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Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club Prepares for Development at Mount MacPherson

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CBT would like to congratulate George Hopkins from Revelstoke in being selected by Basin residents as the winner of CBT's Show Us Your Basin photo contest. Read more about the final results of the contest...

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The Basin's Glaciers
CBT invites residents for a free information session on the state of Basin glaciers.

COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST

ECONOMIC INITIATIVES
STRATEGIC PLAN
2010 - 2012

DRAFT

VERSION: NOVEMBER 2009



Draft Economic Initiatives Strategic Plan

[CBT is looking for your feedback.](#)

SURVEY

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Wishing you every happiness for the holidays and the coming year.

The Board and Staff wish you a joyous holiday season, and a New Year filled with peace and happiness. Columbia Basin Trust looks forward to working with you in the coming year to create a strong and vibrant region.

Happy Holidays!

🔊 [Listen to a holiday message from Neil Muth, President and CEO of CBT.](#)

CBT asked Basin residents:
What does the Columbia Basin mean to you?

Sherry Benko from Sparwood said,

"Freedom and Beauty."



We want to hear from you!

Give us your feedback on this newsletter, and win a CBT Desktop Calendar with beautiful Basin images.

To complete the survey [click here.](#)



Columbia Basin Trust supports efforts by the people of the Basin to create a legacy of social, economic and environmental well-being and to achieve greater self-sufficiency for present and future generations.



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L.E.E's Learning Centre & Spark Drop-in Celebrates Successes and Community

Monday, December 14, 2009

On December 3 the L.E.E's Learning Centre & Spark Drop-in in Kimberley held a Christmas Dinner with the staff, youth and community supporters to celebrate the Centre's successes and to give youth the opportunity to give back to the community.

CBT Basin Youth Liaisons Dana Welsh and Michelle d'Entremont had the opportunity to attend the dinner, all of which was prepared by the Centre's staff and youth.

"I've wanted to do something like this for a long time," said Bev Middlebrook, Director and General Manager. "It was a beautiful evening and had a real sense of celebration to it; the youth were smiling ear-to-ear."

While the event was a Christmas dinner celebration, Middlebrook said this year the event carried even greater meaning as it is the 15-year anniversary of the Centre.

In addition, Middlebrook wanted the celebration to be a kick-off to the grand opening of the Training and Learning Centre. With the learning centre opening in the New Year, the entire facility will have greater integration into the community, renovated spaces and a new outlook on creating sustainability and opportunity.

"We were honoured to be invited to attend this event and to experience the sense of community that youth and staff have created at the centre," said Dana Welsh CBT Basin Youth Liaison. "CBT has a mission to support people and communities and their self-sustainability, and youth are the key drivers of that future."

Michelle d'Entremont, CBT's recently-appointed second Basin Youth Liaison, added: "CBT's been a long running supporter of this centre and it is wonderful to see how it's touched so many lives. We wish the Centre the best of luck in its new ventures and know that the community of Kimberley embraces the value it offers to everyone that participates there."

Recently CBT provided funds towards the creation of a sustainability plan, new signage for the Centre, a kitchen renovation, a performance art development grant for a new stage and musical equipment, and an Arts and Cultural Mural.

"We are the longest running youth centre in BC and we've blossomed and we can thank CBT for helping us grow and become better at providing services to young people," said Middlebrook. "Now I want to raise our image in the community and bring the community inside so they can see the beautiful spaces we have available."

The centre's new Training and Learning Centre is anticipated to open February 1 and will create an opportunity for youth to work in sales and customer service, as well as create a new space for Kimberley residents to indulge in re-usable books and music supplies.

For more information on L.E.E's Learning Centre & Spark Drop-in, please contact Bev Middlebrook at 250.427.7017

Columbia Basin Trust Supports Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club

Tuesday, December 08, 2009

Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is committing \$75,000 to the Revelstoke Nordic Ski Club (the Club) for the construction of a day lodge at its Mount MacPherson cross country ski trails.

"This project is in line with CBT's role to support sustainable communities and foster regional economic development in the Basin," said Lafleur. "This is a well thought out project, with community support, and it furthers the direction Revelstoke has set, which is to build upon its winter recreational activities to improve the region's economy."

