

Columbia Basin **trust**

Report to Residents



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Fall 2014

cbt.org

Together We Are

Columbia
Basin **trust**

Columbia Basin Trust supports the ideas and efforts of the people of the Columbia Basin.

We often work behind the scenes, and take our lead from residents and communities. The Trust is here to offer resources, experience and support to all Basin residents.

While our range of services, programs, initiatives and financial investments is complex, our purpose is straightforward and easy to understand: we exist and act for the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Columbia Basin—now and for generations to come.



Connecting With You



Neil Muth
President and Chief Executive Officer

What's Inside

WELCOME TO the 2014 issue of our annual Report to Residents. Each year, we send out this report to share highlights of the many ways we are working together with residents, communities and organizations to enhance social, economic and environmental well-being in the Columbia Basin.

In 2013/14, we delivered \$22 million in new funding benefits. On pages 2 - 11 you'll read about the diverse range of projects and initiatives that are happening across this region, and the inspiring stories of how people are making a positive impact with a bit of help from the Trust.

We're able to help you make a difference thanks to the consistent performance of our investments. In the next 3 to 5 years, we expect this revenue to double to \$55 million. This presents an opportunity for us to connect with you to take a look at how we can continue to best support your efforts, now and in the future. Read more about the "Our Trust, Our Future" engagement process and how you can participate, starting on page 14.

Your success is our success, and this past year has been remarkable. Thank you to our dedicated partners, advisory committee members, —staff and Board of Directors—plus the committed volunteers who work to strengthen our Basin communities.

We are honoured to be able to support you!

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Highlights of social, economic, environment and youth-focused projects.
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Board of Directors

Back row from left to right: Kim Deane, Greg Deck (Chair), Wendy Booth, Paul Peterson, Am Naqvi; Middle row from left to right: Rick Jensen, Cindy Gallinger, Gord DeRosa, David Raven, Andru McCracken; Front row from left to right: Denise Birdstone, Laurie Page (Vice-Chair).



Here's How We're Working Together

In 2013/14, the Trust committed \$22 million to help fund projects and other initiatives throughout the Basin.

**What were some of these efforts?
Read samples through to page 11.**

How Should the Funds Be Spent? You Decide!

IN JUNE 2014, the Rossland Youth Action Network wrapped up its first year—a year of engaging youth, discovering priorities, planning programs, writing grants, forming teams and forging partnerships.

One of its tactics was to hire a coordinator—a common theme among the communities taking part in the Trust's **Community-Directed Youth Funds** program. So far, 17 communities have hired coordinators, and three have been able to open new youth centres.

But other than this program's success—and the fact it now benefits almost all areas of the Basin—what makes this program notable? It's the way that communities themselves decide how to spend Trust funds.

The Trust also places decision making in the hands of communities

through programs like **Community-Directed Funds** and our longest-running programs: the **Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Programs**.

Over the past year, four additional regions committed to our Community-Directed Funds, which provides them with a multi-year commitment of funds and the ability to set priorities and make their own decisions on how to allocate those funds. The new regions are: Slocan Valley, the Lower Columbia area, Creston and district, and Central East Kootenay. The Columbia and Elk valleys are also involved.

Then there's the Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Programs, which see the Trust work in partnership with local governments and First Nations to provide funding for projects

decided upon by the community. Over five years, this commitment has amounted to \$18 million invested in projects that benefit our region.

"The most important part of having a youth-directed initiative is to get direction from youth. We worked hard on engaging youth and discovering their priorities for programming, activities and events. All in all, a successful first year of the project was had."

MIKE KENT, COORDINATOR
ROSSLAND YOUTH ACTION NETWORK

cbt.org/r2r/cdyf
cbt.org/r2r/cipaap

Open for Discovery

IN 2011, a donated log building was moved from its original home to a spot within the Village of Canal Flats. In September 2013, this renovated building was unveiled as the new Columbia Discovery Centre: a Trust-supported hub for residents and visitors alike.

In addition to housing municipal offices, the building is being used by the local arts society, plus provides space to highlight the history and attractions of the area for tourists. It also houses a new Ktunaxa Interpretive Centre, which offers installations of different aspects of the Ktunaxa culture: from pit cooking to the Ktunaxa Creation Story.

"It provides a home for the Village Council and community, which is the base for all municipal services and operations for the Village of Canal Flats. It has become a tremendous source of pride for the community."

BRIAN WOODWARD, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,
VILLAGE OF CANAL FLATS

"The Ktunaxa Interpretive Centre provides an opportunity for our neighbours to learn about us and to ensure that we have a continued presence in all areas throughout our territory."

KATHRYN TENEESE, CHAIR,
KTUNAXA NATION COUNCIL



Spacious Store Helps Give Back

SINCE 1992, the Castlegar Hospital Auxiliary Treasure Shop has supported regional health fundraising. Run by over 60 volunteers, the store raises funds for equipment, training, facilities, services and other assistance to health care delivery.

With support from the Trust, the Treasure Shop expanded its building with a 3,200-square-foot second floor. This gives it space to sell larger items, plus adds a break room and meeting room for the hard-working volunteers.

"The expansion of our store allows us to give back to the community faster—it's all coming together!"

NETTIE STUPNIKOFF, PRESIDENT,
CASTLEGAR & DISTRICT HOSPITAL
AUXILIARY SOCIETY





What Is Possible?

CRESTON RESIDENTS EXPLORED the question above when they gathered for a series of Trust-supported Community Conversations.

