



New Internship Program Helps Employers Hire Recent Grads

Now more than ever businesses and organizations need qualified employees and post-secondary graduates need a kick start to their careers. Enter the new Career Internship Program from Columbia Basin Trust. The program provides wage funding for employers (up to 50 per cent of an intern's salary) to hire college and university graduates in permanent, career-focused positions...[full story](#)



10X Faster Internet Speeds at Selkirk College

Selkirk College students are now benefiting from faster Internet speeds thanks to the Trust's network. Students can remain in their



Four Projects Take Steps to Reduce Poverty

Columbia Basin Trust is providing over \$400,000 to four projects that are taking concrete, innovative actions toward improving

home communities while pursuing their studies and seamlessly connect with their campus...[full story](#) [Watch video.](#)



Protecting One of Canada's Rarest Heritage Assets

Like any ship, particularly a wooden one, fire is the greatest risk to the Moyie, and it is fire protection that is at the heart of a current project to preserve the 120-year-old vessel, with the Trust providing \$113,000...[full story](#)

the situation of low-income people in the Basin...[full story](#)



?akisq'nuk to Build New Rec Centre

Members of ?akisq'nuk First Nation in Windermere are making a community dream for a recreation centre come to life, and Columbia Basin Trust is providing \$500,000 to support their efforts...[full story](#)



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Spend your summer making a difference in the Basin. We have four positions available for passionate and driven students! Deadline to apply: March 5, 2018...[Learn More](#)

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New Internship Program Helps Employers Hire Post-Secondary Grads

News: February 22, 2018



Columbia Basin Trust program creates and retains jobs in the Basin

Now more than ever businesses and organizations need qualified employees and post-secondary graduates need a kick start to their careers. Enter the new Career Internship Program from Columbia Basin Trust. This program is now accepting applications on a first-come, first-served basis.

“This program supports our strategic priority of economic development in the region,” said Lisa Kilpatrick, Columbia Basin Trust Senior Manager, Economic. “It helps create jobs and increases employment opportunities for recent college and university graduates, a workforce that is essential when it comes to meeting the Basin’s current and future business needs. This will help Basin businesses and organizations grow and become more sustainable over the long term.”

The program provides wage funding for employers to hire college and university graduates in permanent, career-focused positions. By attracting skilled, emerging professionals at a reduced cost to the organization, they can expand their teams and build capacity. The funding is up to 50 per cent of the new employee’s wage over the first seven to 12 months, to a maximum of \$25,000. The intern position must include a training plan that provides structured learning to the new employee and transitions to full-time, permanent employment at the end of the internship.

Learn more and apply at ourtrust.org/internship.

The Trust also supports workforce needs by helping businesses hire students, including apprentices, through its two wage subsidy programs, Summer Works and School Works. Basin residents can also receive the training they need to secure immediate employment through its Training Fee Support program. These are just some of the ways the Trust is helping to create a diverse and resilient Basin

economy. Learn more at ourtrust.org/economic.



Four Projects Take Steps to Reduce Poverty

News: February 23, 2018



Points like the ones in this graphic helped inform a poverty reduction plan for the Lower Columbia region. Key aspects of this plan will now be put into action in Trail.

Columbia Basin Trust is providing over \$400,000 to four projects that are taking concrete, innovative actions toward improving the situation of low-income people in the Basin.

“We heard from Basin communities that they wanted to address poverty, and our goal is to support their efforts to reduce poverty across the region,” said Aimee Ambrosone, Director, Delivery of Benefits at Columbia Basin Trust. “These four projects are taking tangible steps toward that goal by working to help people overcome difficult financial circumstances.”

From a recent request for poverty-reduction proposals, the Trust has selected four projects. The results of these projects, including lessons learned, will be shared with other communities in the region to help increase their reach.

The [Nelson Social Planning Action Network \(SPAN\) Society](#) is receiving \$150,000 to help alleviate poverty by connecting low-income parents to services through community cafes, educating youth in financial literacy and employability, and helping local employers improve the lives of low-wage employees.

“This project builds on our work over the past four years to address Nelson’s very high poverty rate,” said Rona Park, Chair of the “[Nelson at its Best](#)” Ending Poverty Initiative and SPAN Board member. “We have good reason to believe that if we expand upon some of our earlier efforts, and continue to work closely with those with lived experience of poverty, we will see significant changes in people’s perceptions of poverty and feelings of isolation and exclusion in our community.”

The [Golden Community Social Services Coop](#) is receiving \$112,000 to hire a coordinator to work one-on-one with people in need, giving them a local, personalized way to access services that may help them out of poverty.

“Our project will improve the accessibility of services for people in need,” said Jill Dewtie, Coordinator. “It will focus on connecting residents with the supports and resources available to them while treating each client as a dignified and worthy member of our community.”

