Columbia Basin Trust is an organization working on behalf of the 170,000 residents of the Columbia Basin to bring benefits to the region most affected by the Columbia River Treaty. Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is the result of the efforts of Basin residents who came together in the 1990s to press the Province of B.C. for recognition of and mitigation for the negative impacts on the region.

“The initial impacts included the dislocation of approximately 2,300 Basin residents from their homes and the loss of 13 communities,” says Josh Smiernik, chair of the Board of Directors. “But the region continues to live with the devastation, such as the loss of wildlife habitat, dust storms, fluctuating water levels, and changes in weather patterns as a result of large bodies of water. These issues continue to affect all residents of the Columbia Basin in one way or another.”

In 1995, Columbia Basin Trust was endowed with a $295 million financial commitment from the Province of B.C. or approximately five per cent of the downstream benefits owned by the Province from the U.S. (See below) Of that, $250 million is financing three power project developments in the Basin and $45 million is invested in non-power investments.

The Province was committed to transfer $32 million over 16 years for operating expenses and $250 million to the Columbia Power Corporation (CPC), Columbia Basin Trust’s joint venture partner in power project developments.

“Columbia Basin Trust asked the people of the Basin what they wanted to do with the money,” says Don Johnston, CEO. “Residents overwhelming said they wanted Columbia Basin Trust to invest the money and use only the income earned to deliver benefits back to the residents. This way residents can continue to receive benefits for years to come.”

To date, the return on the investments has provided $8,825,500 in funding to more than 750 projects.

“This funding has supported community hall upgrades, literacy programs, affordable housing for seniors, skills training for youth, wildlife habitat improvements, and cultural events to name just a few,” says Smiernik. “The projects directly reflect the community needs expressed by residents.”

“Our intent is to continue to work closely with the people of the Basin to continue to build an organization that will be a legacy of the people for many generations,” adds Johnston.

**History of the Columbia Basin**

In 1961, Canada and the United States signed the Columbia River Treaty. The purpose of the Treaty is to coordinate flood control and electrical energy production in the Columbia River Basin in the United States and Canada for a 60-year period. To do this, the Treaty called for the construction of three storage dams — Duncan in 1967, Arrow in 1968, and Mica in 1973. The Treaty also allowed for the construction of Libby Dam in 1973 in the United States. In return for the storage of 15.5 million acre-feet of water, Canada was entitled to one-half of the additional power generated at American power plants downstream. These “downstream benefits,” which are owned by the Province of B.C., were split to a group of U.S. utilities for a 30-year period beginning with the scheduled completion of each of the three Treaty dams in B.C. for $254 million. The first 30 years of downstream benefit sales began to expire in 1998. The Province owns the downstream benefits and is now receiving the sales revenues for the remaining 30 years of the Treaty. The Province received $632 million in 2000-2001. Using actual returns from 1998/1999 to 2000/2001 and assuming sales at $40 U.S. per megawatt-hour for the balance of the period to 2024/2025, the total allocations to Columbia Basin Trust amount to approximately eight per cent of the total downstream benefits.

**Impacts of the Treaty**

When the water started rising behind the dams, centuries of history were submerged and 2,300 people living along the Arrow Lakes, and in the Koocanusa, Duncan, and Kinbasket regions were displaced. Before the Treaty was ratified, there had been a lack of consultation with the residents who were to be displaced, even though they were the ones who stood to lose the most from the project.

Communities along reservoirs are now plagued by dust storms during low water. In a drought year, the Valemount boat dock is 20 kilometres from water. Environmental surveys in the area indicate the flooding was an ecological disaster in terms of terrestrial and aquatic habitat and climate change. In the early 1990s, the people of the Basin came together to press the Province for recognition of the injustice of this situation.

Local governments in the Basin coordinated their efforts at the regional and tribal council level under the Columbia River Treaty Committee, which first met in 1992. The Committee, in partnership with regional MLAs, negotiated with the Province for the creation of a Trust governed by a board of Basin residents, and an allocation of funding to the region representing a fair share of the ongoing downstream benefits earned under the Treaty, to be managed by Columbia Basin Trust.

On both counts the negotiations were successful, and in 1995, the Columbia Basin Trust Act was created. The Province committed to transfer $295 million to the Columbia Basin Trust.
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

building a lasting Legacy

Columbia Basin Trust is a unique organization that is building a lasting legacy.

Its electrical assets, other endowment capital, and a direction given by the people of the Basin in a truly grassroots process, form the legacy that benefits the people and the environment of the Basin. In the past year, Columbia Basin Trust's asset base has continued to grow from $272 million in 2000 to $420 million in 2001.

This year will see the completion of the Arrow Lakes Generating Station, a project that will harness the Columbia River by bypassing an existing storage dam to generate electricity. Columbia Basin Trust, along with its partner, the Columbia Power Corporation, has pledged an offer to West Kootenay Power (WKP) to purchase its electrical generating assets consisting of four dams on the Kootenay River between Nelson and Castlegar. This purchase will have no impact on the consumers of WKP and will return a profit to the Basin. We expect confirmation of the purchase in the fall of 2001 after going through the B.C. Utilities Commission public hearing process.

As a regional corporation, Columbia Basin Trust will be part of the Provinces Core Service Review - a comprehensive and rigorous examination of all provincial programs, activities and business units to confirm the government's core roles and responsibilities.

Columbia Basin Trust will put forward an option to purchase the shares of CPC at the higher of fair market or book value before August 1, 2002.

The Oplan Agreement will be financed through a 25-year debenture by 2030 with interest at one to two per cent above the rate on the Province's bonds.

Columbia Basin Trust is committed to investing in hydro projects and will ensure that decisions about the long-term future of the valuable water resource will have our input and be made at home in the Basin.

Columbia Basin Trust's Board was directed by the people to invest funds and use the profits from the investments for Columbia Basin Trust's delivery of benefits.

As we move from the development to operations stage of these projects, and as other non-power investments start to show returns, we will see a substantial increase in the income flowing to delivery of benefits in the near future.

Working through the many committed volunteers in our sector committees, Columbia Basin Trust's delivery of benefits continues to represent the vision and dreams of Basin residents.

We are particularly pleased with the Youth and Community Involvement Scholarship Program which sees one graduating student in each Basin community with a high school receive a scholarship for up to $8,000 or $2,000 for each of four years of post secondary education. The award is based upon a high level of involvement in the community.

The lack of snow pack this year and lack of planning in California will mean even more pressures on an already over stressed river system. In the coming year, the Board is focusing on the difficult water management issues facing British Columbia and the Basin in the next few years. We are working with the people of the Basin to ensure local concerns are heard. Columbia Basin Trust opened its new building in Castlegar which is also occupied by our partner, Columbia Power Corporation, and the City of Castlegar. We also opened additional offices in Cranbrook and Golden, and together with our office in Nakusp, will be able to serve the people of the Basin closer to home.

This spring we held community meetings to hear from Basin residents directly about how we are following the Columbia Basin Mangement Plan. We also received feedback from the many partners and programs that the Basin Trust has developed, ensuring they are doing what they intended, and finding out how we can make them work even better.

In the past, we did this through a single symposium, but by bringing these meetings closer to home we tripled the amount of people who participated and helped Columbia Basin Trust stay connected to the Basin we serve.

I would like to thank the Board of Directors, CEO Don Johnston, CBT Energy Inc. CEO Ken Epp, staff, our many steering committee volunteers, our delivery partners, our partner Columbia Power Corporation, and all of you who are actively involved with Columbia Basin Trust for the dedication and support enjoyed over the last year.

Josh Smienk
Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Simple, Sensible, Straightforward

Columbia Basin Trust is a very new organization. Although it was established in 1995 through the Columbia Basin Trust Act, the first couple of years were spent doing comprehensive community consultation, and setting up the policy framework which would drive the work of Columbia Basin Trust.

The Columbia Basin Mangement Plan, a requirement of the Act, was adopted in July 1997. Since that time, Columbia Basin Trust has been working diligently to develop and implement investment and delivery of benefits programs. In partnership with the Columbia Power Corporation, we have also been working to complete the Arrow Lakes Generating Station and to do the development work on the other power projects in the Binding Agreement.

Columbia Basin Trust has achieved much success in that short period of time. We have successfully implemented the delivery of benefits program and put more than $8 million in benefits into the communities in the Basin. We have established strong working relationships with local governments, delivery agents, and partner organizations.

Our steering committees function through the dedication and energy of over 60 active volunteers. Our investment program has placed more than $34 million in investments within the Basin. These investments are managed in cooperation with a number of partners, including credit unions, Community Futures Development Corporations, and private companies.

