The Arrow Lakes Generating Station, located on the Arrow Lakes just beside the Hugh Keenleyside Dam, is the first major hydroelectric construction project for CBT and CPC.

Once fully operational, the 185-megawatt power plant will deliver approximately 760 gigawatt hours of electricity annually—roughly the amount of electricity needed to supply all the homes and small businesses in the East or West Kootenay.

Work on the project began in 1999. At the peak of construction, the project employed over 400 workers—more than 80 per cent of the work force was local. The project injected more than $50 million in wages and $25 million in other spending into the regional economy.

"The Arrow Lakes Generating Station is a testament to their expertise, dedication and hard work," says Victor Jaameff, Vice President of Operations and Engineering for CPC.

In addition to the Arrow Lakes Generating Station, Columbia Basin Trust and Columbia Power Corporation are joint owners of the Brilliant Dam. CBT and CPC each receive a 50 per cent share of the revenue from the power projects.

The focus is on building the capacity of the residents by developing their practical skills...

The Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) and Columbia Power Corporation (CPC), joint owners of the Arrow Lakes Generating Station, plan to hold a public event later this year to celebrate the completion of the project.

"Once fully complete, the Arrow Lakes Generating Station will stand as a tribute to the vision and support shown by residents of the Columbia Basin," says Josh Smienk, Chair of the Columbia Basin Trust Board of Directors. "The Columbia Basin Trust and Columbia Power Corporation are working to ensure the project is a source of long-term income so CBT can continue to deliver benefits to Basin residents."

The Arrow Lakes Generating Station, located on the Arrow Lakes just beside the Hugh Keenleyside Dam near Castlegar, is the first major hydroelectric construction project for CBT and CPC.

The Columbia Basin Trust's Rural Economic Development Program, launched in September 2001, is receiving a lot interest from several communities in the Basin because of the program's goal.

The focus is on building the capacity of the residents by developing their practical skills and helping them to evaluate realistic opportunities for their community," says Lee-Anne Walker, a facilitator for the Rural Economic Development Program.

Walker recently completed a series of planning meetings and a community focus group session in Sparwood.

"With all the necessary planning homework done, Sparwood is ready for action," says Dyck. "From our discussions clearly our top priorities are to strengthen the entrepreneurial spirit of the community by possibly providing a workshop on identifying and analyzing business opportunities. We also want to support small businesses with skill development, identifying a unique tourism image and marketing approach for Sparwood and perhaps an innovative "buy local" campaign."

Dyck believes holding a community workshop on identifying opportunities for small business would be an excellent first step in working towards strengthening Sparwood's economy.

Other communities actively involved in the program are Salmo, New Denver and South Country. Rural Development Program.

For more information contact the Rural Economic Development Team in the West Basin 1-866-733-9378; East Basin 1-866-233-3278.

Photo: Lee-Anne Walker

Members of the Sparwood Economic Development Committee held a meeting to address economic changes in their community.
‘Scratching’ out their own

**CBT supports magazine and website for Basin youth**

Unky, edgy and informative describes a new magazine for youth in the Columbia Basin. SCRATCH, a Columbia Basin Trust supported magazine by and for youth, is available in Basin communities this month.

"Young people got together from around the Columbia Basin and dreamed of a youth-driven, alternative media source that celebrates rather than trashes youth culture," says Stacy Barter, CBT Youth Coordinator. "They talked about the need for media that profiles some of the cool things we do rather than all of the problems we have, and a source that would cover issues that are real and really matter to us."

The result is a mix of art and articles on topics that youth were inspired to put forward. The topic for this pilot edition is “self-esteem and self image.”

"How we see ourselves, feel about ourselves and who we were told to be were topics that came up a lot in our discussions… and that many of this issue’s writers have tackled," says Shauna Shkuratoff, a member of CBT’s Youth Committee.

In addition to the magazine, CBT is supporting a youth-driven, interactive website scratchonline.ca. The website features resources, a message board, upcoming events, publications, and jobs for youth.

"The magazine and website provide creative outlets for youth to exchange information about issues and ideas and celebrates youth culture in the Basin,” says Barter.

Special thanks go to all who helped pull off and contribute to SCRATCH and scratchonline.ca. Copies of SCRATCH are available at some Basin schools, recreation and youth centres, libraries, and CBT offices. Contact Stacy Barter at 1-250-365-6633 for more information.

**Why SCRATCH?**

The name refers to a lot of different things; some of which include scratching the surface of an issue, leaving a mark, scratching something that bugs you or is under your skin. Got an idea? Scratch it. Congratulations to Mark Timko of Nelson for coming up with the name.