The [Greater Trail Community Skills Centre Society](#) is receiving \$125,000 to tackle poverty on several fronts, including training people to help individuals access local services, developing a card that will provide reduced or free access to services like recreation or transportation, and other efforts like community kitchens where people meet regularly to plan, cook and share healthy, affordable meals.

“This project will start to implement key aspects of ‘Thriving for All,’ the Lower Columbia regional poverty reduction plan that was developed by the community in 2017,” said Morag Carter, Executive Director. “We are very excited to receive the funding from the Trust and we will work with the community to ensure that the projects improve the sense of inclusion for low-income households and begin to reduce poverty.”

The [Ktunaxa Nation Council](#) is developing a social enterprise that offers long-term, reliable employment for individuals living with special needs or challenged by unique circumstances who are currently unemployed or underemployed. The Trust is providing \$25,000 to help develop the enterprise, and will consider further support once a plan is in place.

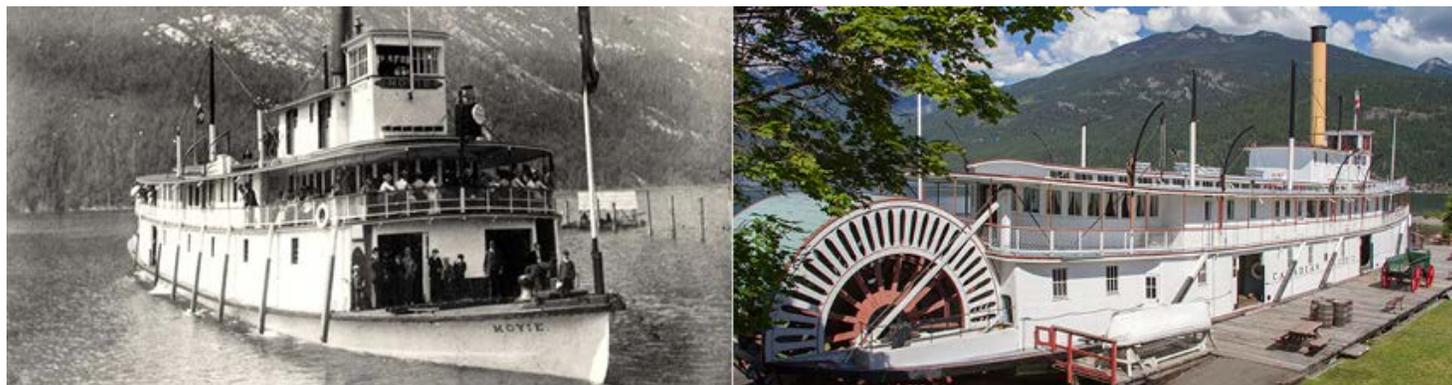
Business Development Officer Justin Paterson said, “We are looking forward to partnering with the Trust to undertake this initiative, which will help the Ktunaxa Nation Council create meaningful employment opportunities for Ktunaxa citizens within the territory.”

The support of these projects is just one of the ways the Trust is strengthening social well-being in the Basin. The Trust is also addressing affordable housing, workforce development, literacy, economic development and early childhood development. Learn more about its social programs and initiatives at ourtrust.org/social.



Protecting One of Canada's Rarest Heritage Assets

News: February 14, 2018



The Trust helps protect a national treasure, the 120-year-old SS Moyie. Photo credit: klhs.bc.ca

Columbia Basin Trust provides \$113,000 for Kaslo's sternwheeler, the SS Moyie

The SS Moyie is truly one of a kind. The oldest intact passenger sternwheeler ship in the world built in 1898, the Moyie ended its service on Kootenay Lake in 1957. Unlike most sternwheelers that plied inland waters in BC and the Yukon that were either scrapped or burnt at the end of their working lives, the SS Moyie has survived and thrived in Kaslo – lovingly preserved by the community and now a busy, vibrant museum during the spring and summer.

Protecting one of Canada's rarest heritage assets is an ongoing job. Like any ship, particularly a wooden one, fire is the greatest risk to the Moyie, and it is fire protection that is at the heart of a current project to preserve the 120-year-old vessel, with the Trust providing \$113,000.

“Heritage assets like the SS Moyie are precious resources in the Basin; that’s why protecting these assets is one of our strategic priorities,” said Wayne Lundeberg, Columbia Basin Trust. “We are very happy to support the ongoing efforts of the Village of Kaslo and the Kootenay Lake Historical Society to preserve and celebrate this irreplaceable asset now and into the future.”

The current fire suppression is made up of a system of water pipes pressurized by compressed air. During winter, while the ship is unheated, condensation occurs creating internal corrosion. Over the last 25 years, these pipes have begun to rust and break-down. The project currently underway will see the installation of a new system of pipes that will be pressurized with nitrogen gas, mitigating against condensation. The project will also allow the extension of the piping system to cover an increased area in the ship.