Hosted by Kootenay Employment Services, the conversations were developed to bring together diverse groups of people who would not regularly cross paths. They were inspired by Paul Born, President and Co-founder of Tamarack: An Institute for Community Engagement, who was a keynote speaker at the 2013 Columbia Basin Symposium.

Over six monthly dinners, participants were able to build a sense of community, trust and understanding—and generate more than 1,000 ideas. These ideas were then narrowed to 300 specific and realistic projects.

To select a common goal and prioritize projects, 240 people attended a final event, at which they cast their votes. The result: to focus on a designated walking and biking path to connect Wynndel, Creston and Erickson.

Residents are now taking action on this goal—and the community conversation process is considered so successful that Kootenay Employment Services is planning on expanding it to other communities.

"This collective impact process has been continually evolving as we move forward. Many important platforms and software were developed to see this project through. It's been an amazing journey so far!"

EDEN YESH, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BRANCH
MANAGER, KOOTENAY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES



We  **Kootenay Food**

THAT'S THE SLOGAN YOU SEE when you visit kootenayfood.com, a hub of information about food and farming in the Kootenays.

With Trust support, the West Kootenay Permaculture Co-op Association created the site to connect and unify local groups working on food security and farm development, plus to support our food economy by encouraging eaters to find food grown and produced in the region.

The group also hosted various food system assessments in 2013 and two Farm Food Fork events in April 2014.

"Attendance at both Farm Food Fork events exceeded our expectations, and the actions, networking and alliances that came out of it were staggering."

SHAUNA TEARE, VICE-CHAIR,
WEST KOOTENAY PERMACULTURE
CO-OP ASSOCIATION



Nearly 70 projects have received a total of \$2 million in social grants since late 2012.

An Affordable Place to Live

LAST OCTOBER, construction broke ground on a new 28-unit affordable housing development for families and seniors in Salmo, aiming to improve housing options for local residents.

Located at 730 Railway Avenue, the site will consist of 20 apartments for seniors and eight townhouses for families, and is a project of the Salmo & Area Supportive Housing Society. Construction is progressing as planned and the development is on target to open fall 2014.

This project—along with three others in Creston, Fernie and Invermere—is supported by the Affordable Rental Housing initiative, a \$10-million, three-year program that is a result of federal, provincial and Trust investments; the Government of Canada and Province of BC provided a combined investment of \$5 million, while the Trust contributed another \$5 million.

Societies in Nelson, Revelstoke, Sparwood and Trail are also working in partnership with BC Housing to develop new affordable rental housing through this initiative.

cbt.org/r2r/arhi



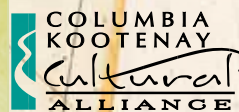
Strengthening Arts, Culture and Heritage

THE TRUST'S COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING WELL-BEING IN THE BASIN extends to our region's artists and arts, culture and heritage organizations. From museums to dancers, these groups and individuals are able to access Trust funding through our partner the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance. In 2013/14, over 170 projects received over \$700,000 in support.



"The need to understand the wall, the anchors, the ropes, the winds, the surfaces...all these demand on-site practice. Without the extra time that funding allows, performances such as this just wouldn't happen."

RINA RASMUSON, MIDDAY ON THE PLATZL
VERTICAL DANCE PROJECT, KIMBERLEY



cbt.org/r2r/ckca

Collaboration = Economic Strength

WE SUPPORT THE DRIVE for a strong Basin economy. We also support collaboration. That's why we're helping economic development practitioners in the region develop networks and partnerships that reinforce and diversify the local economy. Here are a few examples:

Invest Kootenay is a joint initiative of local governments, economic development organizations and chambers of commerce that develops tools communities can use to attract and retain investment.

The Columbia Basin/Boundary Economic Development Practitioners Network was formed to improve the effectiveness of economic development practitioners in the Columbia Basin/Boundary region. It aims to build communication and collaboration between practitioners, improve awareness of the diverse economic development activities within the region and increase shared learning opportunities.

The West Kootenay Economic Development Dialogue Group and the **Elk Valley Regional Economic Development Task Force** champion projects and initiatives that enhance regional economic development. Working together, community leaders can learn from shared experiences and benefit from joint opportunities and solutions to common issues.

cbt.org/r2r/investkootenay
cbt.org/r2r/economic

What's Happening in Regional Workforce Development?

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, large projects and the projected retirement of workers indicate an ongoing need for skilled labour in the Basin. That's why the Trust is working with training institutions in the area to ensure they can successfully provide services.

Last August, the Trust, College of the Rockies and Selkirk College—who are both members of and partners with the Kootenay Regional Workforce Table (KRWT)—spearheaded the development of the *Regional Skills Training Plan*. The Trust-supported plan identifies four goals to enhance local skills, training and collaboration, and established next steps to move forward. The KRWT was composed of 20 key leaders representing a range of communities, organizations and business sectors in the region.

We also committed \$1 million to help Selkirk College upgrade its Silver King Trades Campus in Nelson. The \$19-million project will result in modern facilities that will create the most beneficial learning environments for students, and is the first step in bringing improved training options to students choosing a career in trades.

cbt.org/r2r/selkirkupgrade

Training Fee Support Program—Funds Available

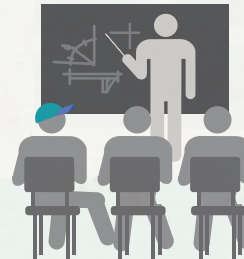
Need a Job?