Not only are these investments returning capital to fund the delivery of benefits, they are also directly contributing to the economic stability of communities throughout the Basin.

And yet, we face many challenges as we continue to develop. The major challenge we face is to realize the true potential of Columbia Basin Trust.

We continue to build an organization that is well organized and fiscally responsible, while at the same time it must be an organization that is flexible and responsive. We must find ways to work closely with people, organizations and communities in the Basin in a manner that clearly involves them in achieving the greater self-sufficiency for present and future generations that is talked about in our mission statement.

The success of Columbia Basin Trust will be a direct function of the quality of relationships we are able to build through the work described above. In order to do this, we need to create an organization that has clear values, that operates in an open and transparent manner, and that ensures equity of access for all communities in the Basin.

We need to be willing to take risks and to learn from our mistakes. We need to work with residents and all of our partners to create an organization that is simple, sensible and straightforward.

Don Johnston
Chief Executive Officer
The Columbia Basin Trust has an 18-member Board of Directors, made up of residents who have chosen to make this region their home. The Regional Districts of East Kootenay, Central Kootenay, Kootenay Boundary, Columbia-Shuswap, and Fraser-Fort George each appoint two people for a total of 10 directors. The Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council appoints two directors and the Province of British Columbia appoints six directors. All Board members must be residents of the Columbia Basin as defined in the Columbia Basin Trust Act. Members of the current Board of Directors are:

- Josh Smiend, Chair, Balfour
- Garry Merkel, Vice Chair, Kimberley
- Eben Lament, Kimberley
- Greg Dek, Trail
- Rick Hardie, Fort Steele
- Mike Kartashoff
- Anne Edwards, Nelson
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- Gordon Fletcher, Trail
- Cathy Girling, Revelstoke
- Andrew Jarrett, Slocan
- Gord Johnston, Cranbrook
- Jeanette Townsend, Valemount
- John Voykin, Castlegar
- Deryl White, Cranbrook

In Fiscal Year 2000-2001, Dave Bjarnason of Cranbrook, Jo Brown of Winlaw, and Sandy Korman of Castlegar (all Provincial Government appointees) were members of the Board of Directors.

The Board currently has two vacant Provincial appointment seats.

The Columbia Basin Trust has approximately 60 volunteers (on five sector steering committees) who advise the Board of Directors about the types of programs to develop. These volunteers are selected for the diverse skills and backgrounds they bring to each of the committees. Members of the five sector steering committees are:

**Social Sector**
- Andrew Earnshaw, Nelson
- Gordon Fletcher, Trail
- Cathy Girling, Revelstoke
- Andrew Jarrett, Slocan
- Gord Johnston, Cranbrook
- Rory Lindsay, Sicamous

**Environment Sector**
- Bob Campbell, Invermere
- Patricia Creelman, Cranbrook
- Kathy Eichenberger, Creston
- Denise English, Golden
- Dennis Mcdonald, Creston
- Cindy Pearce, Revelstoke
- Jan Skiber, Kimberley
- Paul Willis, Cranbrook

**Arts and Cultural Sector**
- Kim Bergh, Nelson
- Scott Cobbe, Creston
- Craig Hillman, Kimberly
- Kay Hohn, Salmo
- Alan M Ason, Revelstoke
- Jim McAllister, Cranbrook
- Geoffrey Nangle, Golden
- Joe Ranallo, Rossland
- George Watson, Kimberly

**Economic Development Sector**
- Lorne Barracough, Kimberley
- Don Boyle, Cranbrook
- Rob Gay, Cranbrook
- Paul H ambruch, Golden
- Bruce Hardy, Castlegar
- Lee Malleau, New Denver

**Education and Training Sector**
- Dennis Louie
- Gary Ockenden
- Castlegar
- Bobby Roe
- Valemount
- Mary Walters
- Nelson
- Dorothy Wardwell
- Harrington
- Mae Williamson
- Fernie

Columbia Basin Trust relies on the members of the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance (CK CA), an organization of arts council representatives, to determine arts, culture and heritage programming in the Basin. The CKCA Steering Committee consists of:

- Tony Austin
- Kimberley
- Pamela Cinnamon
- Valemount
- Alice H A
- Invermere
- Trevor H all
- New Denver
- Jacque H Hamilton
- Castlegar
- Stephanie Judy
- Kootenay Lake
- M afred K enn
- Kimberley
- Al M ajor
- Golden
- Carol Palladino
- Revelstoke
- Joan Ralston
- Nelson
- Jane Shaw
- Rossland
- Joe Warshavsky
- Fernie

**Board of Directors 2001-2002**

*Working for the residents*

The Columbia Basin Trust has 25 staff working out of four offices in the Basin. The four offices provide greater geographic access to Columbia Basin Trust and its resources. To contact any staff visit our website at www.cbt.org or call 1-800-505-9898. We have also provided information about all the offices on Page 20 of this document.

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**Steering Committees**

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**Board of Directors 2001-2002**

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The Board currently has two vacant Provincial appointment seats.
How Do I Apply for Funding

From endowment to the people of the Basin: Understanding COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST's Model

Endowment ($295 Million)

$250 Million to Power Investments

The $250 million is committed to finance three power projects in the Basin. The Province of B.C. also committed to transfer an additional $250 million to Columbia Power Corporation (CPC). Columbia Basin Trust's joint venture partner in power projects. Income from power sales is shared 50-50 between CBT and CPC.

Endowment invested in:

Investment Income Currently Provides $3.75 Million annually to Delivery of Benefits

Programs currently developed for 2001-2002 are:

Community Initiatives

$12.9 Million over 10 Years until 2008

Funding to local governments including the Regional Districts of East Kootenay, Central Kootenay, Fraser Fort George, Columbia Shuswap and Kootenay Boundary, and the Ktunaxa Kinbasket Tribal Council.

For more information on Community Initiatives turn to pages 6 to 8.

Sector Initiatives

Economic Development ($550,000)

Education and Training ($200,000)

Social Environment

Arts, Culture and Heritage

For more information on Sector Initiatives turn to pages 8 to 11.

Basin Initiatives

Youth Links

Youth and Community Involvement Scholarship

For more information on Basin Initiatives turn to pages 12, 13 and 19.

Economic Development ($550,000)

Rural Economic Development Program

Education and Training ($200,000)

Resources for Family Literacy

Training Fee Support Program

Social ($550,000)

Affordable Housing

Early Childhood Supports Program

Families Program

Environment ($550,000)

Community Environmental Stewardship Program

Ecosystem Awareness Education Program

Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration and Conservation Program

Terrestrial Ecosystems Restoration and Conservation Program

Arts, Culture and Heritage ($200,000)

Funding Support to Communities

Capital Funding

Funding Support for Touring

Mentoring/Master Classes Program

Arts Council Development

Arts Smarts

Arts Council Development

Mentoring/Master Classes Program

Funding Support for Touring

Environment ($550,000)

Youth Links

Youth and Community Involvement Scholarship

For more information on Basin Initiatives turn to pages 12, 13 and 19.

The Columbia Basin Management Plan

Under the terms of the Columbia Basin Trust Act, CBT was required to prepare a long-term Columbia Basin Management Plan (the Plan).

The Plan sets out Columbia Basin Trust’s mission, objectives, priorities, programs, and requirements for evaluation and monitoring.

It is Columbia Basin Trust’s mission to support 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.

The people of the Basin were instrumental in the creation of the Plan. In addition to Symposia held in 1995 and 1997, ongoing focus groups, information sessions, and kitchen table meetings were held throughout the Basin to ensure the Plan was the creation of the people of the Basin.

In July 1997, the Board of Directors approved the five-year Plan.

The two functions of the Plan are:

- To invest the capital and manage the assets; and
- To spend the income earned from Columbia Basin Trust’s investments to deliver benefits to the region.

These core functions are the basis of Columbia Basin Trust’s investment and delivery of benefits programs. In an effort to continue to include residents in decision making, 11 community meetings were held in 2001 to receive input on the current programs undertaken.

Columbia Basin Trust also established ongoing monitoring and evaluation of all programs to ensure the goals and objectives of the Plan are met.

To receive a copy of the Columbia Basin Management Plan, contact CBT at 1-800-505-8998.
Community Initiatives

Columbia Basin Trust partners with the five regional districts and the Ktunaxa/K’ihknaet Tribal Council in the Basin to deliver Community Initiatives to residents.

Projects: Bear Aware Program

Funding: $10,500

Community Initiatives are being used to hire a Bear Aware co-ordinator in Revelstoke from June to November, peak months for bear activity. In a two-year period ending in 1995, 56 nuisance bears were killed in the Revelstoke area. Compare that with figures that show 19 bears were killed in a four-year period (ending in 2000) after the Bear Aware Program started, and there’s no doubt the program is working.

