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stunning, diverse
scenery and
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communities.*

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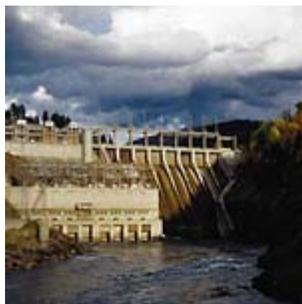
BASINLink

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Get Involved

Until Sept. 30: [CBT seeks input](#) from Basin Residents on its 2011–2015 Strategic Priorities

Sept. 17–18: [CBT AGM](#) (Fernie)

Sept. 24–26: [CURRENTS: Columbia Basin Trust Youth Water Forum](#) (Nakusp)

Oct. 4 & 14: [Enterprising Non-profits Orientation Sessions](#) (Nelson and Invermere)

Oct. 22–24: [Shaping our Future Together: 2010 Columbia Basin Symposium](#) (Revelstoke)

Oct. 25: [Columbia Basin Youth Grants Application Deadline](#)

[View more events and deadlines.](#)



Opportunities

Job Opportunity

[Administrative Assistant, Golden Office](#)

Request for Proposals

[Delivery of Benefits Performance Measure – Survey of Residents](#)

Available online and in person at any CBT office: [CBT's 2009/10 Annual Report](#) and [Report to Residents 2010](#).

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[Forward to a friend.](#)

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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Partnership Moves Waneta Expansion Project Forward

Thursday, August 26, 2010

Columbia Power Corporation (CPC) and Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) have reached an agreement in principle with Fortis Inc. (Fortis) to further the advancement of the Waneta Expansion Project.

"As the only government MLA for the Kootenays, it is important to me that this project proceeds. The project brings approximately 400 jobs and \$200 million in wages and benefits to the Kootenay region," said Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Minister Bill Bennett. "This agreement is the result of a tremendous amount of hard work and co-operation from all the parties involved."

The proposed structure with Fortis would be a partnership, the equity interests of which will be owned 49 per cent by CPC and CBT and 51 per cent by Fortis. In addition, FortisBC Inc. (a subsidiary of Fortis), commits to purchasing capacity available from the project.

Both CPC and CBT acknowledged the efforts and support of the provincial government.

"This agreement is one more step towards the advancement of the Waneta Expansion Project," said Victor Jmaeff, Vice President, Sales and Development for CPC. "In particular, I'd like to recognize Bill Bennett for supporting and facilitating the project. It is a complex and challenging undertaking, but we are hopeful this very important project may now be realized."

A Notice of Intent has been posted on BC Bid giving interested parties the opportunity to express their interest in investing in the project if they can provide similar or improved economic benefits over those of Fortis. SNC-Lavalin remains the preferred proponent for the construction of the project. Interested companies can review the Notice of Intent online through BC Bid (www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca) and have until 4:30 p.m. (PST) on 13 September, 2010 to submit their proposals.

"This is an important milestone for both the partners and the region, and after months of hard work, we are pleased that we have a framework that could allow the project to move forward," said Neil Muth, President and CEO, Columbia Basin Trust. "While this is a significant step forward, it is only the first of several processes that must be successfully concluded before construction on the project can begin."

The Waneta Expansion is a proposal to construct a second powerhouse adjacent to Teck's existing Waneta Dam on the Pend d'Oreille River, near Trail. The Province acquired expansion rights to the Waneta Dam in 1994 from Teck Cominco. The rights were transferred to Columbia Power Corporation in 1995 and are now held by Waneta Expansion Power Corporation, a subsidiary of Columbia Power and Columbia Basin Trust.

For further information, please contact:

Audrey Repin
Director, Communications and Community Relations
Columbia Power Corporation
Ph. 250.304.6044 or Cell 250.365.9502

Land Purchase Completes Important Wildlife Corridor

Wednesday, August 11, 2010

CBT provides \$200,000 to support Luke Creek property purchase.

CBT is contributing \$200,000 to support the purchase of the Luke Creek property, 123.7 hectares located between Kimberley and Cranbrook. The land is being acquired by The Land Conservancy of British Columbia (TLC) to preserve its ecological value and increase the connectivity of surrounding protected areas.