Kevin Bollefer, Board member of the Club, thanked CBT for its support: "We're really lucky to have Columbia Basin Trust in our community, and we really couldn't have done this project without CBT's support; everyone and everything have been so helpful all the way through."

Set to begin construction in May, 2010 the 1,000-sq.ft. day lodge will provide a much needed gathering space for children and adult ski programs, first aid centre, a place to organize races, as well as a second story caretaker's residence.

Bollefer said the Club hopes to use as many local resources as possible in the project and hopes all residents of Revelstoke will be able to take ownership in this facility in the future.

"Revelstoke is a really tight-knit community and we've already had great volunteer support, that's critical to have, we want to get people involved," he said.

The Club is the second oldest ski club in Canada, dating back to 1891. Currently it holds 350 members that maintain the trails at Mount MacPherson for use by the public all year, and with the project gaining momentum, Bollefer said membership is at an all time high.

CBT delivers economic, social, and environmental benefits to the residents of the Columbia Basin. To learn more about CBT programs and initiatives, visit www.cbt.org or call 1-800-505-8998.

Kootenay Boundary Community Services Co-Operative and CBT: Partner in Professional Development Training

Tuesday, December 08, 2009

In a unique partnership, Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) and Kootenay Boundary Community Services Co-Operative (Co-op) are working to strengthen Columbia Basin community service agencies.

Recently the partnership hosted its first 'Board Development Event' at Selkirk College in Castlegar; approximately 40 people from around the region participated.

The one-day workshop focussed on building the skills of board members from community non-profit agencies. At the event sessions were presented by local experts on risk management, fundraising, media release writing, youth engagement strategies, board governance and financial management. The workshop also featured keynote speaker Ilona Dougherty, co-founder and executive director of Apathy is Boring who spoke to the group on how to meaningfully engage youth in community-based organizations.

"The Co-op/CBT partnership is taking a proactive approach to strengthening the capacity of social services agencies in the Basin. Strengthening the skills of volunteer board members, is a tangible example of how our partnership is building capacity," said Helen Lutz, Co-op. "There's a real hunger for professional development opportunities from agencies in the region, and we were happy to offer this high quality workshop with a low registration fee. Participating in the workshop didn't require a lot of travel and we used local experts, with local knowledge," said Lutz.

She added that the Co-op and CBT plan to organize more professional development workshops for staff and board members of the non-profits organizations in communities across the region. Lutz is looking for interested non-profit agencies in the Basin who can help her create such opportunities.

CBT's Social Strategic Plan has identified the goal to strengthen and support local organizations working to address social issues as a key priority and the partnership with the Co-op is one way CBT is working on achieving this goal.

The partnership will build the capacity of community service agencies by providing professional development opportunities such as the recent workshop, developing service models for rural areas, and implementing standards to help agencies meet accreditation requirements.

For more information on CBT's Social Strategic Plan, please visit www.cbt.org/social. For more information on the Kootenay Boundary Community Services Co-operative, please visit www.thekoop.ca.



[Click to Enlarge](#)

Ilona Dougherty presented on how to engage youth for members from community service agencies during a recent professional development workshop hosted by CBT and Kootenay Boundary Community Services Co-Operative.



Winner Announced in CBT's Show Us Your Basin Photo Contest

Thursday, November 26, 2009

(Columbia Basin) Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) would like to congratulate George Hopkins from Revelstoke in being selected by Basin residents as the winner of CBT's **Show Us Your Basin** photo contest.

Hopkins submitted an image of a westbound steam train crossing a bridge over the Columbia River leaving Revelstoke.

"It is truly an honour to receive this recognition," said Hopkins at a November 24 prize presentation with Lynda Lafleur, CBT Community Liaison. "In my view, all the photos that I have seen that were submitted to this contest were absolutely fantastic. I commend each and every one of the photographers for their great work and for submitting photos that really showed what 'Our Columbia Basin' looks like and what it means to everyone who lives in the area."