“It would be very difficult to deliver this important education program without the Columbia Basin Trust,” says Couturier, who notes other local funders include Parks Canada, the Regional District of Columbia Shuswap, and the City of Revelstoke.

Projects: Interpretive Centre

Funding: $50,000

The Village of Valemount, at the northern most part of the Basin, is working with the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, to develop an interpretive centre on the main highway into town. It will attract tourists to the area and will provide a place for locals to be inspired and to showcase their talents.
Bus service keeps Valley connected

Project Proponent: Fernie Women’s Resource Centre
Project: Centre relocation and public transit in the Elk Valley
Funding: $24,299 ($13,267 for the bus service)

Bus service in the Elk Valley will run for another year thanks to a partnership between Columbia Basin Trust, the municipalities of Elkford, Fernie and Sparwood, and Kootenay Traw, which operates the bus service.

“Transportation is a basic need for many people living in the valley,” says Debbie Johnston, co-ordinator of the Fernie Women’s Centre, which helped get the buses running in 1999. Thanks to funds from Community Initiatives, and other funding partners, the Elk Valley Connector has been running five days a week and makes two daily trips through the 70-kilometre long valley, carrying a group of riders who rely on the service.

“There’s a lot of potential for this bus service to grow and continue to support the people who live in the valley,” says Johnston. “And we’re thrilled that we’ve managed to pull it together, along with our partners.”

Elk Valley Connector driver Wayne Brown welcomes new riders.

Projects Funded 2000-2001

| Total Funding Over 10 Years (Basin Community Initiatives and Affected Areas combined): $3,427,210 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| **Electoral Area A** | **Electoral Area B** | **Electoral Area C** | **Electoral Area D** | **Electoral Area E** |
| Elkford & Fernie | Cranbrook & Invermere | Invermere | Kimberley | Cranbrook & Invermere |
| **Baynes Lake Parks and Recreation** | **Radium Hot Springs** | **Invermere Public Library** | **Kootenay Rockies Mountain Riders** | **Cranbrook & Invermere** |
| $1,000 | $1,000 | $1,000 | $1,000 | $1,000 |

**City of Cranbrook**
- **City of Cranbrook CycleWay Trail** $167,564.34
- **Key City Theatre Society** $7,000
- **Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 24** $6,020.66

**District of Elkford**
- **Elkford 50 Club** $506.17
- **Elkford Public Library** $4,377.87

**District of Invermere**
- **Invermere Public Library** $1,000
- **Lakeview Memorial Society** $5,000
- **Windermere District Historical Society** $3,500
- **Parent Advisory Council** $565.34

**City of Kimberley**
- **Consumer Advisory Society** $2,000
- **Kootenay Community Skills Centre** $2,000
- **Kootenay Family Literacy** $4,000
- **Youth for Kimberley Society** $10,000

**Projects Funded 2000-2001**

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<tr>
<th><strong>TOTAL COMMUNITY FUNDING ($)</strong></th>
<th><strong>TOTAL AFFECTED AREA FUNDING ($)</strong></th>
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**Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council**

The Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council has established four programs it annually funds through Columbia Basin Trust's Community Initiatives. For more information on the programs listed below, contact Tribal Council at 1-250-489-2464.

Passing down Ktunaxa traditions, language

Project Proponent: Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council
Project: Youth/ Elders Mentor Awards
Funding: $4,000

The Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council (KKT) is helping to recognize youth who have shown an interest in traditional knowledge. The 2000-2001 winners of the Ktunaxa/Mentor Awards were Lindsay Whitehead from the St. Mary's Band who practices traditional hunting and shares the food with elders in the community and Jason Louie from the Lower Kootenay Band who was recognized for his work learning and teaching the Ktunaxa (doow nāh ha) language.

"There is a real shortage of young people who speak the Ktunaxa language, which is threatened with extinction," says G. Owen Phillips, director of health for the KKT. "And the language is key to understanding traditional knowledge."

"The language is important because it gives us our identity; it's unique just as we are as a Nation. I didn't realize this until I was almost an adult," says Jason Louie. "Now, I think that the language should be a priority for all of us or else it will be lost. It's often difficult for youth to learn it; they are already going through a lot and some of them have to get over their shyness around the language. We're too comfortable with English. It's not so bad for the little kids like the ones I work with. I make learning fun and they like the challenge but we need to find new ways to get the other young people involved."

Funds from Community Initiatives are used to send award winners, along with an elder, to the Aboriginal Achievement Awards in Canada.

Projects Funded 2000-2001

| **Total Funding Over 10 Years (Basin Community Initiatives and Affected Areas combined): $3,427,210** |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| **Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council** | **Cranbrook** | **Invermere** | **Kootenay Rockies Mountain Riders** | **Cranbrook & Invermere** |
| $1,000 | $1,000 | $1,000 | $1,000 | $1,000 |

**City of Fernie**
- **Fernie Party Program** $2,500
- **Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 36** $2,750

**District of Sparwood**
- **District of Sparwood Youth Park** $4,610.43
- **Sparwood Senior Citizens Society** $4,914.89

**Combined RD&E Funding**
- **Cranbrook Boys and Girls Club**
- **Books for Babies in the Columbia Valley**
- **District of Invermere** $24,299 ($13,267 with an elder, to the Aboriginal Achievement Awards in Canada."

Projects Funded 2000-2001
**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY**

The Regional District of Kootenay Boundary also is not entirely within the Columbia Basin Trust’s mandated area. Communities in the Columbia Basin are Trail, Rossland, Fruitvale, Warfield, Manton and rural areas around these towns and cities. To apply for funds in these areas contact Elaine Kumar at 1-800-355-7352 or 1-250-369-5148.

**Book keeps local history alive**

Project Proponent: Beaver Valley Public Library

Funding: $30,000

Funds from the Columbia Basin Trust have guaranteed people in the Beaver Valley a place in the history books - their own history book that is. “People come in to the library looking for local history and we just don’t have the resources,” says Chief Librarian Dianne Kiess. But that all changed when Columbia Basin Trust funded a local history project for the Beaver Valley and area. Local researcher Anna Reeves conducted more than 100 interviews, collected more than 350 photos, and prepared a 250-page report entitled Tracks of the Beaver Valley and Pend d’Oreille. “We’ve already lost some of our history and I’d encourage all communities to start recording theirs. You can’t start too soon,” says Kiess, adding this local history collection will likely be of most interest to people who want to learn more about their local heritage.

**New playing fields for sports fans**

Project Proponent: Helen Zeleznik Memorial Park

Project: New playing fields

Funding: $45,000

People in Nakusp and area have a new slow-pitch diamond and soccer pitch, thanks to the local recreation commission, Nakusp Mux Slow Pitch Society, VSA Highway 1 Maintenance, the Village, local contractors, Columbia Basin Trust, and people who volunteered their time and services. Project Manager Gord Marshall says the Helen Zeleznik Memorial Park is just about completed. It’s just about time and services.

Marshall was able to turn an old field of weeds into an improved playing field. “It really enhances the area,” says Marshall, adding there are at least half a dozen slow-pitch teams in the small community, and hundreds of local kids and adults who play soccer. “We can raise about $4,000 a year through our annual slow-pitch tournament, so it would have taken us 11 or 12 years to raise the money and do what we did with the help of the Columbia Basin Trust and others,” says Marshall. The new park is located behind the Nakusp and District Sportscomplex on Eighth Avenue. There will be an official opening ceremony in 2002.
Students embrace theatrical legends

Project Proponent: Yahk Youth Theatre Group
Project: Yahk Youth Puppeters
Funding: $860

The Yahk Youth Theatre Group's hand puppet presentations act out First Nations legends "from a long time ago when birds and animals could talk and there were giants on the earth." They tell the story of "How Kusac, the Chipmunk Got Her Stripes" and "How Bear Lost His Tail." They are legends and lessons to remind individuals of what happens when we base and trick each other.

The Yahk Youth Theatre group, led by N. Icola Finch, has developed a theatrical presentation of two First Nations legends using hand puppets, giant puppets, and live performers.

"One of the main reasons for starting this group was to give local youth hands-on work experience and produce something really unique and educational to share with our community," says Finch.

Finch's 18-years-of experience as an actor, director, the atre instructor, and her love of the theatre is what encouraged her to develop this project.

Finch had first heard the legends when Chief Chris Luke of the Lower Kootenay band visited Yahk Elementary School as part of the research they were doing for a giant puppet production called Salomo's Dream. After hearing and seeing the legends the students were, she knew the legends would make an impact.