*Get up to \$800!



Get Training...



Get the Job!!



cbt.org/r2r/tfs

We've committed nearly \$2 million over three years to the Basin Business Advisors program to continue to build economic capacity in Basin communities.

Strengthening Businesses and Supporting Business Owners

OWNERS OF EXISTING small- to medium-sized businesses and social enterprises can access the **Basin Business Advisors** program. It provides free, one-to-one, confidential business counselling, assessment services and more. Here the advisors outline how they can help you:

"My expertise is in direction: helping you recognize where your business needs to go and helping you develop your own plan for you to get there successfully."

ROBERTA CIOLLI,
ADVISOR

"I'm a serial entrepreneur with specific expertise in product development and using technology to improve efficiency, quality and bottom line."

AMBER HAYES,
PROGRAM MANAGER

"I'm able to help you look at your business through a fresh set of eyes in order to determine what needs to be fixed and what opportunities there may be. This is often something that is not easy to do alone."

WILL NIXON, ADVISOR

"I bring with me a great general perspective on your operations, as well as a specific background in arts and agriculture and the value of using target marketing."

WENDY MORRISON,
ADVISOR

"I've got 27 years of first-hand business management experience and of teaching entrepreneurs, plus solid financial management and mad spreadsheet skills."

BARB WILLIAMS, ADVISOR



cbt.org/bba

Meaningful Employment

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES can find it hard to secure jobs—and yet paid employment is a meaningful way they can enhance their lives and increase their independence. Supported by the Trust, the Kootenay Region Association for Community Living is stepping up to the plate. It has spent the year developing the Spectrum Farm Therapeutic Community, home to a market garden and small farm that support and employ disabled people. It is also renovating an existing building to be used for future businesses, each of which will provide more paid employment.

"Without the help of the Trust, we would have been unable to salvage the building, which will house some of our ever-expanding endeavours to provide paid employment. We currently employ five people: three in the market garden, one in the greenhouse and one who looks after our chickens."

ERIC KUTZNER, DIRECTOR,
KOOTENAY REGION ASSOCIATION
FOR COMMUNITY LIVING



We sought your input through broad public engagement, and have now drafted our 2014 – 2019 Social Strategic Plan. Expected to be approved mid-September, the plan will guide the Trust's roles, actions and funding in helping communities improve social well-being in the Basin.

cbt.org/r2r/social

Teaching Youth Life Skills

"THE WORKSHOP HELPED ME realize my goals and gave me tools I will actually use in my life," remarked one participant of the Circle In program in Revelstoke. Designed to build confidence and increase personal empowerment, the free workshops, sponsored by a Trust youth grant, connected young women aged 14 to 18 with local female role models to learn about goal setting, health, art and financial literacy skills.

In Valemount, another Trust-supported youth program, Respectful Relationships, marked its sixth year of delivery. An award-winning, school-based violence prevention curriculum, the program helps address issues such as bullying, racism, unhealthy relationships, homophobia and discrimination. It helps youth become analytical thinkers around the issue of social justice.

"It has been interesting and gratifying to watch the shifts in attitudes. There has been a noticeable improvement in what is viewed as acceptable behaviours in dating relationships and a broader understanding of individual rights and boundaries."

SHELLY BATTENSBY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,
ROBSON VALLEY SUPPORT SOCIETY

Enhancing youth engagement and leadership development in the Basin are two goals set out in the Trust's *Youth Initiatives Strategic Plan*. The next application deadline for projects like those mentioned above is October 15. We also offer support to youth-led projects through our Youth Action Grants.

cbt.org/r2r/youth



Students to Learn About Entrepreneurship, and More



YOUTH IN THE BASIN have consistently told us they'd like help with entrepreneurship. Plus we've identified youth entrepreneurship as a high priority in both our economic and youth strategic plans.

As such, we're pleased to be able to commit \$300,000 over three years to Junior Achievement of British Columbia. Basin students in grades 5 to 12 will be able to access programming and resources that will further their knowledge of entrepreneurship, financial literacy and work readiness: the three pillars of Junior Achievement.

Programs are anticipated to begin in the fall and are delivered by dedicated volunteers from the private and public sectors.



cbt.org/r2r/jabc

"Hiring a student has brought a fresh perspective to my business. He provided new energy to the day-to-day, and I was able to focus on opportunities for growth."

JON SIMPSON, OWNER
DERAILED SPORTS



Prepping for the Future

COMMUNITIES PARTICIPATING in the Trust's Water Smart program continue to make great strides in reducing water use in the Basin. The goal is to reduce use Basin-wide by 20 per cent by 2015.

In 2012, participating communities had reduced demand by an average of 12 per cent since 2009. In 2013, this average fell to eight per cent.

Why the drop? There seem to be two reasons.

First, 2013 was the hottest, driest season since the program began, causing significant spikes in irrigation demand in May, June and July.

Second, many participating communities committed a great deal of staff time in 2013 to planning water conservation activities, rather than doing water conservation work. These essential background tasks ensure that communities will be even more effective at reducing water demand throughout 2014 and into the future.



For the fourth year, Water Smart ambassadors have been helping residents reduce domestic water use through education on topics like efficient watering practices and local watering restrictions.

cbt.org/r2r/watersmart



Apply Now!

PLANNING A PROJECT that will help youth, the environment or social well-being in your community?

Get in touch with us now about applying for a grant.

