The Board Highlights provide a general overview of discussion items and major decisions made at the Columbia Basin Trust (the “Trust”) Board of Directors’ meeting on March 31/April 1, 2015 held in Fairmont Hot Springs, BC. These exclude confidential information such as business negotiations, personnel issues and legal matters.

- The Board approved $500,000 to the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) for 2016/17. The additional year of funding facilitates longer term planning. CBAL is a non-profit organization that works throughout the Basin to support literacy development. Since 2001, the Trust has supported CBAL’s community development approach to literacy, which is recognized as a model to other literacy programs in the province.

- The Trust Board approved its wholly owned subsidiary, Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation (CBBC), to develop, fund and own a fibre optic network in Rossland that will serve business customers and the municipality. Pending due diligence, this project provides a learning opportunity to help the Trust determine if CBBC should take on this role more broadly. CBBC is supporting broadband development throughout the Basin, and its current approach is to create a regional high-speed fibre optic network that connects to local networks in communities, with CBBC developing the regional network and communities taking on the development and funding of their local networks. However, over the last several years, CBBC has learned that it can be challenging for communities to develop and fund local networks. This project builds on significant efforts already made in Rossland to explore the creation of such a network.

- The Board approved the re-appointment of Kevin Andruschuk to the Economic Advisory Committee for a one year term expiring March 31, 2016. Learn more about the role of Trust advisory committees at www.cbt.org/advisorycommittees.

- The Trust has the right to nominate two directors to the Board of Directors of Columbia Power Corporation. The Board approved the nominations of Greg Deck and Rick Jensen for the term July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016.

- The Board held its periodic review and approval of Columbia Basin Trust’s Governance Guidelines and Policies. Governance is the set of principles and processes that direct and control the Trust. View the guidelines and policies at www.cbt.org/governance.

- Following is the 2015 meeting schedule for the Trust Board of Directors:
  - May 29/30 Revelstoke
  - September 18/19 Nakusp
  - November 27/28 Castlegar

- Following is the 2016 meeting schedule for the Trust Board of Directors:
  - February 12/13 Nelson
  - April 8/9 Sparwood
  - May 27/28 Valemount
  - September 23/24 Kaslo
  - November 25/26 Trail

- Board minutes from previous meetings can be viewed here.

Residents are always welcome to attend the public component on the first day of the Trust’s Board meetings. If you wish to make a specific presentation to the Board, please contact Jane Medlar at 1.800.505.8998 or jmedlar@cbt.org.