She began writing "How Chipmunk Got Her Stripes" in early 2002. Watch for more information in Basin newspapers or on CKCA's website. Funding applications for all programs are adjudicated once a year by the CKCA.

Applications can be picked up at any Columbia Basin Trust or Basin arts council office. You can also contact the CKCA at 1-877-505-5505 or visit the website at www.basinartsulture.com.
**SOCIAL**

**Encouraging the development of healthy children**

**Early Childhood Supports Program**

Funding: $287,000

The Early Childhood Supports Program assists families in significantly enhancing the skills and resources needed to help children reach healthy maturity. The program increases the ability of communities to work together to reduce the risk to children under the age of six years and increases awareness about the value of supporting children in their earliest years.

**Environment**

**Restoring, conserving the Basin environment**

**Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration and Conservation Program**

Funding: $150,000

The Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration and Conservation Program funds aquatic habitat restoration, conservation, and enhancement, and monitoring and assessment in the Columbia Basin.

**PROJECTS FUNDED 2000-2001**

- Salmo Family Support Program, Salmo: $15,965
- Kimberley Gymnastics Club Preschool Program Enhancement: $3,000
- Parent Group - Early Learning Canada, Valemount: $6,970
- Capital Project Early Childhood Supports Centre, Slocan Valley: $24,000
- Shuswap Children, Invermere: $47,928 (See featured project)
- Kootenay Children’s Festival, Cranbrook: $2,300
- Castlegar and District Family Resource Centre, Castlegar: $33,486
- Family Literacy Programs in the Basin (various communities): $54,000
- Regional Child Care Council Project, West Kootenay: $27,000

**FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR SOCIAL PROGRAMS**

Columbia Basin Trust’s Social Sector Steering Committee has established five-year funding cycles for programs through to March 2006. Applications for funding in these programs are accepted by Columbia Basin Trust year round. However, selection for project funding takes place once a year. Watch CBT’s website or local newspapers for information about application deadlines.

In addition to renewing funding for the Early Childhood Supports Program through to March 2003, Columbia Basin Trust launched the Families Program in 2001. The Families Program supports activities and projects that provide resources to maintain and strengthen the health and safety of families in the Basin.

A Youth Program is scheduled to begin funding projects in 2002. Information on the Youth Program will be available in the early part of 2002.

- **Lower Sand Creek Fish Habitat Restoration – Phase 3**: $4,380
- **Engineering review of Blueberry Creek Fishway**: $3,000
- **Norms Creek Rehabilitation – Phase 2 $350**
- **Upper West Arm of Kootenay Lake kokanee conservation and enhancement plan $4,500**
- **Salmo bull trout spawning platform design and telemetry $5,000**
- **Wolf Creek restoration and utilization assessment $4,600**
- **Slocan Lake Limnological assessment $1,300**

**PROJECTS FUNDED 2000-2001**

- **Camp Kootenay kokanee spanner assessment**: $4,130
- **Lower Sand Creek Fish Habitat Assessment – Phase 1 $18,480**
- **Lower Goat River Fish and Fish Habitat Assessment $12,168** (See featured project)
- **Slocan River Fish Habitat and Population Assessment $4,130**
- **Westslope Cutthroat Trout Conservation Project: Research, Monitoring and Assessment $9,800**
- **Joseph Creek Restoration – Year 2 $8,741**
- **Gerard Rainbow Trout – Off-Channel Habitat Assessment $8,800**
- **Lake Revelstoke Winter Creel Study $3,800**
- **Canoe Valley Aquatic Assessment $7,532**
- **Landeau River Gerrard Rainbow Juvenile Assessment $3,000**
- **Strategic Planning for the Upper Columbia and Slocan-Pend d’Oreille River watersheds $8,000**
- **Columbia Kootenay Fisheries Renewal Partnership workshops $3,300**
- **Community Support, Project Monitoring and Evaluation $22,324**

For more information, contact CBT Community Liaison, Cindy Goazi at 1-250-344-7015 or visit CKFRP website at www.ckfrp.com.
Magic's happening for school students

**Ecosystem Awareness Education Program**

*Funding: $50,000*

Columbia Basin Trust’s Ecosystem Awareness Education Program aims at promoting a greater understanding of Columbia Basin ecosystems to school-aged children. Columbia Basin Trust’s program sponsors the Magic Basin Field Trip Ecosystem Awareness Program, an East Kootenay Environmental Awareness Education (EKES) project.

Capitalizing on the popularity of J.K. Rowling’s “Harry Potter”, the field trips provide elementary school children aged 9-13 years (Grades 4-7) throughout the Basin, the opportunity to discover Basin ecosystems through a dynamic, enriching experience that complements classroom curriculum.

The program offers teachers of Grades 4-7, a curriculum-based program that can be linked to the Integrated Resource Package topics for Life Sciences.

“The biggest impact the program has on students is building their awareness of ecosystems, teaching them stewardship ethics, and respect for their environment,” says Lee-Anne Walker, project co-coordinator and interpreter for East Kootenay Environmental Awareness Education. “The field trip connects children with their environment and it is very exciting to watch their reactions when they actually touch, see, and experience an ecosystem in their backyard.”

In 2000-2001, 4,476 elementary school children took part in EKES’s Magic Basin Field Trips to wetlands, grasslands, forests, and old growth forests.

With the help of knowledgeable interpreters from around the Basin, students are introduced to natural functioning ecosystems by participating in nature’s magic tricks, scavenger hunts, dip netting in a wetland, and micro hikes in the forest.

“The opportunity for students to go outdoors and experience the ecosystems first hand is one of the best parts of the Magic Basin Field Trip,” says Gail Pidgeon, a Grade 4 teacher from Frank J. Mitchell School. “This program is a perfect fit with the curriculum and the interpreters use interesting strategies, activities and games to engage students.”

The Magic Basin Field Trip is funded in partnership with Columbia Basin Trust, the Vancouver Foundation, and with early seed money from Teskey’s Environmental Fund.

For more information on the Magic Basin Field Trip Ecosystem Awareness Program contact EKES at 1-250-427-9325 or visit www.ekces.ontheinternet.

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**Preserving natural wildlife environments**

**Terrestrial Ecosystem and Restoration Conservation Program**

*Funding: $150,000*

As part of the Columbia Basin Trust’s Environmental initiatives, the Terrestrial Ecosystem and Restoration Conservation Program helps realize the goal of maintaining healthy ecosystems in a naturally functioning state and to improve the functioning of those that have been altered and degraded.

A variety of terrestrial projects are funded through this program including wildlife habitat enhancement, terrestrial ecosystem research, and wildlife species monitoring/research.

The Environment Sector Steering Committee is in the process of developing a long-term strategy that will provide future direction for terrestrial program funding by Columbia Basin Trust.

**Project: Restore monitoring of cougar ecology**

*Funding: $5,000*

In 2000-2001, Columbia Basin Trust, in partnership with Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program and BC Environment, funded a cougar ecology and predation study in the South Selkirk Mountains south of Nelson, B.C.

“The goal of this study is to develop and implement measures to reduce or reverse the losses of caribou and mule deer due to cougar predation in the South Selkirk Mountains,” says Ross Clarke, project co-ordinator.

“The first part of this study involves monitoring and researching cougar populations and growth, habitat assessment and use, prey selection, and general ecology.”

Cougar tracking is carried out by local houndsmen from the Nelson, Castlegar, Trail, and Creston area. The cougars are ear-tagged, radio-collared and checked for general health conditions.

As predators of caribou and mule deer, the study looks at the long-term effects this predator-prey system has on the terrestrial ecosystem.

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**Involving the community**

**Community Environmental Stewardship Program**

*Funding: $100,000*

Columbia Basin Trust’s Community Environmental Stewardship Program promotes environmental stewardship, public education and awareness through community involvement. The program helps build understanding, abilities and skills for informed decision making through education and active involvement in stewardship activities in both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

**Project Proponent: Rocky Mountain Trench Natural Resources Society**

**Project: Restoring fire-maintained ecosystems**

*Funding: $14,000*

The Rocky Mountain Trench Natural Resources Society found that there was a need to increase public awareness and education of restoring fire maintained ecosystems.

“Seventy years of active fire suppression in the Rocky Mountain Trench resulted in an invasion of conifers and changes to the ecology of this zone,” says Maurice H. Anderson, co-ordinator. “The greater the public understanding of the fundamentals of restoring fire maintained ecosystems, the greater the support that can be expected.”