A whole new way to give

**Nelson’s Osprey Community Foundation takes flight**

The Nelson based Osprey Community Foundation is one of several foundations in the Columbia Basin that is beginning to create a lasting legacy for its residents.

After only two years, the Osprey Community Foundation has locally fundraised enough money to qualify for the Columbia Basin Trust’s Endowment Support for Community Foundations Program.

"The Columbia Basin Trust and the Vancouver Foundation support and encourage the development of community foundations," says Patty Bossort, CBT Community Liaison. "This program allows registered community foundations to receive $25,000 per year in matching funds over two years from both CBT and the Vancouver Foundation after achieving certain community fundraising benchmarks."

A community foundation is an investment fund established by local citizens. It is a charity, registered with Revenue Canada, that allows individuals, families, businesses, private foundations and non-profit organizations to establish a permanent investment through donations.

"The original investment is never spent and it provides a source of income for the long term."

The income from a community foundation helps a community respond to local issues and concerns, as well as needs and opportunities in the future.

"The Osprey Community Foundation works to improve the quality of life for all area residents through the growth and stewardship of permanent endowment funds and the distribution of income to a wide range of organizations and activities," says Bruce Morrison, President. "Having a community foundation is a huge benefit to the community because it helps the community respond to identified needs."

According to Morrison, many people have donated money to different organizations in the past, but by donating to a community foundation their donation grows year after year.

"One of the driving forces behind creating the Osprey Community Foundation was to create more awareness about endowment giving," says Morrison.

Other communities in the Basin are starting to realize the benefits of a local funding organization. Golden, Revelstoke, Kimberley, and the Columbia Valley also have established community foundations.

Contact a Community Liaison for more information about establishing a community foundation.
The Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) provided $6,000 in funding to develop a Climate Change Workshop for the regional and provincial officials, as well as government and community organizations interested in finding and what funding might be available for their project ideas. The Columbia Basin Trust is working with a number of government and community organizations to develop a Climate Change Workshop for the Columbia Basin that targets elected municipal, provincial and federal programs because it addresses a wide range of issues including the health and safety of families in the Basin. Last year, the program funded seven projects totaling $108,100. One of those projects is the Family Place, a resource and activity centre in Nelson developed by the West Kootenay Family and Childcare Services Society and the Seniors Coordinating Society. These two organizations bring new and exciting services for children, families and seniors together at The Family Place. “The Columbia Basin Trust funding of $30,962 helped The Family Place hire a coordinator who is developing programs and coordinating services for the entire centre,” says Kim Adamson, West Kootenay Family and Childcare Services Society Executive Director. “One of the more recent programs added is the ‘Soups On!’ program, which is a drop-in lunch program for all ages offered every Monday at noon.” The Family Place Centre offers programs for families, youth and seniors, including intergenerational drops, planned activities, 50 plus and early years programs. “The opportunity for younger parents to learn and participate in projects with seniors and vice versa is a very exciting part of sharing the facility,” says Adamson.

Photo: The Family Place (Kim Adamson)
The Family Place offers resources and activities for Nelson families.

Is your group interested in finding out more about the Columbia Basin Trust and what funding might be available for your project idea? We can arrange for someone to come talk to your group.

Call CBT Communications at 250-426-8012 or 250-426-1103.

Tuition support improves employment opportunities

The Columbia Basin Trust Training Fee Support Program began in April 2001 and since then over 270 Basin residents have used this program to pay for training or education to help them gain employment. Daniel Leslie of Golden first heard about the program from Golden Employment Services. Leslie was trying to find a way to pay for the Canadian Avalanche Association Training Schools’ Ski Operations Level 1 course. “I was conditionally hired as a Ski Patrol at Kicking Horse (Mountain Resort) on the terms that I pass the course,” says Leslie. “I had saved some money for the course, but knew I couldn’t save the rest in a short time period.” So he turned to the Training Fee Support Program, which funds a maximum of up to $500 towards tuition and fees for a short course or training program a person needs in order to further their employment. Leslie’s course included seven days in the backcountry with early morning and evening sessions. He learned how to identify the formation and nature of avalanches and the hazards involved, describe significant properties of the snow pack, collect and record detailed weather, snow pack and avalanche activity data, terrain management and perform group and self rescue methods. “The types of courses taken tend to be seasonal. In the summer, we see applications for life guarding, rafting or fire fighting, and in the winter applications tend to be ski instruction or occupational First Aid,” says Scott Manjak, Job Seekers Resource Centre Coordinator. Job Seekers Resource Centre administers the Training Fee Support Program. All community employment service providers in the Basin can help residents apply to the program. “His program is extremely beneficial to the residents of the Basin because it addresses a significant gap for people who do not qualify for other provincial or federal programs and who cannot afford to further their education,” says Manjak. “During the first round of applications, the job placement rate after applicants had taken their courses was 70 per cent.” “My job at Kicking Horse allows me to work towards the required 100 days of field experience that I need in order to take the Level 2 course,” says Leslie. “I would like to continue ski patrolling and perhaps go on to a career in avalanche forecasting. Without the $300 grant I wouldn’t have a job.” For more information about the Training Fee Support Program, contact your local community employment service provider or call the Job Seekers Resource Centre at 250-489-5117 or visit www.cotr.bc.ca/jobseekers/main.
Folk art, paintings, interpretive art, performing arts, woodworking, murals and fabric use are just a few of the ArtsSmarts projects currently happening in Basin schools.