Application deadlines are:

Youth grants: Oct. 15

cbt.org/r2r/youthgrants

Environment grants: Oct. 22

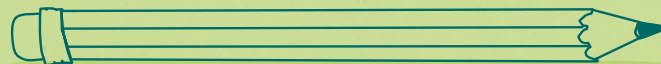
cbt.org/r2r/environmentgrants

Social grants: Oct. 29

cbt.org/r2r/socialgrants

If your project doesn't fit into one of the above, we have several other granting streams. Visit

cbt.org/r2r/fundingprograms or call 1.800.505.8998 and speak to a Community Liaison.



A Big Shout-out to...

...the members of our advisory and adjudication committees. Made up of citizens from a variety of Basin communities, our social, economic and environment committees provide the Trust with ideas, perspectives and advice that help us shape our programs and initiatives. The members of our youth advisory committee also offer us youth perspectives and evaluate our youth grants applications.

cbt.org/r2r/advisorycommittees

Make sure to fill out your feedback card or go online at cbt.org/r2r/2014feedback.

The Last Piece of Wigwam Flats

IN SPRING 2014, the Nature Trust of British Columbia was able to purchase the last privately owned property on Wigwam Flats, near Elko in the East Kootenay.

This area offers a vital stretch of land for animals like elk, mule deer, blue-listed Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep and red-listed American badger. It also supports a natural mosaic of grassland, open-forest and closed-canopy-forest habitats. The purchase of the remaining two-hectare property—supported by \$110,000 from the Trust—fortifies the region's existing conservation lands.



“Keeping the land in its natural state forever honours my mother’s love for this property. It has been an especially gratifying experience to work with the Nature Trust since 2007 to make this possible.”

JOHN TREGILGES, PREVIOUS PROPERTY OWNER

This is one of many land conservation projects the Trust has supported over the years. By funding community-supported, multi-stakeholder land conservation efforts, we strive to help ensure current and future generations can appreciate the Basin’s biological diversity and natural heritage.

cbt.org/r2r/landconservation

Stopping the Invasion

FOR YEARS, organizations throughout the Basin have been targeting the spread of invasive species, often with support from the Trust. Now the Trust is helping to enhance these efforts through a partnership with the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee, East Kootenay Invasive Plant Council and Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society.

The goal of the collaboration is to reduce the spread and prevent the introduction of invasive species that pose significant risks in our region. Because non-native species may not have predators and controls here, they can quickly establish and spread, and often outcompete native plant and animal species. This leaves our native species and ecosystems fragile, and can pose major risks to our biodiversity, economy, recreation opportunities and more.

“This partnership will allow us to expand our focus on particularly harmful species like zebra and quagga mussels. Though they’re not in the Basin yet, they could hitch a ride on boats coming from other provinces or the U.S. and wreak havoc on our aquatic ecosystems.”

CRYSTAL KLYM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
CENTRAL KOOTENAY INVASIVE
PLANT COMMITTEE



Going Batty

In the fall intake of our Environment Grants program, 37 projects were approved to receive a total of \$610,000. These projects help educate the public about the environment, or maintain or enhance the environment.

One recipient was the Kootenay Community Bat Project, which raises awareness of bats in the Basin and works with local residents who have bats in buildings. Its goals are to promote the conservation of bats through education and awareness, identify bat species in buildings, conserve and enhance critical roost habitat and promote an annual bat count to monitor populations. To date, the project has conducted over 400 visits to properties with bats in the Basin and identified over 300 roost sites for eight species of bats.



“This project is important not only in conserving bat species but also in connecting Basin residents with the wildlife in their backyard. Many bat species are of conservation concern and it is wonderful to see residents protecting bats on their property, installing bat houses to increase bat habitat and participating in the citizen science bat monitoring program.”

JULIET CRAIG, COORDINATOR, KOOTENAY COMMUNITY BAT PROJECT

Environment Focus Renewed

AT THE TRUST we envision an environment where varied, connected landscapes and waterways are resilient, bio-diverse and able to support the human and ecological needs that depend upon them. We also believe we can make the most progress toward environmental well-being by focusing on a few of the most critical environmental priorities.

That’s why in 2013 we connected with Basin residents, environmental experts and a range of organizations to provide input into our new *Environment Strategic Plan 2014 – 2019*.

Over the next five years, our water and environment initiatives will focus on five areas:

- water
- ecosystems
- climate change
- environmental education
- helping to strengthen organizations that focus on the environment.

By implementing this plan, we aim to support the achievement of positive long-term outcomes related to ecosystems, water and a changing climate.

cbt.org/r2r/environmentplan

Investing in the Future

Predictable, sustainable, appreciating

Columbia Basin Trust invests in power projects, Basin businesses and market securities. We invest according to sound financial principles, which means we can confidently forecast how much money will be available for the benefit of Basin residents in the short and long term.

Increasing revenues

The total value of our investment portfolio is about \$700 million and is currently providing \$27 million in revenue annually. Revenues from power projects and other investments are expected to continue to grow, increasing to about \$55 million annually by 2017.

Social, economic and environmental benefits

Our investment program balances risk and returns to ensure reliable income. Our investment focus is financial, but our investments earn more than money—they can provide social, economic and environmental benefits.