The goal of this project included raising awareness among the public and special interest groups about forest fires and prescribed burns, and the effects these have on forest health, native plant species and grasslands. This project encouraged the public to become actively involved, empowered and educated in terrestrial ecosystems in their community.

The Columbia Kootenay Fisheries Renewal Partnership (CKFRP) was the delivery agent for this program during 2000-2001. Project proposals are evaluated, awarded and monitored through a process designed and managed by the delivery agent and approved by the Environment Sector Steering Committee.

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**Photo by Greg Baxter**
New building system is ‘dome sweet dome’

Kootenay Product Development Fund

CBT Contribution: $283,750

The Kootenay Product Development Fund (K P D F) is a $500,000 investment funding program, managed by the Kootenay Association for Science and Technology (K A S T). The program has been designed to assist Columbia Basin companies in the development of technology-based products and processes.

Small to medium-sized Canadian companies or corporations, with less than 50 employees, which are carrying on the majority of their business in the Columbia Basin region, are eligible to apply. Qualified applicants must have a developed business plan prior to the start of the pre-application stage.

The program involves providing seed money to establish the fund. Read on for an example of a Basin company which is using this fund to help expand an innovative product.

Company: Altus Engineering

Product: Dome-shaped building system

Imagine a lightweight, wooden dome. Then imagine a manufacturing plant right here in the Columbia Basin and more around the world. That is the plan, according to Salah Eldeib, vice-president of Altus Engineering in New Denver.

This growing firm is developing a unique dome-shaped building system that is wooden, lightweight, manufactured in sections, and can be assembled in a day. It will cost about half of a stick-frame house, cut energy costs by up to 50 per cent, and in 500 years it will still be standing.

"The longest piece of wood we use to make the dome is 14 inches," says Eldeib adding, "We've been able to use scrap wood from Slocan Forest Products and the manufacturing costs are half of what I expected."

Altus is developing four prototypes and has hired seven people so far. It is working with the National Research Council and the University of British Columbia to develop this new building system that is destined primarily for the American market for use as schools, homes, emergency shelters and more. K A S T, through the Kootenay Product Development Fund, has invested in the project.

*The financial support...was very important because it made it easier to attract other investors and helped get things started,* says Eldeib.

For more information on the Kootenay Product Development Fund and how to access the loan funding, contact KAST at 1-250-362-7400.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A notion of an idea

Basin Business Advocates Program

Funding: $440,000

The Basin Business Advocates Program was introduced in October 2000 to assist businesses by providing access to a business advocate who offers free counseling and advice.

The business advocates are a team of experienced business people from a variety of backgrounds who work one-on-one with businesses.

The program includes completion of a business assessment report, business planning and recommendation for the business. A specialized consultant may be contracted on a business behalf to address the needs identified by an advocate.

Monica L’Heureux, owner of The Wooden Thimble worked with a Golden business advocate after hearing about the program from a friend. "I wanted to get some professional advice about expanding my business," says L’Heureux.

L’Heureux moved back to Golden and opened The Wooden Thimble in 1997 after completing her diploma in Fashion and Design Technology from Kwantlen College.

The Wooden Thimble began as a fabric store and custom sewing shop and has since turned into a quilt shop offering fabric, notions, PFAFF sewing machines, and quilting courses.

After completing the initial business assessment, the business advocate recommended a local consultant prepare a complete business plan.

"I had changed the focus of the store quite a bit since 1997," says L’Heureux. "The business plan was extremely valuable in helping me re-direct and re-organize, as well as see the complete financial picture of my business. I have consulted with a lot of experience in retail, had lots of energy, and was really enthusiastic about my business. "Overall, this program was a very positive experience," adds L’Heureux. "If my business would have had to pay for this advice, it just wouldn't have happened."

The Basin Business Advocates Program is delivered by Steele O’Neil and Associates in Cranbrook.

Business owners interested in participating in the program are encouraged to contact Steele O’Neil and Associates at 1-250-489-4180 or CBT Community Liaison Patty Bosse at 1-250-365-6633.
Communities gain from youth program

Youth Links is a seven-week program for youth ages 17-19 that takes place during the summer.

Two groups of 10 traveled the Basin taking a hands-on approach to work and educational activities. Each community project or activity is designed to teach new skills, and to expose them to new experiences, as well as add benefits to Basin communities. Youth also learn about teamwork, leadership and responsibility.

- Assisting Earth M atters with improving its community garden spaces.
- Restoration of a historic trail in Edgewater and helping to repair an 80-year-old community irrigation flume.
- Painting Silverton’s historic community hall.
- Painting railway cars in Revelstoke.
- A variety of community service work in Golden.

At the end of the seven weeks, participants are expected to share their experiences by giving presentations to organizations or schools in their home communities.

Here’s what some of the Year 2000 participants had to say:

“On Wednesday we went up the Balu Trail in the Rogers Pass. We saw beautiful mountains, glacier water, deer skins, good company, lots of hiking, furry marmites, gained knowledge of plants, an incredible view, more blisters, bear territory, and snow...” Chelsea Raney

“I have last two weeks have been amazing. Everyone on the program is really awesome people, and I’m lucky too have met them all.” Gillian Haegy

“Well I am stoked on this program and it is the best thing that I have done in my life.” Nicole Rodrigues

Youth Links 2000Orientation Crew.

Youth Links 2000 Participants

Alaine Paine - Nelson
April M acdonald - Montrose
Chelsea Raney - Slocan
Chelsea Raney - Salmo
Jocelyn Aiken - Cranbrook
Jeffrey Zurek - South Slocan
Matthew McColl - Castlegar
Johanna M arlin - Castlegar
Krista Pighin - Cranbrook
Nicole Rodrigues - Castlegar
Nitika Stevens - Nelson
Nicole Rodrigues - Castlegar

To learn more about the Youth Links program contact CBT Community Liaison Patty Bosworth at 1-800-505-8998 or visit the website at www.cbt.org

People interested in applying for Youth Links for the summer of 2002 should contact M ia Gardiner of Earth Matters at 1-250-352-2140. Applications will also be available at CBT offices and on the website in the spring.

A wealth of information

In 2000, Columbia Basin Trust contributed $150,000 in funding to the Basin Information Network (BIN) initiative.

BIN is a vision of an association of Basin-based organizations acting together to provide free, centralized, universal access to information about the Basin for all residents and organizations.

While the BIN might collect, store, point to, and disseminate information, it is about empowering individuals, organizations, and communities to make informed decisions about their development by providing tools necessary to share, access, and understand information about the Basin.

Columbia Basin Trust is working closely with educational institutions, economic development agencies and the private sector to explore the many opportunities a Basin Information Network would create.

By moving into one central place, organizations can begin to look at the region, and their place in the region, holistically,” says Matt Wenger, Columbia Basin Trust Information Technology Director. “We can all benefit from having a “bigger picture” view when making decisions.”

Columbia Basin Trust has funded the BIN for the following reasons:

- The Columbia Basin is a region with limited resources. Organizations or individuals cannot afford to duplicate each other’s work.
- By creating BIN, duplication is minimized.
- Organizations have limited resources. They can’t afford to spend extra money or time tracking down and obtaining information needed to make decisions.
- Currently, due to the “big three” problems of access to information (affordability, availability, usability), organizations are forced to make many decisions based on incomplete information.
- A BIN can potentially act as a single point of entry for information sharing. Organizations can share data once with the BIN, thus minimizing the resources spent on sharing.

For more information about the BIN, contact CBT Information Technology Director Matt Wenger at 1-800-505-8998.
Advancing telecommunications

Columbia Basin Trust is actively involved in an effort to bring affordable, advanced telecommunications services to every community in the Basin. The C M O N project is a not-for-profit corporation, created by a partnership of organizations, working to improve the state of telecommunications in the region.

Current members include Columbia Basin Trust, the Kootenay Association for Science and Technology, the Science and Technology Association of the Rockies, and the Revelstoke Communications Technology Committee.

"In today’s information-based society the quality of life is linked to the widespread availability of telecommunications services at affordable prices," says Columbia Moutain O pen Network (C M O N) Executive Director Jeff Roberts. "There are few aspects of life in the Basin that cannot be improved through the use of an advanced telecommunications system.

T he region’s economy, education system, healthcare, government services, opportunities for youth, and even the environment will be enhanced with the provision of improved telecommunications services."

The C M O N project is the result of several years of study of the telecommunications needs of the residents of the Columbia Basin and careful analysis of similar community network projects throughout North America. Columbia Basin Trust and the C M O N believe the people of this region need to create their own telecommunications infrastructure in order to ensure the needed services are available now and in the future.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK**

C B T Funding: $642,000 (to date)

During its first year, C M O N plans to:

- Establish a Board of Directors that reflects the interests of residents, businesses, institutions, and community groups throughout the region.
- Complete a detailed engineering study and business plan.
- Obtain the necessary licensing and permits to build the network.
- Raise the funds to build the network.

