

This Board Highlights provides a general overview of discussion items and major decisions made at the Board of Directors meeting on **July 24, 2015**, which was held via video conference/teleconference. It excludes confidential information such as business negotiations, personnel issues and legal matters.

- The Board approved a set of recommendations coming out of the Our Trust, Our Future engagement process. These recommendations include a proposed organizational framework, guiding principles and areas the Trust will focus on over the next five years. Focus areas include:
 - affordable housing
 - agriculture
 - arts, culture and heritage
 - broadband
 - community conversations/dialogue
 - early childhood/childhood development
 - economic development
 - energy
 - environment
 - First Nations relationships
 - land acquisition
 - non-profit support
 - recreation.

Many of these areas align with the Trust's strategic plans and current activities, and the Trust will remain responsive and flexible in addressing emerging issues in the Basin. These recommendations will form the basis of the renewed *Columbia Basin Management Plan Strategic Priorities*, which will be finalized this fall. Once the priorities are complete, the Trust will share them with Basin residents and ask their input on ways to implement them—details on this process will be announced in late September. Learn more about Our Trust, Our Future at cbt.org/otof.

- The Board approved funding of \$1 million to College of the Rockies to support the refurbishment and expansion of the Trades Training Facilities at Cranbrook Main Campus and Cranbrook Gold Creek Campus. This \$10 million capital project will increase student spaces in heavy duty mechanics, industrial mechanics, industrial electrician and trades foundation programs.
- The Board approved funding of up to \$550,000 over the next three years for the Trust's Know Your Watershed environmental education program. Delivered by Wildsight, Know Your Watershed provides hands-on education to grade eight students across the Basin about watersheds and how water is managed and used by communities. The three-year commitment contributes to the sustainability and strategic development of this program. Learn more at cbt.org/initiatives/environmentaleducation.
- The Board approved \$2 million in funding for a new Impact Investment Fund in partnership with regional Community Futures offices. This initiative will provide capital funds for business opportunities in which the investment decision is not based solely on commercial or financial grounds. For example, the Trust may consider potential additional benefits such as economic development/job creation, environmental or social benefits, community development opportunities or other positive non-financial outcomes.
- The Board approved \$3.15 million over three years for the Social Grants program. The Social Grants program funds projects in the Basin that positively impact social well-being and address social issues in communities. Learn more about Social Grants at cbt.org/sq.

- The Board approved two appointments to the Social Advisory Committee, with terms expiring September 30, 2018.
 - Ali Wassing resides in Invermere, has an extensive background in teaching and administration in the public school system and is currently the Executive Director of the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy.
 - Bill Usher resides in Golden, has an extensive background in the arts and culture sector and is currently the Executive and Artistic Director of Kicking Horse Culture.

Learn more about the role of Trust advisory committees at cbt.org/advisorycommittees.

- The Board approved the *Statement of Financial Information Report 2014/15*. This report includes financial statements, schedules of employee and Board remuneration and expenses, and payments to suppliers of goods and services over \$25,000 provided to the Trust and all its subsidiaries. The statement can be found on the Trust website at cbt.org/publications as of September 30, 2015.
- The Trust will be hosting its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Nakusp on September 18, 2015, at 4 p.m. The Trust will present its [2014/15 Annual Report](#) and highlights from the previous year, which will also be found in the upcoming *Report to Residents*.
- The Trust will host a 20th anniversary celebration and community barbecue in Nakusp following the AGM so residents, Board members and Trust staff can meet and converse over dinner.
- The following is the 2015 meeting schedule for the Trust Board of Directors:
 - September 18/19 Nakusp
 - November 27/28 Castlegar
- The 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 so we can best allocate time on the agenda.