The runner-up photo was submitted by Rob Wyatt from Montrose, with his image of a pair of Painted Turtles taken at Champion Lake, near Trail. Both Hopkins and Wyatt received Basin bags filled with products and services from around the Basin. Rounding out the top five were Sanne van der Ros from Golden, Douglas Noblet from Nelson and Gail Spittler from Johnson's Landing.

Neil Muth, CBT President and CEO said he was very impressed with the photos and extends his congratulations to the winners and to all the residents who shared their images and thoughts about the Basin.

"CBT received many wonderful images and thoughtful descriptions during this contest, which now serve as a reminder to anyone visiting the Your Basin page on our website, what a special place we are able to call home," said Muth. "It is great to hear people talking about the images and to see how so many of us share similar sentiments about this region."

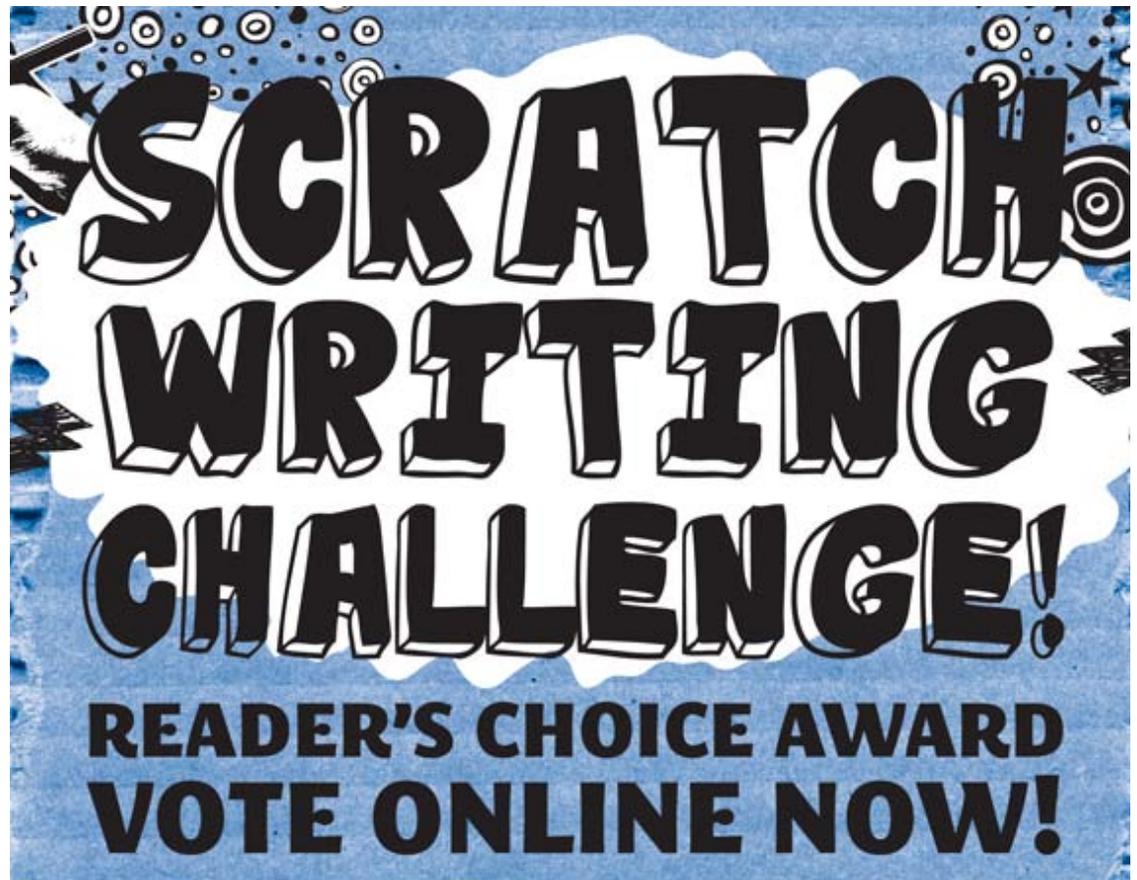
CBT launched the **Show Us Your Basin** photo contest in June this year, asking Basin residents to capture images that depict the beauty and uniqueness of this region. Hundreds of images were submitted to CBT with many residents including thoughtful answers to the question: What does the Basin mean to you? These images were narrowed down to ten finalists and then opened to the public for voting, which closed on Friday, November 20, 2009.