ASSETS



Power Projects



Loans and Investments

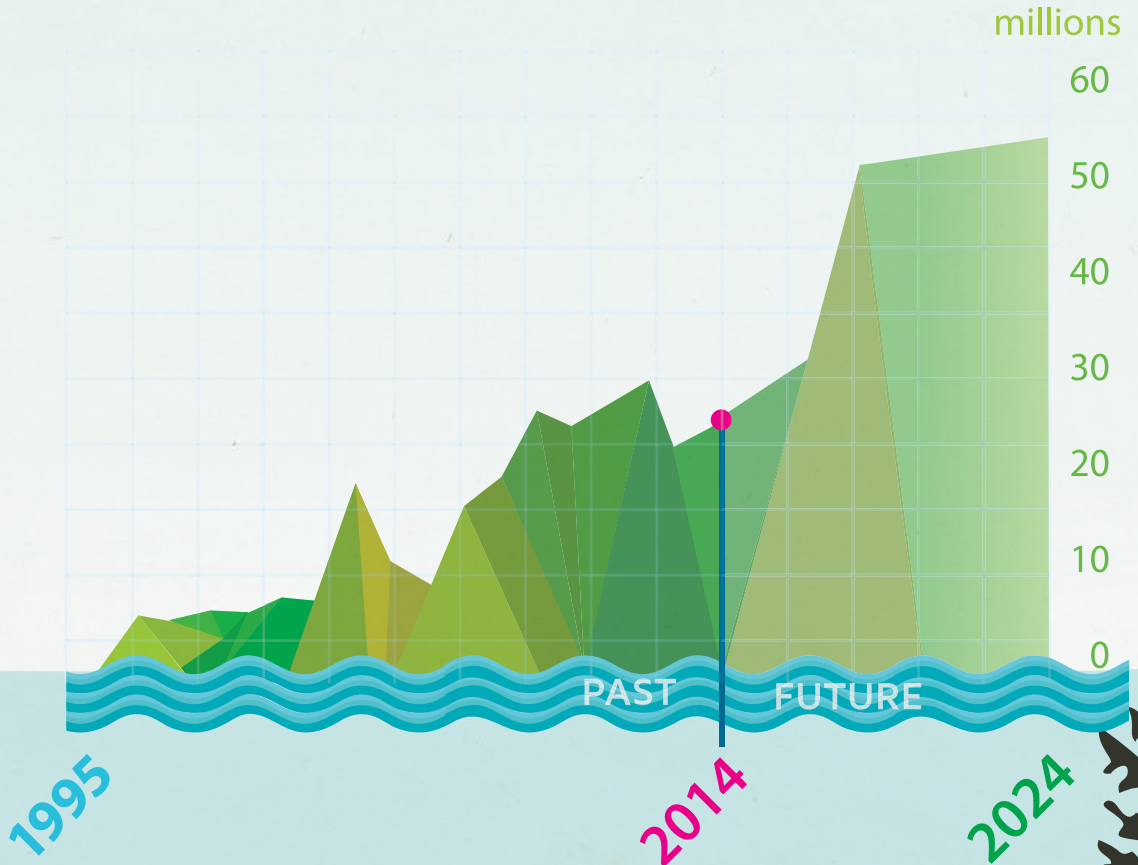


Real Estate Investments

REVENUE

revenue in

millions





Family-owned and Growing

AS A THIRD-GENERATION, family-owned business, Benson Oil has been supplying the Kootenay Boundary region for over 60 years.

The full-service oil distributor has been looking for ways to grow while maintaining consistency and sustainability in the region. Working with the Trust, it now has the opportunity to strengthen its presence in the area by increasing its focus on the transportation and distribution of fuels and lubricants within the region, while enabling it to both add services and broaden its service area.

“Where other lenders shied away from our plans and our company because we deal with transporting dangerous goods, the Trust never doubted our desire to expand. In fact, I appreciated that they made us think even more about our long-term plans.”

ALBERT BENSON JR., PRESIDENT,
B A BENSON & SON LTD./BENSON OIL INC.



Expanded Housing Options

SINCE 1956, the Cranbrook Society for Community Living has promoted the inclusion of Cranbrook citizens who have an intellectual impairment into the fabric of community life.

Providing residential services is one of the society's many programs. When an opportunity arose for it to expand its residential options by purchasing a privately owned residential-services operation within the same sector, the Trust and other financiers worked together to secure the deal.

Thanks to the purchase, the society now has the capacity to house over 40 individuals and—through housing and a variety of other services—supports approximately 75 full-time and 25 casual/part-time employees.

“This purchase has made creative residential opportunities more achievable, provided renewed sustainability for the society and its employees, and allowed us to provide more consistent service and increased capacity to the people we support.”

MARGARET LAIDLAW, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
CRANBROOK SOCIETY FOR COMMUNITY LIVING



cbt.org/r2r/investments

Our Trust Our Future

WE WANT TO WORK WITH YOU OVER THE NEXT YEAR TO DISCOVER HOW WE MIGHT BETTER SERVE YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY INTO THE FUTURE.

IN THE NEXT FEW PAGES, YOU'LL FIND A BIT ABOUT WHO WE ARE, WHERE WE'RE HEADED AND HOW YOU CAN GIVE US YOUR INPUT.

The Trust: A Summary

THE 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.

When we were created in 1995, we received an endowment from the Province of British Columbia. We invest this endowment to generate an income stream, which we use to support Basin residents and communities as they address their needs and priorities.

We are accountable to Basin residents and work on issues that matter to the region. As a Crown corporation, we are also accountable to the Province.