“The Kootenay Lake Historical Society has obtained generous grant support from Parks Canada and

Columbia Basin Trust, as well as smaller donations from individuals,” said Bill Yeo, lead for the Kootenay Lake Historical Society’s curatorial committee. “Together we can give this historic treasure a more secure future.”

The SS Moyie is the property of the Village of Kaslo and protected and managed by the Kootenay Lake Historical Society.

“Kaslo is rich in heritage resources and an integral part of that history is the SS Moyie which is one of our two National Historic Sites,” said Kaslo Mayor Suzan Hewat. “The Historical Society volunteers have done an incredible job of maintaining and restoring her to her former glory. The most recent challenge of updating an aging fire suppression system did not deter them. It is thanks to hard work, donations from the public and a generous grant from the Trust that this important safety component is being replaced.”

The fire suppression project is slated for completion in March; the SS Moyie will open for the 2018 season on Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 13. Learn more about the SS Moyie at klhs.bc.ca.



ʔakisq'nuk to Build New Rec Centre

News: February 8, 2018



Chief Alfred Joseph, ʔakisq'nuk First Nation and Wendy Booth, Vice-Chair, Columbia Basin Trust Board of Directors at the site of the new recreation centre.

Columbia Basin Trust provides \$500,000 to help realize a community dream

Members of ʔakisq'nuk First Nation in Windermere are making a community dream for a recreation centre come to life, and Columbia Basin Trust is providing \$500,000 to support their efforts.

“This multi-use building has significant community support and is the result of a considerable amount of community input and visioning,” said Johnny Strilaeff, Columbia Basin Trust President and Chief Executive Officer. “We’re pleased to be able to help ʔakisq'nuk realize its community’s goals while benefitting the local economy, providing more opportunities for physical activity and promoting a deeper sense of community.”

This \$4-million project is the largest this community has ever undertaken and will provide jobs and training for community members during design and construction, with further opportunities once programs are running. The 22,400-square foot sports complex will house a gymnasium, elevated walking and running track, exercise room, locker rooms, team rooms and a kitchen and seating area. It will also include office space for the ʔakisq'nuk administration. It will be available for use by anyone in the Columbia Valley, with activity options for all ages and a range of interests.

“This project is an absolute priority for this community, and its opening and utilization will be a source of such pride and hopefulness that it almost defies description,” said Heather Rennebohm, Economic Development Officer, ʔakisq'nuk First Nation.

Chief Alfred Joseph sees this Centre, which will be open to all residents and visitors, as a manifestation of the First Nation view, he added, “This community is not separate, we are all part of the larger whole.”

Construction should be complete and facilities in use by September 2018.

Better, Faster, Easier: Selkirk College Connects to Trust's High-Speed Network

News: February 27, 2018



Students at Selkirk College are benefiting from faster Internet speeds thanks to the Trust's broadband initiative. [Click to watch the video!](#)

10x the connectivity now available on Trail, Castlegar and Nelson campuses.

Selkirk College faculty and students are now benefiting from faster Internet speeds, thanks to a connection to the fibre-optic broadband network owned and managed by the Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation (CBBC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Columbia Basin Trust.

“The ability to connect to high-speed Internet impacts many aspects of Columbia Basin residents’ lives, including education,” said Aimee Ambrosone, Director, Delivery of Benefits. “By steadily working to expand and utilize our regional broadband network, we continue to see concrete results like these that help improve the quality of life, well-being and prosperity of our region’s residents and communities.”

The Trust’s network—which has brought the College a 10-fold improvement in digital connectivity—also helps bring high-speed Internet to local governments, service providers and rural customers in the Basin.

“It’s night and day as compared to before,” said Justin Robinson, a Selkirk College graduate and instructor in the college’s School of Environment and Geomatics. “You can download a gigabyte of data per second. The Internet connection at Selkirk now is the same as you would get in downtown Vancouver.”

“Before, students had to worry about file size and lag times; it was frustrating and limiting. Datasets we rely on for student projects that we had to maintain locally and constantly update are now available to us in real time. Students now have access to information that is more reliable and more readily available.”

“The Trust has invested heavily in the area to develop high-speed connections,” said Darrell Hicks, IT Manager, Strategic Projects for Selkirk College. “We were able to leverage that investment to give an organization like ours a reach we could not otherwise have. It has changed the conversation from ‘we can’t’ to ‘what do we want to do’.”

Brendan Wilson, School Chair for Environment and Geomatics, added: “Students can remain in their home communities here while pursuing their studies; they can seamlessly connect with their campus, instructor and fellow students on their mobile devices as they access distributed learning. For instructors it means we can explore new ways in which to engage with our existing students while also attracting new students to our programs. It means we can retain and grow our student numbers in the region and that benefits everyone.”

Check out this [video](#) about the benefits of broadband filmed and produced by Selkirk College Digital Arts and New Media student, Jonathan Robinson of [FMRL Productions](#).

To learn more about the Trust's work in broadband, visit ourtrust.org/broadband.