The Columbia Mountain Open Network vision is to create a community-controlled network that offers data communications services at prices competitive with those in the large urban centres.

Some of the benefits of communities with advanced telecommunications are:

- Improved/Broadened Education Facilities
- Improved telecommunications will benefit all levels of education within the region.
- Primary, secondary and post-secondary education services will be enhanced through the availability of on-line courses, interactive learning with students in other regions, and the ability to offer world-class courses from within the region.
- Residents can upgrade their skills in their own communities instead of having to travel to larger centres. Courses will be available locally via tele-learning. This is essential to diversifying skills and participating in the lifelong learning necessary in today’s rapidly changing workforce.

**Better Healthcare**

Access to broadband communications lowers the cost and improves the quality of healthcare in rural regions by allowing medical professionals to better communicate with each other. An advanced telecommunications network would enable Basin hospitals to offer tele-medicine, where a specialist receives the medical information electronically and makes a remote diagnosis.

**Improved Safety Services**

Basin-wide access to 911 and cell phone coverage will enhance the ability to communicate quickly for assistance and reduce emergency response times.

**Improved Personal Communications**

An improved communications system will remove the frustrations of having a cell phone call cut off or lengthy Internet downloading sessions.

In today's fast-paced world it is more important than ever for people to stay in touch and the region needs a telecommunications system that fosters communications rather than impedes it," says Roberts.

For more information contact Jeff Roberts, Columbia Moutain O pen Network, at 1-250-365-1672 or jroberts@mti-das.com.

**People interested in this initiative are also invited to attend the Telecom 2001 conference October 23 in Nelson where C M O N plans to announce future activities.**

**Youth make a difference**

Columbia Basin Trust annually awards 20 Youth and Community Involvement Scholarships to graduating students in the Basin who demonstrate a high level of involvement in their communities.

Each of the recipients receive a scholarship valued at up to $8,000 or $2,000 per annum for four years. The scholarship is awarded to a student from each of the 20 Basin communities. The graduates must be registered at any post secondary institution.

**YOUTH AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP**

Funding: $40,000 Recipients: 20

The Youth and Community Involvement Scholarship assists Basin graduates in pursuing post-secondary education and rewards and encourages the involvement of young people in their communities.

To be selected for this award candidates must:

- Demonstrate extensive involvement within a Columbia Basin community (exemplify community spirit).
- Display a focused effort towards improving a sense of community.
- Be eligible and have applied for acceptance at a post secondary institute.
- Currently attend school within the Columbia Basin.

Columbia Basin Trust has partnered with the Vancouver Foundation to support the development of new community foundations in the Columbia Basin.

The Endowment Support for Community Foundations Program encourages the development of registered community foundations in the Basin.

**Building capacity in communities**

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The Endowment Support for Community Foundations Program encourages the development of registered community foundations in the Basin.

**ENDOWMENT SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS**

Funding: $100,000

Upon meeting the requirements of the program, a Basin foundation can receive $35,000 per year for two years, in matching funds from Columbia Basin Trust and the Vancouver Foundation.


Contact a Community Liaison in your area at 1-800-505-8996 for information about this program.
**Venture Capital**

### Resort offers year-round excitement

**Company:** Kicking Horse Mountain Resort  
**CBT Investment:** $5 million

Columbia Basin Trust invested in the first development phase of Kicking Horse Mountain Resort near Golden in 1999.

On Dec. 9, 2000, Columbia Basin Trust Board of Directors Chair Josh Smienk attended Kicking Horse Mountain Resort’s official opening. The inaugural ski season for the resort kicked off with approximately 2,500 people in attendance.

The resort, which is located 14 kilometres from Golden, offers over 4,000 vertical feet, the second highest in Canada. In the winter, skiers and snowboarders enjoy a 12-minute ride to the top of the mountain in the high-speed Golden Eagle Express Gondola.

During the summer season, the gondola continues to transport hikers and mountain bikers to several beginner, intermediate, and advanced alpine trails.

Kicking Horse also provides direct access to area activities including heli-hiking, parasailing, hang-gliding, whitewater kayaking and rafting, sports fishing, climbing, and golfing.

The resort’s first winter season was very strong with approximately 42,000 visitors to the mountain and an estimated 26,000 through the summer season.

Continuous enhancements are being made to the $250 million Kicking Horse Mountain Resort. A new central reservation system, two new luxury suites situated at the top of Canada’s highest restaurant, the mountain’s first ski-in/ski-out accommodation, and several other real estate options for couples and families will be available in time for winter 2001-2002.

When the winter season starts on December 14, visitors will enjoy 26 new ski and snowboard runs, bringing the total number of runs to 68.

To learn more about Kicking Horse Mountain Resort visit its website at www.kickinghorse.com.

For more information on venture capital investments, contact Dave Strachan, manager, investments, at 2-50-265-9935.

### Destination course destined for success

**Company:** St. Eugene Mission Golf Resort  
**CBT Investment:** $6,765,000

The St. Eugene Mission Golf Resort on the St. Mary’s Reserve near Cranbrook is a championship, 18-hole course that is receiving rave reviews. It is also one of many projects Columbia Basin Trust has invested in throughout the region.

"In only our second season we have surpassed projections and have been recognized as one of the finest golf courses in Western Canada," says General Manager Michael Smith.

Columbia Basin Trust invested $6,765,000 in the 7,007-yard, par-72, course. Today the course employs 75 people on a full-time seasonal basis, and has resulted in a number of tourism spin-offs that come from attracting more people to the area.

Increased business for local hotels and restaurants is just one of the benefits that have resulted from the opening of the St. Eugene Mission Golf Resort.

The golf course is part of the Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council’s overall vision for economic development, which includes adding a hotel and casino, scheduled to open in May 2002. (CBT will not be involved in the casino).

"This project will create careers, diversify the economy and it will be a source of long-term income that will be used by the five Bands that make up the Tribal Council," says Helder Ponte, project manager.

For more information on the St. Eugene Mission Golf Resort visit its website at www.steugene.com.

### Heating up the technique of drying wood products

**Company:** HeatWave Drying Systems  
**CBT Investment:** $3.5 million

Columbia Basin Trust has invested $3.5 million through equity and debt in HeatWave Drying Systems in the West Kootenay.

The funds are helping this innovative company develop its radio-wave, dry-kiil technology to the next stage of business growth and development.

HeatWave has developed a drying technology that improves efficiencies and lowers drying costs for a range of products, including large dimensional lumber and timbers. This new drying technology can also be applied to agricultural products, pharmaceuticals and other products that require low moisture levels.

For more information about this technology visit the HeatWave Drying Systems website at www.heatwave.com.
REAL ESTATE
Columbia Basin
Building opens

Columbia Basin Trust officially opened the Columbia Basin Building in Castlegar May 11, 2001. Approximately 100 people attended the opening to tour the new 30,000 sq. ft. building, which is now home to Columbia Basin Trust’s Castlegar office, as well as the offices of Columbia Power Corporation, and the City of Castlegar Council Chambers.

The building, which cost $4 million including tenant improvements, is a key part of Columbia Basin Trust’s investment portfolio. Construction of the project began in April 2001 and employed about 75 people. When complete, the building was dedicated to individuals and companies for their hard work on the construction of the Columbia Basin Building.

Columbia Basin Trust extends its sincerest thanks to the following individuals and companies for their hard work on the construction of the Columbia Basin Building:

- B.C. Buildings Corporation - Ben M inuk, Brent Wane, Jim Mclaren
- Vic Van Isle Construction Ltd. - General Contractor
- Consulting Engineers:
  - MSS Engineering Ltd. - Structural
  - Matteotti Yoneda Associates Ltd. - Mechanical
  - EMCO Engineering Ltd. - Electrical

The building, which cost $4 million including tenant improvements, is a key part of Columbia Basin Trust’s investment portfolio.

Columbia Basin Building located at 445 - 13 Avenue in Castlegar.

Clear sailing for area business

Business: Sunshine Houseboats

When local entrepreneurs Brant and Dianne Cullum got into the houseboat business three years ago they had never been on a houseboat. Today they operate 10 charter houseboats on Lake Koocanusa and by next year their fleet will be up to 13.

People thought we were crazy,” says Cullum, one of the investors in Sunshine Houseboats. “Now we get 2,000 people coming to houseboat each year and it keeps growing.”