We are governed by the *Columbia Basin Trust Act*, which outlines our purpose, the structure and composition of our Board, the need for a *Columbia*

Basin Management Plan and our financial and auditing requirements.

The act doesn't specify how we support communities—we are flexible and responsive in how we serve the needs of Basin residents in achieving our mandate.

The *Columbia Basin Management Plan* captures our commitment to include the people of the Basin in planning for the management of our assets, and we continue to work with others to coordinate activities related to our purpose.

cbt.org/r2r/strategicpriorities
cbt.org/r2r/whoweare
cbt.org/r2r/charter

How We Came To Be



Help Shape Our Role in the Basin

OVER THE PAST 20 YEARS, we've been continually evolving our approach to how we support people and communities to enhance the well-being of this region. It's your input that helps provide direction and guidance on how we deliver on this mandate. In the next 3 to 5 years, we expect our revenues to double to \$55 million. This represents a significant opportunity to take a look at how we can continue to best support your efforts now and in the future.

This fall, we're embarking on a Basin-wide public engagement process called "Our Trust, Our Future". It's a chance for us to connect with you, reflect and celebrate our collective accomplishments and move forward on the input you may have already provided to us in the past.

The information we gather through these conversations will be used to shape the future direction of our organization including:

- Renewing our Strategic Priorities; and
- Creating plans that outline how we will take action.

So get involved. Come to a workshop to have your say, to get to know us better and to hear what matters to your neighbours and neighbouring communities. We promise opportunities for interaction, lively conversations, prizes and delicious food!

ourtrustourfuture.cbt.org

Win \$1000

to donate to a local non-profit of your choice.

See page 17 for all the ways to participate.



CANADIAN Basin residents approached the Province of BC and asked it to:
1) give funds to the region so Basin residents would get a fair share of the benefits created by the treaty and 2) create a Basin-based organization to manage those funds.

1995

THE GOVERNMENT established Columbia Basin Trust and endowed it with \$276 million to invest in regional hydroelectric projects and \$45 million to invest otherwise.

TO GENERATE a predictable, sustainable and appreciating income stream, the Trust earns money by investing in power projects, Basin businesses and market securities.

Today

THE TRUST continues to support the ideas and efforts of the people of the Basin. We often work behind the scenes and take our lead from residents and communities, offering resources, experience and support to all Basin residents.

OUR WORK focuses on helping Basin residents improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of the Columbia Basin—now and for generations to come.

What Are Your Priorities?

NINE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES have guided the Trust from 2011 to 2015. These range from addressing environmental challenges, to fostering economic resiliency, to helping communities respond to social issues.

It's now time to renew these priorities—and we need your help. Over the past several years, we've spoken with you about your priorities in many different ways. All of your input has been compiled and analyzed to help us understand what is most important to you. This includes:

- affordable housing
- arts and culture
- broadband
- climate change adaptation and mitigation
- community infrastructure
- community transportation alternatives
- economic development and diversification
- ecosystem restoration and conservation
- energy conservation and sustainability
- poverty reduction
- recreation and physical activity
- support for seniors' services
- support for social programs and services
- waste management
- water management
- youth programs.

The Trust is already working on many of these priorities. But the list is too extensive for us to address everything. That's where we need your help.

What's most important to you? What priorities do you feel we've worked on enough? What should we do more of and what are we missing?

We hope you and other Basin residents will help us shape and chart the course for the Trust. Together, we can find the best ways to support people and communities now and into the future.



Have Your Say

BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 2014 and February 2015, we'll be reaching out to you in various ways.

1 Check out the displays and materials, enjoy food, share your ideas and discuss your priorities at **drop-in community workshops**. Look for us in one of these communities:

- Burton:** Tues, Oct 14, Burton Community Hall
 - Castlegar:** Wed, Dec 3, Castlegar and District Community Complex
 - Cranbrook:** Tues, Jan 20, Cranbrook Railway Museum
 - Creston:** Mon, Dec 1, Creston and District Community Complex
 - Edgewood:** Thurs, Oct 16, Legion Hall
 - Golden:** Thurs, Sept 18, Seniors Centre
 - Invermere:** Wed, Jan 21, Lions Hall
 - Jaffray:** Wed, Dec 3, Jaffray Community Hall
 - Kaslo:** Wed, Oct 29, Legion Hall
 - Meadow Creek:** Thurs, Oct 30, Lardeau Valley Community Club
 - Nakusp:** Wed, Oct 15, Nakusp Community Centre
 - Nelson:** Wed, Oct 15, Nelson Rod and Gun Club
 - Revelstoke:** Thurs, Oct 30, Revelstoke Community Centre
 - Sparwood:** Wed, Nov 26, Recreation Complex
 - Trail:** Wed, Nov 26, Cominco Arena Gymnasium
 - Valemount:** Mon, Sept 22, Valemount Community Hall
- *Locations and dates are subject to change.*

2 We'll also have **meetings** in First Nation communities and smaller communities around the Basin. Watch our website for details.

3 Expect to find us **popping up and staffing a booth** in one of your community's public spaces. Got a question? Have an idea? Come on over and tell us.

4 Is it more comfortable or convenient to reach us by computer? Provide your thoughts **online** at ourtrustourfuture.cbt.org.

5 Want to send it by **mail**? Send it to, ATTN: Our Trust, Our Future, 300 - 445 13 Avenue, Castlegar, BC V1N 1G1 or **email** ourtrustourfuture@cbt.org.

Together it's our Trust, our future—so join us at an event near you or have your say online at ourtrustourfuture.cbt.org.