Many of these images can now be viewed online at www.cbt.org/yourbasin. To see the top five, visit www.cbt.org/photocontest.

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SCRATCH Writing Challenge

[Prizes](#) | [Rules](#) | [Resources](#) | [Submit](#) | [Vote](#)



The committee has made their decisions, and the winner, runner-up, and finalists have all been announced. For a complete rundown check out our [challenge update](#). There is still one prize left to award: the Reader's Choice Award! You can [vote online at scratchonline.ca/vote](http://scratchonline.ca/vote) and choose your favourite story. Tell your friends to go vote too. It's like Basin Idol, but for writers!

This was a tough challenge and we are impressed with the number of youth in the basin passionate about writing. We hope you'll continue to write and share by submitting to our website for your chance to be published in our SCRATCH Magazine. Our spring issue will be out this month and the deadline for our fall issue is August 1st, 2010.

Careers and Opportunities

Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) has a small, dedicated staff in its four offices in the Columbia Basin. From time to time, career and consulting opportunities with CBT arise, and these will be published on this web site as well as in newspapers.

CBT is an equal opportunity employer.

Debra Stewart
Human Resources Coordinator
dstewart@cbt.org
Phone: 1.250.304.1634
Toll free: 1.800.505.8998

Request for Qualified Applicants: For Consulting Services

CBT is inviting interested individuals or firms to submit responses describing their expertise and experience in performing one or more types of the following consulting services:

- Policy, Planning and Program Development
- Financial and Business Management
- Information Technology
- Communications and Design
- Public Engagement
- Event Management

The RFQA is intended to assist CBT in identifying a list of qualified contractors that CBT may contact on an as and when required basis.

The RFQA can be viewed [here](#) or please contact us using the information below.

Deadline: December 20, 2010 4:30 pm (Pacific)

Contact:

Rina Gresiuik
Analyst, Planning and Development
rgresiuik@cbt.org
Phone: 1.250.265.9935
Toll free: 1.800.505.8998

Volunteer

CBT is always looking for volunteers for CBT's Advisory Committees. If you are interested in joining one of the following committees, please contact us:

Social Committee

Aimee Ambrosone
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Youth Advisory Committee

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Water Advisory Committee

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CBT Contributes To Youth-Led Water Projects

Monday, December 14, 2009

(Columbia Basin) - Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) has awarded \$1,800 to three youth-led, community-based projects as an outcome of its first annual CURRENTS Youth Water Forum which took place in Golden, September 25-27.

"CBT recognizes the importance of actively engaging youth in water issues and one way we are doing this is through water forums such as CURRENTS, which also inspires youth to take what they have learned and apply it to a community project," said Heather Mitchell, CBT, Manager, Water Initiatives. "The selected projects will provide a great experience for the youth, as well as have a positive impact on their community."

The CURRENTS Youth Water Forum identified water issues and topics that were of interest to youth, and raised awareness about the importance of water amongst youth through hands-on, outdoor activities. Now, several youth are turning their new-found understanding and experience into action by initiating water-focused projects in their communities. The following three projects were selected for funding:

1) Inventory and GIS Mapping Project, \$600 - Castlegar. The project aims to identify aquatic invasive plant populations in the Meldiana wetland and riparian area, create an invasive plant map and determine appropriate control methods.

2) Native Plant Species Restoration, \$550 - Creston. The project aims to involve local groups and high schools in helping to plant appropriate native species along the Goat River to reduce erosion and encourage a healthy riparian area.

3) Invasive Plant Awareness and Plant Pull Campaign, \$650 - Revelstoke. The project aims to increase the community's understanding of invasive species, and illustrate how the continued spread of these species along waterways and riparian ecosystems can be detrimental to the native plant species, the birds, bugs and animals.