"A focus of CBT's Environment Program is to assist the people of the Basin to create an environmental legacy, and being involved in this project helps CBT fulfill our commitment to that goal," said Neil Muth, President and CEO. "The Luke Creek purchase is an excellent opportunity to secure land that complements previous conservation purchases in the area, establishing an important wildlife corridor."

The purchase of the Luke Creek property, which is also being supported by the B.C. Hydro Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program and current owner Teck, will complete the Luke Creek Wildlife Corridor. The corridor connects to other conservation properties, several of which were purchased thanks in part to CBT, whose support has totalled over \$680,000.

"We're thrilled to have Columbia Basin Trust's support to complete the Luke Creek Wildlife Corridor," said Kathleen Sheppard, TLC Director of Operations. "This purchase will protect a landscape that is important for wildlife and the people of the East Kootenay."

The area protects several vulnerable and disappearing habitats, including aspen stands, zones of ponderosa pine, grasslands and wetlands. It allows for the movement of large mammals like black bear, cougar, elk, moose and deer, plus offers prime habitat for fish like westslope cutthroat trout and birds like Long-billed Curlews, Lewis's Woodpeckers and Williamson's Sapsuckers. Badgers have also been sighted.

CBT provides funding towards land conservation efforts, which assist in maintaining a range of community values on lands in the Columbia Basin. CBT works closely with the East Kootenay Conservation Program, which researches various parcels of land each year and recommends the highest priorities and best-suited projects to meet CBT's goals for the Land Conservation Strategy. Since the program's inception, CBT has contributed over \$2.8 million to conservation and securement opportunities in the Basin, helping protect nearly 100,000 hectares of land.

Creativity and History Take the Spotlight During Cultural Weekend

Monday, August 16, 2010

On August 14 and 15, 2010, visitors and residents toured the Basin to add a little culture to their weekend. Hosted by the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance and funded by CBT, the second annual Columbia Basin Culture Tour invited people to explore, browse and connect with the many local artisans, writers, craftspeople and historians that contribute to the arts, heritage and culture of the region.

Participants took advantage of the free, self-guided tour to visit artists' studios and archives not normally open to the public, purchase works directly from artists, see new exhibitions and collections, watch performances and meet the people behind the scenes at over 170 participating venues.

"Despite other events taking place in communities, many people enjoyed the warm weather and attended a variety of sites, and were pleased with their experiences," said Lynda Lafleur, CBT Community Liaison. "Several galleries had over 50 guests in one day. This was another success and is bringing more attention to the arts, culture and heritage sectors throughout the Basin. Residents are getting to know local artists and are quite surprised at the vast array of talent in their communities."

CBT Renewing Its Strategic Priorities

Tuesday, June 15, 2010

CBT Seeking Input from Basin Residents on 2011-2015 Strategic Priorities

Columbia Basin Trust sets its overall strategic priorities every three to four years. The priorities provide overarching direction for CBT in terms of delivering benefits, pursuing investment activities and managing corporate operations in the Columbia Basin region. The current strategic priorities expire this year.

"Setting clear priorities helps Columbia Basin Trust decide how to best use our resources and helps to ensure residents understand how those resources are used to fulfill our mandate," says Neil Muth, CBT President and CEO. "Being responsive to community and regional needs is how CBT approaches its work in the Basin."

In developing the draft priorities for 2011-2015, CBT considered what it had accomplished in relation to its 2007-2010 priorities and what themes and issues were emerging from Basin communities, or were likely to emerge. A draft set of strategic priorities for 2011-2015 has been prepared based on that information.

Until September 30, 2010, CBT will be seeking feedback from residents on the draft priorities. Progress CBT has made in relation to its 2007-2010 priorities can be found in the [Annual Report](#).

Feedback on the draft priorities is now complete. Thank you to everyone who responded.

CBT hopes to be able to share the final strategic priorities with Basin residents at the 2010 Columbia Basin Symposium, being held in Revelstoke on October 22-24.

The strategic priorities for 2011-2015 form part of the Columbia Basin Management Plan (CBMP). The CBMP also includes CBT's Charter, which outlines CBT's vision, mission and core values. You can view the Charter [online](#) or request a copy from CBT.