SEPTEMBER-FEBRUARY

HAVE YOUR SAY

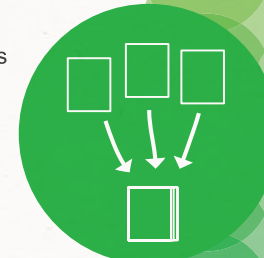
Join our conversation in-person and online. Watch for us in your community; attend an event, learn more about us, provide your input and win prizes!



MARCH

GATHER AND COMPILE

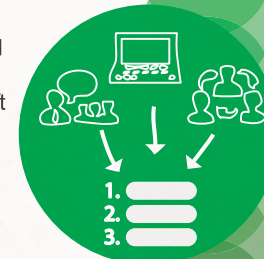
We draft recommendations from your input.



APRIL-MAY

REPORT AND CONFIRM

Join us at sessions around the Basin and online to discuss and refine the draft recommendations.



JUNE

FINALIZE REPORT

We create a final report that will help us with future planning.



JULY-SEPTEMBER

DEVELOP PLANS

We use the final report to develop new strategic priorities and action plans.



OCTOBER

SHARE WITH RESIDENTS

We share the priorities and plans with you, which will shape how we support people and communities.



Broadband for the Basin

HIGHER-SPEED INTERNET can help our residents connect and our businesses remain competitive in a global economy. It supports education and helps governments deliver health and other services. It supports our communities in their drive to attract and retain youth.

Through our wholly owned subsidiary, Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation (CBBC), the Trust is working toward providing access to a world-class open-access broadband network across the Basin.

WHAT IS BROADBAND?

Broadband is a way of transferring many digital signals at once using any combination of fibre optic cable, copper cable and wireless signals.

Fibre optic cables are made up of many glass strands—each about the thickness of a human hair. They can transmit very large amounts of data by converting it to light signals that move at high speed and high volume.

CBBC has a fibre optic network (see the map at right)—located both underground and above ground—in some parts of the Basin, and is working on extending its network.

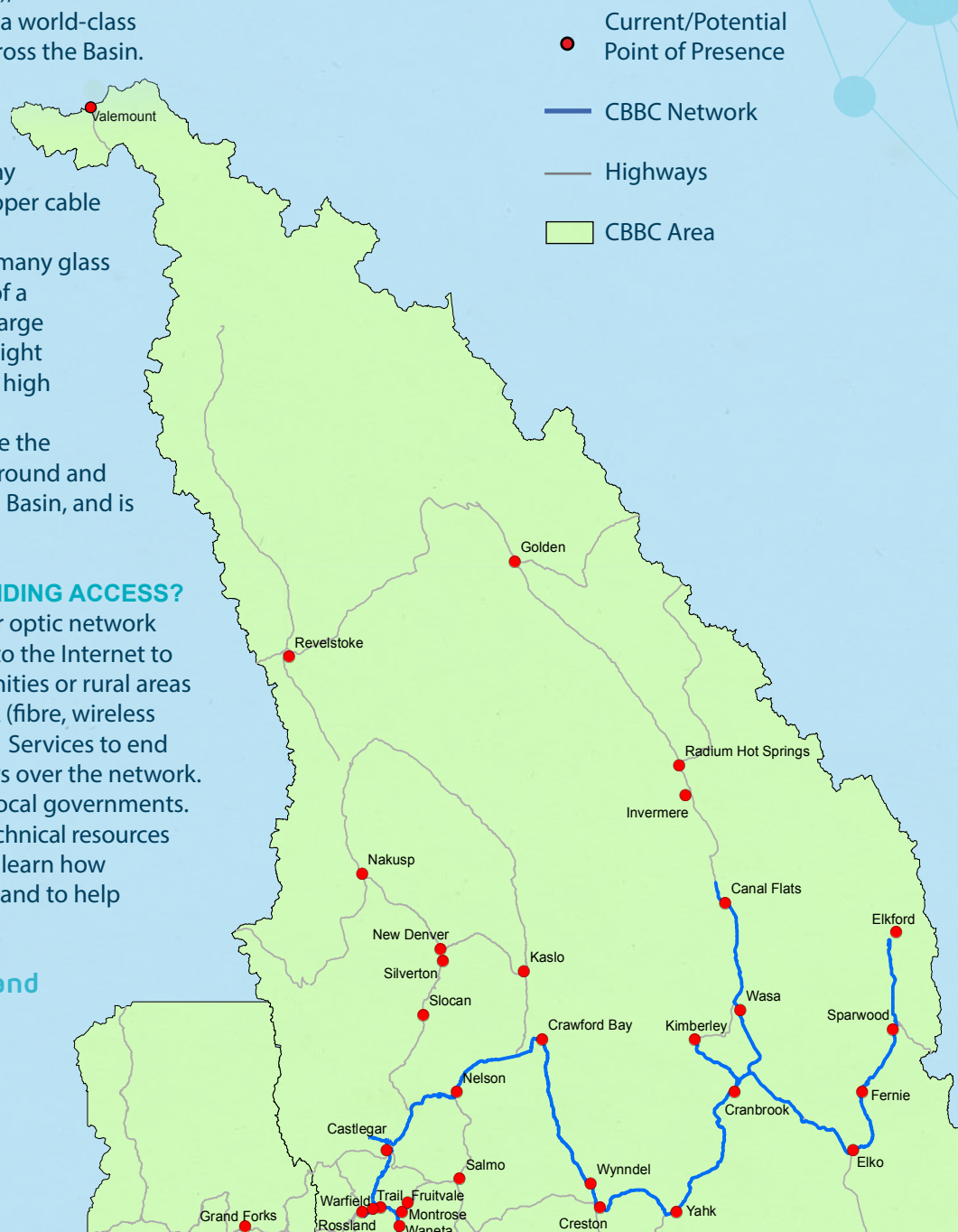
WHAT IS CBBC'S ROLE IN PROVIDING ACCESS?