Tobias Gray, one of the youth participants at CURRENTS wrote about his experience at the Forum in CBT's latest edition of *SCRATCH Magazine* For more information on CBT's Youth Initiatives visit, www.cbt.org/youth.

CBT is committed to working with Basin residents to improve their understanding of and involvement in water issues. CURRENTS is one of several water stewardship projects funded and delivered by CBT. CBT is also working in areas related to water quality, water quantity, water governance and trans-boundary water issues. For more information on CBT's Water Initiatives, visit www.cbt.org/water.

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RELATED ITEMS

 (669.17 KB)

CBT Supports Local Efforts to Reduce Emissions and Adapt to Climate Change

Wednesday, December 09, 2009

While world leaders are meeting in Copenhagen this week to discuss climate change, right here in the Columbia Basin, local governments, First Nations and communities are already taking action on climate change with support from Columbia Basin Trust (CBT).

A survey conducted earlier this year confirmed that 75 per cent of communities in the Columbia Basin are already reducing emissions through retrofitting heating, insulating and other actions. The survey was part of the [Carbon Neutral Kootenays project](#) which recently received a [Community Excellence Award](#) from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.

Supported by CBT, this multi-year project brings together the regional districts of Central Kootenay, East Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary, local governments and First Nations to reduce emissions in their corporate operations.

"Communities and local governments told us addressing climate change is a priority," said Neil Muth, CBT, President and CEO. "It's our role to help communities in the Columbia Basin achieve their goals and we are doing that by providing technical and financial resources across a range of climate change initiatives."

In addition to the Carbon Neutral Kootenays project, CBT is helping three communities develop climate change adaptation plans. The CBT-led [Communities Adapting to Climate Change Initiative](#) has already assisted the [City of Kimberley](#) and the [District of Elkford](#) finalize action plans and strategies that will help them adapt to the expected local impacts of climate change.

Rosland, Castlegar and the Village of Kaslo, together with the Regional District of Central Kootenay Area D, are starting similar planning processes with assistance from CBT. When complete, these three communities will be better prepared to meet the challenges of the future under a range of climate change scenarios.

"We are helping communities by providing technical support, access to climate scientists and project management coordination in addition to funding," said Kindy Gosal, CBT Director, Water and Environment. "The expertise and knowledge we can convene and bring to local communities is substantial."

In collaboration with academics and climate change scientists, CBT has developed several technical reports and summaries which outline expected local changes in temperature and precipitation. Based on this science, the predicted local impacts of climate change include warmer winters, drier summers, and melting glaciers. A more detailed analysis and summary of the current science is available at www.cbt.org/climatechange.

As part of its own efforts to reduce corporate emissions and meet government requirements to become carbon neutral, CBT has taken steps to develop a corporate Carbon Neutral Action Plan which will be finalized in the New Year.

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CBT Supports Nelson Municipal Library with \$50,000

Tuesday, December 01, 2009

Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) Community Liaison Wayne Lundeberg met with June Stockdale, Chief Librarian, Nelson Municipal Library on Tuesday, November 24 to present Stockdale with a cheque for \$50,000 to assist the library in its Expansion Project.

"CBT has been a longstanding supporter of the library and recognizes that the community values this project," said Lundeberg. "Over the past two years CBT has provided \$203,000 toward the Library's revitalization. We believe the library will benefit the community and surrounding area for years to come."

The Library Expansion Project will see the development of the lower level of the building that currently houses the library. This will include the installation of a connecting stairwell between the two floors, refurbishing and reconfiguring the lower level to house archival items, a dedicated space for youth reading collections, a study area and dedicated space for activities put on by the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy.

"CBT's funding for the Nelson Municipal Library Expansion Project is important as the library strives to meet the increasingly complex needs of users in Nelson and the RDCK," said June Stockdale, Chief Librarian, Nelson Municipal Library. "Though circulation of materials at the Library is at an all time high, libraries of today are not only about lending books and other materials, but also about social gathering spaces, places to meet, to sit quietly and read, to play chess, or to read to your child. The expanded facility provides accommodation for meeting the diverse needs of library users in the 21st Century."

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