RELATED ITEMS

-  [2011-2015 Draft Strategic Priorities \(68.12 KB\)](#)
-  [2007-2010 Strategic Priorities](#)
-  [Columbia Basin Management Plan Charter](#)

CBT Annual General Meeting in Fernie

Tuesday, September 07, 2010

The CBT Board of Directors invites you to attend their Annual General meeting, which will focus on the presentation of the 2009/10 Annual Report.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions about the Annual Report and CBT activities, as well as meet CBT's Board of Directors.

The meeting is scheduled to start Friday, September 17 at 4 p.m. at:

Best Western Fernie Mountain Lodge
1622-7 Avenue
Fernie, B.C.

Copies of the Annual Report will be made available at the meeting. The report can also be viewed online or can be mailed to you by calling 1.800.505.8998.

RELATED ITEMS

 [CBT Annual Report 2009–2010 \(3.08 MB\)](#)



CURRENTS: Columbia Basin Trust Youth Water Forum

September 24-26, 2010

Join us on Facebook. Search for CBT Youth.

VERY IMPORTANT THINGS TO NOTE:

CURRENTS: Columbia Basin Trust Youth Water Forum 2010 is absolutely FREE! Or rather, Columbia Basin Trust cares so deeply about youth and providing barrier free events, they are providing this forum for you. CURRENTS is a Columbia Basin Trust initiative.

To get involved with CBT or the Youth Advisory Committee please visit www.cbt.org or www.scratchonline.ca or call 1-800-505-8998. Check back for more information in the coming months or join us on Facebook. If you have questions or concerns about CURRENTS or the registration package, please feel free to contact:

HEATHER MITCHELL PROGRAM MANAGER, WATER INITIATIVES

Phone: 1-800-505-8998

Email: youthwaterforum@cbt.org

Download the 2010 CURRENTS Poster.

Workshops on Social Enterprise

Tuesday, September 07, 2010

Staff and board members of non-profits that are considering launching, expanding or strengthening their involvement in social enterprise, or those that are new to social enterprise altogether, are invited to two orientation sessions hosted by Enterprising Non-profits (enp). They take place October 4 in Nelson and October 14 in Invermere.

The sessions will cover the definition of and reasons for starting a social enterprise, and issues that can come up in social enterprise development. There will be a review of the enp grant requirements and priorities, and each session will qualify participating organizations to apply for enp funding.

For more information, visit www.enterprisingnonprofits.ca.

RELATED ITEMS

 enp Orientation Sessions Poster (173.77 KB)



2010 Symposium Program

Nearly 300 people from communities throughout the Columbia Basin attended the 2010 Columbia Basin Symposium: Shaping Our Future Together: Take Action, Build Partnerships, Strengthen Communities. Hosted by Columbia Basin Trust (CBT), the free Symposium took place October 22 to 24, 2010, in Revelstoke.



[View photos from Symposium](#)

The event sought to engage key leaders and residents active in their communities to collectively look toward the future of the Columbia Basin, while also discussing and addressing some of today's key issues. The Symposium included several facilitated sessions covering economic development, alternate energy, community engagement and building resilient organizations. Information presented at these sessions can be found in the [Presentation Section](#). Videos will also be made available in the coming weeks.

Basin residents were able to connect with one another to discuss issues affecting daily life in their communities, and identify possible responses and strategies to deal with those issues. [Download a PDF of the program.](#)

An evening of cultural entertainment featuring local and Basin talent was open to the public on Saturday evening. Photos from the event can be viewed on [CBT's flickr site](#).

Keynote Speaker - David Beurle

Founder and Managing Director Innovative Leadership Australia

David holds a firm conviction that the future of rural and regional areas, lies in the hands of the local people. He created Innovative Leadership, with the mission of bringing the tools and skills to the people who care the most - the people who choose to make rural towns, centers and regions their home.

He has a passion for rural life; having been raised on a farm and having worked all his life in, and with, rural communities.

His career has covered a wide range of experiences - from working for many years in the remotest parts of northern Australia, where cattle ranches are often over one million acres; to working at the highest levels of Government, with eight years as the 'right-hand man' to a senior Australian Cabinet Minister; the Western Australian Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries. This also included a short diversion as the producer of a pilot TV series that explored and showcased innovation in rural areas.

David's experience covers a similar breadth; from working on the ground with farmers and Aboriginal communities; to building international trade relations and strategic alliances between Australian farmers and their markets in Egypt, China, India and Europe. David has now provided leadership training to thousands of people and has worked extensively with hundreds of communities and regions across North America and Australia as they reinvent and revitalise themselves.

