residents understand what the Trust does and how we work with residents and communities. Do you feel *Our Trust* meets this objective? (1 star = not at all, 5 stars = very well)**



**Which information did you appreciate the most?**

- Short stories about programs and projects
- Longer features about programs and projects
- Information about the Trust and its Board
- Financial information
- Other

**How would you describe where you work?**

**How can we improve this magazine?**

**E-newsletter and updates**

I would like to receive your monthly e-newsletter BasinLink and other occasional updates from the Trust.

**Your gift**

I would like to receive a Columbia Basin Trust desktop calendar for filling out this survey.

**Paragraph Text**

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

The personal information requested in this form is collected under the authority of section 26(c) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA), may be stored and accessed outside of Canada and will be used by Columbia Basin Trust for administrative and evaluative purposes relating to *Our Trust*. The collection, use and disclosure of personal information is subject to the provisions of FOIPPA. Any questions regarding such may be directed to: FOIPPA Inquiries, Senior Manager, Information Services, Columbia Basin Trust, Suite 300, 445-13 Avenue, Castlegar, BC, V1N 1G1, 1.800.505.8998.

# Columbia Basin Agriculture Forum

**WHEN:** February 27, 2018 – February 28, 2018 all day

CALENDAR

ADD TO CALENDAR ▼

Save the date for the Columbia Basin Agriculture Forum! Check back soon for more details about this event.