With a financial loan from the Regional Lending Program, a partnership between Community Futures Development Corporations in the Basin and Columbia Basin Trust, Sunshine Houseboats purchased another boat - the “Eagle” - which will strengthen and diversify this floating business.

“Now we can offer a time share houseboat to interested investors, as well as our charter and other services,” says Cullum. “We really appreciate that Columbia Basin Trust, together with CFDC, has shown the foresight and is willing to work with small businesses like ours.”

Since it started, Sunshine Houseboats, based in Cranbrook, has more than doubled its fleet, increased its business almost seven times, and hires five people full-time during the summer.

Next year the company expects to hire up to eight people, add a restaurant to the operations, and offer Canada/U.S. international boating to its clients on Koocanusa more than 400 kilometres of shoreline.

“We are on the frontier of tourism on the lake,” says Cullum. “And tourism will surely become a predominant industry in the area.”

For more information about Sunshine Houseboats visit the website at sunshinehouseboats.com

Loan Syndication Program

The Loan Syndication Program provides businesses in the Basin with the capital needed to help strengthen local economies. Through this program, credit unions share commercial loan opportunities, and associated risks and returns with Columbia Basin Trust. CBT’s participation in any one loan syndication is up to a maximum of 50 per cent of the total amount loaned by a credit union. Syndicated loans start at $250,000. To date, Columbia Basin Trust has advanced $6,475,000 to this program. The overall annual rate of return to the Columbia Basin Trust for this program is 8.92 per cent. For more information about accessing the Loan Syndication Program, contact a credit union in your area.

Regional Lending Program

The Regional Lending Program helps viable businesses in the Basin with both expansion and start-up financing. Columbia Basin Trust’s contribution to this lending program, which is offered through Community Futures Development Corporation, enables CFDCs to increase loans to $250,000. To date, Columbia Basin Trust has advanced $3.5 million to this program. For more information about accessing the Regional Lending Program, contact a CFDC office in your area.

Program helps finance new hotel

Travelers to Golden can now stay in a new three-level, 60-room Ramada Ltd. Hotel that offers an indoor pool, hot tub and a high-speed internet connection.

This addition to Golden’s list of hotels opened in September of this year and is already receiving calls from tour operators and has several long-term, corporate bookings for its two-bedroom suites.

“We expect that skiers coming to the area will also be good for business,” says co-owner Bhajan Rai.

Construction of the project began in April 2001 and employed about 75 people.

Total Square Footage - 30,000
First Floor
City of Castlegar Council Chambers 1,453 sq ft
Parkade - 18 parking stalls
Second Floor
Columbia Power Corporation 9,696 sq ft
Third Floor
Columbia Basin Trust 5,114 sq ft
Uncommitted space 4,730 sq ft
Total Rentable Area 23,193 sq ft
Project Timeline
March 1999 - Project conception
June 2000 - Construction began
April 2001 - Building opened
Total Project Cost - $4 million including tenant improvements

Sunshine Houseboats is set to expand its operations next year.

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With a financial loan from the Regional Lending Program, a partnership between Community Futures Development Corporations in the Basin and Columbia Basin Trust, Sunshine Houseboats purchased another boat - the “Eagle” - which will strengthen and diversify this floating business.

“Now we can offer a time share houseboat to interested investors, as well as our charter and other services,” says Cullum. “We really appreciate that Columbia Basin Trust, together with CFDC, has shown the foresight and is willing to work with small businesses like ours.”

Since it started, Sunshine Houseboats, based in Cranbrook, has more than doubled its fleet, increased its business almost seven times, and hires five people full-time during the summer.

Next year the company expects to hire up to eight people, add a restaurant to the operations, and offer Canada/U.S. international boating to its clients on Koocanusa more than 400 kilometres of shoreline.

“We are on the frontier of tourism on the lake,” says Cullum. “And tourism will surely become a predominant industry in the area.”

For more information about Sunshine Houseboats visit the website at sunshinehouseboats.com
In September 2000, Columbia Basin Trust incorporated a new energy subsidiary, CBT Energy Inc. (CBTE), to develop and manage energy and power related projects for the purposes of creating long-term income, and bringing economic, environmental, and social benefits to the Columbia Basin.

The structure and purpose of CBTE is to ensure Columbia Basin Trust energy policies include direction from outside experts in the energy field and access to critical industry knowledge to become adept in a rapidly evolving and uncertain energy market.

CBTE's mandate is to develop an organization which supports the mission and vision for the Columbia Basin Trust in the energy area. To achieve this mission, Columbia Basin Trust is moving towards the incorporation of the activities of its subsidiary power companies into CBTE's operations.

The consolidation of the subsidiary companies under CBTE will enhance the ability of Columbia Basin Trust to seek, and capitalize on, unique business opportunities in the energy industry. "CBTE is a significant energy player within the region and can contribute to, and enhance, the diversification of the energy industry in BC..." says Ken Epp, CBTE interim chief executive officer. CBTE is working to equip itself to fully operate in deregulating energy markets and to prepare for potential market structure changes in British Columbia.

CBTE's first priority is to ensure the timely completion, in concert with Columbia Power Corporation, Columbia Basin Trust's joint venture partner in power projects, of existing energy projects on pages 16 and 17.

Secondly, Columbia Basin Trust recognizes that long-term success is also dependent on an entrepreneurial view to developing new business opportunities that expand the scope of Columbia Basin Trust's business portfolio.

The new market provides opportunities for corporations to be creative in providing business solutions between power providers and power users. In the future, CBTE foresees a portfolio that encompasses provision of energy from various sources and services to customers that maximize benefits from the market while containing risks.

CBTE is building the needed tools to be able to evaluate and rank new opportunities rigorously at minimum cost and risk, as well as to execute these opportunities.

**CBT Energy Inc.**

*Created in September 2000*

*Number of Staff: 2*

In 1996, Columbia Basin Trust and its joint venture partner, Columbia Power Corporation (CPC), made their first investment and acquired the 125 megawatt Brilliant Dam on Kootenay River north of Castlegar.

Like all investments made by Columbia Basin Trust, the Brilliant Dam will become a source of long-term income that will support Columbia Basin Trust’s delivery of benefits across the Columbia Basin. Since acquiring the Brilliant Dam, Columbia Basin Trust and CPC have undertaken a series of capital improvements to both the dam and the powerhouse.

A proposed expansion project will add 100 megawatts of generating capacity by utilizing water not needed by the existing 60-year-old powerhouse, and see a new powerhouse built.

**Brilliant Dam - expanding the investment**

In 2000, Columbia Basin Trust Inc. (CBTI) undertook a series of capital improvements to both the dam and powerhouse.

A proposed expansion project will add 100 megawatts of generating capacity by utilizing water not needed by the existing 60-year-old powerhouse, and see a new powerhouse built.

**Brilliant Expansion Project**

*Output:* 100 M W, 600 G W/h

*Cost:* $125 million - $150 million (estimated)

*Schedule:* Construction 2002 - in service 2005

*Jobs:* 450 person years (estimated)

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Columbia Basin Trust/ Columbia Power Corporation’s First Major Project

Columbia Basin Trust, along with its joint venture partner Columbia Power Corporation (CPC), are building a 170 megawatt power station at the Hugh Keenleyside Dam near Castlegar. When complete in 2002, the Arrow Lakes Generating Station will produce enough electricity to supply nearly all West Kootenay homes and small businesses.

“Power sales resulting from this joint venture investment will give Columbia Basin Trust a long-term source of income that will be used to support our delivery of benefits which bring social, economic and environmental benefits to the 170,000 people who live in the Basin,” says Josh Smienk, chair of CBT’s Board of Directors.

The return on this power investment has already begun. The Arrow Lakes Generating Station project is putting more than $53 million in wages and more than $20 million in other spending into the regional economy during the four-year construction period. At its peak, the project employed more than 400 workers, most of them local.

The Arrow Lakes Generating Station will also result in a number of environmental benefits including the creation of new fish habitat and improvements to downstream aquatic habitat.

For more information about the Arrow Lakes Generating Station, or any of the power projects on these pages, visit CPC’s website at columbiapower.org.

Arrow Lakes Generating Station

Output: 170 M W (2 units), 760GW/h
Cost: $250 million
Schedule: In Service 2002
Number of People Employed During Construction: Approximately 400

- Water enters the powerhouse through a 1,500-metre long approach channel upstream of the dam.
- Two 85-megawatts turbines will run in the powerhouse.
- Water returns to the Columbia River downstream of the dam.
- A 48-kilometre transmission line, under construction, will connect the project with the B.C. Hydro grid.
- The Arrow Lakes Generating Station is the first of three power development projects planned by the joint venture partners. The other two projects would see generating capacity expanded first at the Brilliant Dam and then at the Waneta Dam.