These days, David splits his time between Australia and North America, as he pursues his passion for community revitalization and creating vibrant and prosperous regions. Until recently he served on the Board of Directors of the Western Australian Community Foundation. His work in community and economic development has earned him - and his work - international, national and State awards.

For more information visit David's website, www.ila.net.au/.



What is the Columbia Basin Youth Grants Program?

Columbia Basin Youth Grants (CBYG) is a program that funds projects and activities that are of direct benefit to Basin youth. The program supports projects that develop youth leadership skills. We also prioritize projects that involve young people in their development, and implementation of projects. This does not mean that adults need not apply! What it means is that we are looking for projects that young people are directly a part of starting, planning and doing!

How to Apply?

Applicants should contact Michelle d'Entremont, Basin Youth Liaison who can discuss eligibility of the project and can assist with the application process and implementation of the project. All applicants must have a youth target audience between the ages of 15 and 29 within Columbia Basin Trust's region. Please note that all applicants must have identified a registered non-profit organization, aboriginal band, school district, local government or other association that may be applicable at CBT's discretion as a sponsor.

Download Forms

- [Youth Grants Application Form](#) (PDF format)
 - [Youth Grants Guidelines](#) (PDF format)
 - [Project Outline Template](#) (PDF format)
-

We have two streams of funding: the under \$2500 and the over \$2500. Both streams use the same application form, however, the over \$2500 stream entails some extra support for the applicant.

Applications are reviewed twice a year by our [Youth Advisory Committee](#).

Please contact our Basin Youth Liaison for intake dates.

Applications that are not eligible for funding (we will *not* fund):

- Retroactive funding, or any project expenses prior to CBT's decision date;
 - Projects or activities which are normally funded by government;
 - Religious organizations that primarily serve their membership and/or their direct religious purpose;
 - Medical equipment;
 - Fundraising activities;
 - Sports teams, sporting events, coaching activities or equipment (whether amateur or not);
 - Tuition and/or Education subsidies for individuals or organizations;
 - Programs or projects with a focus outside of the Columbia Basin Trust region;
 - Private enterprise or business start up activities;
 - Projects that depend on ongoing CBT funds, and;
 - Others as applicable.
-

For more information about Columbia Basin Youth Grants please contact Michelle d'Entremont, Basin Youth Liaison. Also, more information is available online at our [mothership](#).

1-800-505-8998 or [email us here](#) [email us here](#).

Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre Celebrates its Historical Status

Tuesday, August 03, 2010

Taiko drummers, an akido demonstration and a ceremony to honour the spirits of one's ancestors entertained the public in New Denver during a recent celebration at the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre.

Hosted by the Kyowakai Society and partly funded by CBT through the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance, the free public event commemorated the Centre's designation as a National Historic Site and was attended by representatives from Parks Canada and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada.

Speaking to the crowd gathered to celebrate the dedication, Lynda Lafleur, CBT Community Liaison, said: "It was a privilege for CBT to contribute towards the day's events. It could not have happened without the dedication of the volunteers of the Kyowakai Society, the community and the Village of New Denver. As a National Historic Site, the Nikkei Centre will benefit all Canadians for generations to come."

During World War II, the Government of Canada ordered the internment of "enemy aliens," and Canadians of Japanese descent were moved to camps for the duration of the war. One such camp was located in New Denver, and housed roughly 1,500 people. While other camps were demolished after the war, some of the buildings in New Denver still exist or have been reconstructed, making it one of the few sites that still contain resources directly associated with this episode in Canadian history.

"The dreams and accomplishments of the Kyowakai Society in creating this lasting memorial and interpretational centre in honour of Japanese Canadians interned during the Second World War is a huge feat accomplished by dedicated volunteers," said Carol Gordon, Administrator, Village of New Denver, who helped organize the event. "The centre forms an integral part of the social and cultural history of the area, and its designation as a National Historic Site speaks to the selfless hours contributed by the organization to ensure that this part of our history will always be remembered."

Kristopher Ede Winner of SCRATCH Readers' Choice Award

Friday, September 10, 2010

Invermere youth's story captures the most votes

Kristopher Ede from Invermere takes the prize for the SCRATCH Writing Challenge Readers' Choice Award. The 18-year-old won this portion of the creative writing challenge, put on by CBT, with his short story "the girl with the plastic pirate hat and the boy who loved her so." Ede's story earned 29 per cent of readers' votes, and will receive a \$300 bookstore gift certificate.