ArtsSmarts is an opportunity for schools to partner with artists and arts organizations in their communities to run hands-on, artist-in-the-classroom activities, and nurture creative and critical thinking in classrooms from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

It is a program between ArtsStarts in Schools, the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance (CKCA), and the Columbia Basin Trust.

“The focus of the program is really a great fit with the Columbia Basin Trust’s focus on education and training and arts, culture and heritage,” says Jean Terlesky, CBT Community Liaison. “The program brings art into the classroom and uses it as a tool to help teach part of the school curriculum.”

Projects are selected for their originality, artistic and educational impacts on the students, integration into the curriculum and school, quality of partnerships between teacher and artist, and budget.

Working with local artist Pamela Cinnamon and teacher Karen Shaw, students in Grades 9-12 at Valemount Secondary School are taking part in 12 art sessions that introduce students to art therapy, “art for liberation,” and historical, aboriginal and non-western folk art.

The People Paint project uses art to study and promote the understanding of history, culture, religion, current affairs and global issues.

“T he People Paint project teaches students about other cultures through folk art and folk artists. Students learn about artists, materials used for painting and how art can be a reflection of culture,” says Shaw. “The art sessions generally include a history lesson about a particular culture, visual examples of art; we talk about the influences that led to the creation of the artwork and feelings expressed through the art.”

“As an artist, I feel this project is extremely important because it nurtures the students creativity and shows students the importance of visual arts in their life,” adds Cinnamon. “This project also helps to promote and develop skills for students to use in the future.”

Two murals created from The People Paint project are on display at Valemount Secondary. One mural is made from 40 ceramic tiles painted by the students. Each tile represents a different type of folk art from different cultures. Some of the cultures represented in the mural include Norwegian, Celtic, West Coast Aboriginal, Inuit and Islamic folk art. A second mural is created from large pieces of rigid styro-foam that form a giant puzzle. Each student is encouraged to paint something they feel passionate about on a piece of the puzzle.

“The People Paint project promotes the use of social skills through in-class discussions and group work on various projects, which is a very good integration with the school curriculum and an excellent way for students to learn,” says Terlesky.

Approximately 19 ArtsSmarts projects began in schools throughout the Basin in November 2001. They should be completed by June 2002.

For more information contact the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance at 1-250-505-5505 or 1-877-505-7355.
PROGRAMS GUIDE 2002-2003

Contact Us:
1-800-505-8998 (toll free) or
1-250-365-6633
or visit us at one of our offices.

For a complete listing of all the projects CBT has funded since 1998 visit us online www.cbt.org
EDUCATION & TRAINING

TRAINING FEE SUPPORT PROGRAM
The Training Fee Support Program promotes access to education and training that helps residents adapt to economic changes. This bursary style program is delivered through a network of publicly funded “one-stop centres” currently providing education and training planning advice to Basin residents. Grants may be used to pay all or part of tuition or course fees for short courses essential to employment training. Funds are paid directly to the education or training institution on behalf of the student.

For more information on this program contact the nearest Employment Assistance Services Centre.

YOUTH AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP
The Youth and Community Involvement Scholarship provides 20, $2,000 scholarships each year for four years. One scholarship is awarded to one graduating student from each of the 20 high schools, alternate schools, or other organizations which grant high school graduation in the Basin.

The scholarships invest in the potential of youth in the Columbia Basin by supporting development of their skills, leadership and knowledge and by recognizing their contributions in their communities.