Waneta Expansion Project

Columbia Basin Trust and Columbia Power Corporation (CPC), are planning a third project together which would see construction of up to a 380 megawatt generating station at the Waneta Dam on the Pend d’Oreille River near Trail. In 1994, Columbia Power Corporation purchased the rights to expand generating capacity at Waneta from Cominco Ltd., the dam’s owner. Scheduled for completion in 2008, following an Environmental Assessment Review, the Waneta Expansion Project will provide ongoing revenue to Columbia Basin Trust, while creating jobs, as well as economic and social benefits for people in communities across the Columbia Basin.
Micro Enterprise Loan Program

CBT Contribution: $25,000

The Micro Enterprise Loan Program through Community Futures Development Corporation (CFDC) of the Central Kootenay was a pilot project to help create employment, increase income and provide independent living for lower income individuals. Loans are available from $200 to a maximum of $5,000. Columbia Basin Trust put in 30 per cent (or $25,000), the Province through the former Ministry of Community Development Cooperative and Volunteers, Community Capacity Building Program provided 50 per cent and CFDC the balance. CFDC Central Kootenay also contributed the investment capital. For more information contact Tom Murray, loans officer, CFDC in Nelson.

Recipient: Ariah’s Edible Creations

For a Slocan Valley mother of three, local organic ingredients and a supportive family, mixed with $4,000 from the Micro Enterprise Loan Program, is a recipe for success. Ariah Desilets invested the money she was loaned and bought enough bulk ingredients and other essentials to start her own wholesale food business that makes vegan, wheat and dairy free samosas, soups, burritos, and more.

The foods are sold at three local retailers, but in a few months she hopes to make Ariah’s Edible Creations more widely available in the Kootenays, the province, and in Alberta.

The money from the program helped her get started and she says, “It’s allowing me to make a better living. I’m also showing my kids that there are possibilities and you can make things happen.”

For Desilets, running her own business means she can work a schedule that suits her physical limits. “Because of scoliosis, a curved spine, I can’t work eight hours in a row, but in time I hope to become more of a director in the business and less of a vegetable chopper.”

Desilets uses space at the Kootenay Baker in Nelson to prepare her food products, but one day she hopes to establish a commercial kitchen in the Slocan Valley to share with other local food wholesalers.

For now she’s gearing up to package her foods for a wider market and take advantage of the image of the Kootenays as a place with clean air, water and healthy food.

Ariah Desilets of Ariah’s Edible Creations in the Slocan Valley.

Photo by Ursula Heller

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2000</th>
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<td><strong>REVENUES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>OPERATING EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OPERATING INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>OPERATING INCOME</strong></td>
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<td>Delivery of benefits</td>
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<td><strong>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>(2,978,901)</td>
<td>295,008</td>
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A strategy for the future of the River

Columbia Basin Trust recognizes the economic losses and environmental effects of dam construction in the region due to the Columbia Basin Treaty. Columbia Basin Trust has a task force working to develop a strategy to help ensure the management of water issues related to the Columbia River Treaty takes account of the region's interest in a range of values.

The Water Management Task Force strategy includes:

- Developing educational materials on water management for Basin residents, Board of Directors and staff.
- Being an advocate for and playing a role in decisions about regional and cross-border international water management.
- Working to improve water reservoir and dam management practices to optimize a wide range of benefits including fish and wildlife, power generation, and recreation.
- Identifying and advocating Basin residents' interests in water management agreements, such as the Columbia River Treaty, and preparing Columbia Basin Trust to participate in any reviews.
- Agencies in Canada and the U.S. are working together, sharing information, and defining common interests and values which must be addressed in the future operation of the Columbia River system.
- "We must work with everyone with an interest in sustaining the Columbia River in a healthy state for the future," says Garry Merkel, chair of the Water Management Task Force.
- Our approach is to involve people and organizations inside and outside the Basin in the development of a strategic approach to these critical issues.
- For more information on CBT's water management initiatives contact Community Liaison Kandy Goal at 1-800-505-8998.

FACTS ABOUT THE COLUMBIA RIVER

- 2,000 kilometres long
- The headwaters are near Canal Flats, 110 miles from the ocean at Astoria, Oregon.
- Drains a 671,000 square kilometre basin.
- Fifteen per cent of the basin or 102,300 square kilometres are in Canada.
- Fourth longest North American River that reaches the ocean.
- Humans have lived along the river for more than 10,000 years.
- It is the hydroelectrically developed river system in the world.
- More than 700 run-of-the-river dams are on the mainstem.
- Its generating capacity is estimated at more than 21 million kilowatts.
- Largest dams on the system are Bonneville (1937) and Grand Coulee (1941).
- Mica (1973) and Keenleyside dams (1968) were built on the mainstem in Canada under the Columbia River Treaty.
- The third Canadian dam built under the Treaty, the Duncan Dam (1967), is on the Larder Lake/Kootenay River tributary.
- Lake Koocanusa is the upper end of Montana's Libby Dam reservoir which flooded into Canada. Libby Dam affects the flow of the Kootenay River back into Canada.
- The Kootenay River joins the Columbia River at Castlegar.
- The Columbia is a snow charged river that fluctuates seasonally in volume.
- Highest volumes between April and September.
- Lowest volumes from December to February.
- Between 1860 and 1960 commercial fisheries annually harvested millions of pounds of anadromous fish. Since the early 1970s, the fish catch has dramatically declined and several species are now endangered.

Columbia Basin Trust recently undertook a monitoring and evaluation project and a series of community meetings to help guide the evolution of its programs.

As directed by the Columbia Basin Management Plan, Columbia Basin Trust sought the assistance of an independent third party, Landfall Consultants, in this process.

“The objectives of the monitoring and evaluation project are to examine whether Columbia Basin Trust is delivering programs consistent with the Columbia Basin Management Plan; to examine whether the decision-making processes and administrative procedures put in place for delivering programs are consistent with the Plan; and to provide a framework for ongoing monitoring and evaluation of the activities,” says CEO Don Johnston.

The project, which was carried out in four phases, also provided an opportunity to talk to community members to find out how CBT activities are meeting the expectations of the people of the Basin.

Phase One included a review of the investment and delivery of benefits systems through structured interviews with the Board of Directors, staff, sector steering committees, local governments, and other delivery partners in the investment and delivery of benefits programs during the fall of 2000.

Phase Two involved meetings with the Board of Directors, staff, sector steering committees, and partners during the winter of 2001 to review and refine the Phase 1 findings and to confirm the usefulness of the initial recommendations.

Having consulted with the members of Columbia Basin Trust’s "family" in Phases 1 and 2, plans were put into place to conduct community meetings as part of Phase 3 of the process.

Meetings were held in 12 communities around the Basin mostly during May 2001. The communities visited were Sparwood, Cranbrook, Invermere, Golden, Revelstoke, Nakusp, Creston, Kalamalka, Nelson, Trail, Jaffray, and Valemount.

Approximately 300 people attended the meetings, which were designed with two objectives in mind:

- To create an opportunity for community members to learn more about Columbia Basin Trust and to talk with staff and directors. The community meetings included an open house with displays and brochures on all aspects of Columbia Basin Trust as well as some of CBT's partners and project proponents.
- To provide an opportunity, from a monitoring and evaluation perspective, to get feedback from project proponents who had received project funding.

The meetings renewed our connection to the residents of the Basin and from the accounts of the people who attended they appreciated the opportunities to talk to us," says Johnston. "And we were able to identify some key policy and operations areas, which need to be addressed to ensure we continue to be responsive to the residents of the Basin."

The final phase, which is still underway, involves the development of a monitoring and evaluation system to assist Columbia Basin Trust and its partners with ongoing decision-making and renewal of plans.

A final report on the monitoring and evaluation process will be available to residents later this year. To get a copy, call Columbia Basin Trust at 1-800-505-8998 or visit one of our offices. A downloadable version will also be available on the website at www.cbt.org.
How to Contact the Columbia Basin Trust
For more information about the programs presented in this publication call:
1-800-505-8998
1-250-265-2246 (fax)
or visit the website
www.cbt.org
or visit one of the offices in your area:

102 Nelson Avenue North
Nakusp, BC V0G 1R0
1-250-265-9936

828D Baker Street
(Clock tower square)
Cranbrook, BC V1C 1A2
1-250-426-8810

Suite 300
445 - 13 Avenue
Castlegar, BC V1N 1G1
1-250-365-6633

103 Gould’s Island
Golden, BC V0A 1H0
1-250-344-7065