We own and manage a regional fiber optic network and provide a physical access point to the Internet to communities or rural areas. Communities or rural areas can then connect their own network (fibre, wireless or both) to CBBC's regional network. Services to end customers would be provided by ISPs over the network. CBBC also offers Internet service to local governments.

We also provide education and technical resources to help communities and rural areas learn how connectivity benefits their residents and to help enhance their capacity to connect.

cbbt.org/r2r/broadband

Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation Fibre Optic Network Coverage



Register Now!

EXPLORE THE FUTURE of the Columbia River while reflecting on and learning from the past. The Columbia River Basin 2014 conference—being held in Spokane, Washington, on October 21 to 23, 2014—will provide attendees with unique learning and discussion opportunities about the history and future of the Basin, including topics such as energy, climate change, ecosystem management, river governance, salmon restoration and regional issues such as the Columbia River Treaty.

columbiabasin-2014conference.org



Seeds for Success

Community Change Through Collaborative Action

2013 Columbia Basin Symposium • Creston October 18-20

OVER 300 BASIN RESIDENTS connected at Seeds for Success, the 2013 Columbia Basin Symposium, held October 18 to 20 in Creston. The event focused on “Community Change Through Collaborative Action” and offered opportunities for knowledge building and conversation. View conference materials, presentations and the final report online.

cbt.org/r2r/2013symposium

Send Us Your Photos!

Each year we produce a desktop calendar that showcases the beauty and wonder of the Basin through images taken by residents from around the Basin.

Send us your best Basin photos and you could receive \$100!

Learn more at
cbt.org/r2r/2015calendar.

How We Do It

THANK YOU for taking a look at a few of the ways we've been able to support the efforts of Basin communities—through partnerships, programs, initiatives and more.

We are able to provide this support thanks to our investments in power projects, Basin-based businesses and real estate, and market securities.

We generate most of our revenues through hydroelectric power projects. In fact, 78 per cent of our revenues come from power projects. In 2013/14, these earned us \$22.8 million.

We generated an additional \$1.1 million from investments in Basin-based businesses, and another \$1.0 million from real estate investments—our partnerships in seniors housing facilities and commercial properties.

And then there are market securities—items like deposits, bonds and equities—which generated another \$1.4 million.

Altogether, the Trust's revenue in 2013/14 was \$29.4 million, which was \$3.7 million more than the year before.

Thanks to these prudent investments, we enjoy a predictable, sustainable and appreciating income stream. Last year, this enabled us to deliver \$22 million in new funding commitments—and will continue to provide an ongoing source of funds that can support your efforts.

Financial Report

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2014 (in thousands)

	2013/14	2012/13
REVENUES		
Power Projects	\$22,825	\$19,734
Market Securities	1,380	611
Short-term Investments	1,208	1,613
Private Placements - Commercial Loans	1,121	925
Private Placements - Real Estate Investments	1,010	870
Other	1,809	1,897
	29,353	25,650
EXPENSES		
Community Initiatives	7,773	3,426
Economic Initiatives	6,592	2,304
Water and Environment Initiatives	3,491	6,118
Social Initiatives	1,674	5,431
Broadband Initiatives	1,234	558
Youth Initiatives	614	1,203
Other Initiatives	320	47
Administration	5,899	5,916
	27,597	25,003
PRIVATE PLACEMENTS - IMPAIRMENT LOSS	—	(1,400)
Annual Surplus/(Deficit)	\$1,756	\$(753)

RETURN ON INVESTMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2014

	2014	2013
Power Projects	11.2%	10.7%
Private Placements	6.1%	2.5%
Market Securities	14.2%	7.8%

Want more details?
Read the full 2013/14
Annual Report, available at
cbt.org/r2r/annualreport

WITH AN ESTIMATED 400 jobs and \$200 million in wages and benefits, the Waneta Expansion Project is one of the largest hydroelectric projects under construction in BC. The project is managed by Columbia Power Corporation, on behalf of itself and fellow partners Fortis Inc. and the Trust.

When complete in 2015, the project will generate 335 MW of clean hydroelectric energy, which will power approximately 60,000 homes per year.

Construction activities currently focus on concrete and form work in the intake area, electrical and mechanical work inside the powerhouse, and assembly of the turbines and generators.

- \$200 million spent locally on goods and services
- Equivalent of 400 jobs with approximately 75 per cent of the workforce living within 100 km of the project.
- More than 50 apprentices working at the construction site, creating valuable skills development in the region.

columbiapower.org/wanetaexpansion



The Waneta Expansion Project is a joint partnership:
Fortis: 51%
Columbia Power: 32.5%
The Trust: 16.5%





Connect
With Us!



Columbia
Basin **trust**

cbt.org

1.800.505.8998

 facebook.com/ColumbiaBasinTrust
 twitter.com/cbtinfo
 linkedin.com/company/columbia-basin-trust
 vimeo.com/columbiabasintrust