YOUTH LINKS
Youth Links is a six-week summer program for young people between the ages of 17 and 19 who live in the Columbia Basin. It is an opportunity for young people to learn more about the region and its social, economic and environmental issues, while contributing to the well being of Basin communities by working on community projects.

The program takes place in various Columbia Basin communities with participants traveling together as a group during the six weeks.

For more information about any of the following youth programs, contact CBT Youth Coordinator Stacy Barter at 1-800-505-8998 or 1-250-365-6633.

BASIN YOUTH IN COMMUNITIES
The Basin Youth in Communities program addresses community issues related to youth, supports the development of youth leadership, and encourages youth participation in program development, evaluation and implementation.

YOUTH MEDIA PROGRAM
The Youth Media Program involves the creation of a youth website (scratchonline.ca) and a print publication called SCRATCH magazine. The goal of the Youth Media Program is to create an ongoing opportunity for Basin youth to network and share information and ideas and to create a venue that highlights and celebrates youth culture in the Basin.

For more information contact Community Liaison Jean Terlesky at 1-800-505-8998 or 1-250-365-6633.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BASIN BUSINESS ADVOCATES PROGRAM
The Basin Business Advocates Program assists small- and medium-sized business operators in the Columbia Basin by providing free one-on-one confidential business counseling and consulting services with Business Advocates. A funding contribution may be available if specialized assistance is needed and recommended by a Business Advocate. Business Advocates are a team of experienced, successful business people from a variety of backgrounds who work one-on-one with the businesses.

For more information contact Steele O’Neil and Associates 1-250-489-4180 or 1-877-894-5939.

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
The Rural Economic Development Program enhances the economic development skills of rural community residents by providing practical training, coaching, and information about community economic development for selected community groups.

For more information contact the Rural Economic Development Team Wet Columbia Basin 1-866-733-9378 East Columbia Basin 1-866-233-3278

MICRO LENDING PROGRAM
The Columbia Basin Trust provides funds to help manage a Micro Lending Program in partnership with Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs) of Central Kootenay. The CFDC provides the lending capital and management staff to assist clients who normally would not qualify for a loan elsewhere.

For more information contact Community Futures Development Corporation of Central Kootenay, Andrew Earnshaw, Project Manager, 1-250-352-1933 or 1-800-661-1395 or www.futures.bc.ca.

REGIONAL LENDING PROGRAM
Helps viable business ventures with both expansion and start-up financing. The CBT partners with Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs) in the Basin to deliver this program. The CBT’s contribution to this program allows CFDCs to increase loans to $250,000. However, by using other capital at the CFDC’s disposal, together with CBT funds, CFDCs can loan as much as $375,000.

For more information contact CFDC Southeast Region, 1-250-489-4356 or 1-800-661-2293.

LOAN SYNDICATION PROGRAM
The Columbia Basin Trust partners with credit unions to loan businesses the capital they need to help strengthen local economies. Credit Unions share the commercial loan opportunity, associated risks, and returns with CBT. The Columbia Basin Trust’s participation in any one loan is up to a maximum of 50 per cent of the total amount of a loan. Loans start at $250,000.

For more information contact the Credit Union in your area.
ARTS, CULTURE & HERITAGE

The Columbia Basin Trust partners with the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance (CKCA) to provide arts, culture and heritage funding in the Basin. Working with community arts councils, individual artists, performers, heritage workers, and cultural organizations, the goal of the CKCA is to build long-term sustainability for artists and to strengthen and support arts, cultural and heritage organizations.

**FUNDING SUPPORT THROUGH COMMUNITY ARTS COUNCILS**

Funding to individuals or arts, culture and heritage groups for projects within a community.

**CAPITAL FUNDING**

Assists with capital funding needs of arts, culture and heritage organizations or venues. Funding is available for renovations, equipment, upgrading or initiating facilities, and acoustical improvements. This funding is not for on-going maintenance.

**FUNDING SUPPORT TO TOURING**

Funding for individuals or groups to tour completed projects or shows of all disciplines around the Columbia Basin.

**ARTS AND HERITAGE MENTORING/MASTER CLASSES**

Assists community groups to provide arts, culture and heritage mentoring or master classes to emerging professionals. Instructors/mentors must be recognized professionals in their field.

**ARTS COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT**

Provides organizational development and workshops for Basin arts councils to improve their structure and capacity to serve communities. This funding is not available for staff wages.