"It feels wonderful to have won, and I'm very grateful to all of the people who voted for me," said Ede. "When I wrote the story, I never really expected it to go this far. All I really wanted to do was write something different from typical 'teen' relationship-based writing. I'm really thankful people have seemed to respond to it, and I'm very appreciative of SCRATCH for letting my story be heard."

The writing challenge asked youth ages 15–29 to submit works of fiction with appealing characters, dynamic plots, magnificent style and a Columbia Basin setting. Ten finalists were chosen by a selection committee of published authors, instructors and a library representative, and then published in the special Summer 2010 edition of *SCRATCH Magazine*. The special edition also featured writing exercises and quizzes, perfect for those writers sitting at the beach this summer.

"We're proud of what Basin youth have accomplished since we began this challenge last December," said Michelle d'Entremont, CBT Basin Youth Liaison. "All participants are to be applauded."

The overall challenge winner and runner-up were announced in June. Twenty-five-year-old Amos Tanguay from Nelson took the top prize and \$1,000 for "The Geese Know Where to Go," while 22-year-old Julia Caceres Booth from Winlaw was selected as runner-up and received \$500 for her story "Trans-Canada."

CBT takes an active role in developing opportunities for young people in the Basin by investing in projects and ideas brought forth by young people 15–29 years old. CBT has variety of programs and initiatives that encourage youth engagement. Visit www.cbt.org/youth for more information.

New Seniors' Housing Breaks Ground in Cranbrook

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

The City of Cranbrook, in partnership with the governments of Canada and British Columbia and Columbia Basin Trust, gathered today to celebrate the official groundbreaking of a new 36-unit development in Cranbrook for low-income seniors and people with disabilities.

"The federal government continues its unwavering focus on the Canadian economy, especially in smaller communities," said Kootenay Columbia MP Jim Abbott. "The bonus is the extremely high value that this project brings to deserving East Kootenay residents."

"There are no downsides to making investments like this because it fulfills key priorities of our government, such as stimulating the economy, creating jobs and building housing for those who need it," said Kootenay East MLA Bill Bennett.

The factory-built modular homes will be transported to Cranbrook and placed on prepared foundations on site. These units will be grouped into six sixplex, townhome-style clusters, with four clusters located on the ball field area and two located along the lower campground access.

This project is made possible through funding contributions from the City of Cranbrook, the Province of British Columbia, the Government of Canada and Columbia Basin Trust. The development is designed to stimulate the local economy and increase affordable rental housing units for seniors and persons with disabilities in smaller communities across the province.

"I want to thank MP Abbott, MLA Bennett and the Columbia Basin Trust for their contributions to this important project for the City of Cranbrook," said Mayor Scott Manjak. "Providing safe, affordable housing for the seniors in this community is important to Council and our residents. I am excited to see this great project move forward."

"One of our goals is to assist communities in dealing with affordable housing issues, and in particular to support new housing initiatives," said Garry Merkel, CBT Board Chair. "This is a unique opportunity for CBT to be involved, not only in the creation of 36 units here in Cranbrook, but in the creation of a significant number of housing units Basin-wide, and increasing seniors' housing throughout the region is something that we are really pleased to be part of."

Columbia Basin Trust has committed \$425,000 to the overall capital costs of seven sites in the Columbia Basin region, for a total of 114 units under the Seniors' Rental Housing (SRH) initiative. Projects will be built in Cranbrook, Kimberley, Creston, Baynes Lake, Golden, Revelstoke and Valemount.

The SRH initiative is a result of a \$365-million joint investment under an amendment to the Canada-British Columbia Affordable Housing Initiative Agreement, which includes funding through Canada's Economic Action Plan and by the Government of British Columbia.

This initiative, initially announced by the two levels of government on April 8, 2009, will provide \$123.5 million, including \$104 million for seniors and \$19.5 million for persons with disabilities, to develop approximately 1,300 new affordable rental housing units, which will help to stimulate local economies in smaller communities across B.C. Under the terms of the agreement, the provincial and federal governments will provide matching contributions of \$61.79 million.