**ARTSSMARTS**

Provides schools with matching funds to hire professional artists of all disciplines to work with teachers and young people and to develop a series of hands-on, artist-in-the-classroom activities, build strong partnerships with local artists and arts organizations, and create programs that integrate artists' residencies and workshops in curriculum.

For more information contact the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance at 1-877-505-7355 or 1-250-505-5505. You can also get more information online at www.basinculture.com.

**COMMUNITY INITIATIVES**

The Columbia Basin Trust partners with seven local governments in the Basin to deliver the Community Initiatives program. The local governments solicit and select projects consistent with the Columbia Basin Management Plan (see page 11) and priorities established by the communities. There are two funding areas in the Community Initiatives program:

The Affected Areas Program provides funds to those communities most affected by dam construction under the Columbia River Treaty. The projects must be within 10 kilometres of the Arrow Lakes, Kinbasket, Duncan and Kootenays reservoirs in the Basin. The Basin Communities Program funds projects consistent with the Columbia Basin Trust Management Plan and which meet priorities established by the community. The projects must foster activities that each community deems important. Each local government develops its own process for recommending and selecting projects.

Contact the local government below in your area for details on the funding criteria and application deadlines.

**Regional District of Columbia Shuswap**

- Revelstoke and rural area: 1-250-837-5345
- Golden and rural area: 1-250-344-2271

**Regional District of Central Kootenay**

- Trout, Kaslo, Fruitvale, Warfield, Montrose and rural areas around these towns and cities: 1-800-355-7352 or 1-250-352-6665
- Regional District of East Kootenay
  - 1-888-478-7335 or 1-250-489-2791
- Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
  - Trail, Rossland, Fruitvale, Warfield, Montrose and rural areas around these towns and cities: 1-800-355-7352 or 1-250-368-9148
- Regional District of Fraser/Fort George
  - Valemount and rural area: 1-250-566-4435

**ENDOWMENT SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS**

Supports and encourages the development of registered community foundations in the Basin. The program allows foundations to receive $25,000 per year in matching funds for two years from the Columbia Basin Trust and the Vancouver Foundation.

**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD SUPPORTS**

Early Childhood Supports provides funding for community initiatives that target children between the ages of newborn and six years to assist them in reaching healthy maturation.

**RESOURCES FOR FAMILY LITERACY**

See Other Benefits on next page.

**FAMILIES**

The Families Program fosters the healthy development of children and families, including youth and seniors, to work towards the prevention of social problems in Basin communities in the future.

For more information on these programs, contact CBT Community Liaison Doug Switzer at 1-800-505-8998 or 1-250-365-6633.

**ENVIRONMENT**

**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS PROGRAM**

The Community Environmental Projects Program provides funding to community initiated and/or supported environmental projects that are linked to ecosystem restoration and conservation activities. The objectives of this program are to:

- Support Basin residents in their efforts to implement/undertake environmental stewardship projects in their communities.
- Support communities to incorporate ecological/environmental priorities into planning processes and other activities.

**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND AWARENESS PROGRAM**

The Environmental Education and Awareness Program provides funding for environmental education and awareness activities in schools and communities. The objectives of this program are to:

- Promote a sense of environmental stewardship and Basin citizenship.
- Promote environmental public education and awareness through community involvement and local empowerment councils to improve the structure and capacity to serve communities. This funding is not available for staff wages.

For more information on environment programs, contact CBT Community Liaison Kindy Gosal at 1-800-505-8998 or 1-250-365-6633.
RESOURCES FOR FAMILY LITERACY

There are significant literacy skill issues in all communities across the Columbia Basin. Many people continue to drop out of school without sufficient basic reading and writing skills.

The Alliance is a non-profit organization which promotes literacy and lifelong learning throughout the Columbia Basin by educating the public about the importance of literacy and by supporting local community initiatives.

The Alliance is working with Basin residents and agencies in Canada and the United States to ensure water management issues address the Canadian Columbia Basin region’s interests.

The Columbia Basin Trust created a Water Management Task Force, which is working to identify issues and opportunities, values and goals of Basin residents with respect to water management, and to develop educational tools and materials to increase awareness of water management issues among Basin residents.

For more information contact CBT Community Liaison Kindy Gosal, 1-800-505-8998 or 1-250-365-6633.

LAND CONSERVATION

The Columbia Basin Trust provides funding to help facilitate a partnership between a variety of agencies and communities working on private land conservation issues in the region. The East Kootenay area is the focus of a “pilot” project for this collaborative approach, which includes a draft vision, mandates and goals for the proposed partnership, and a strategy/work plan for moving forward.

For more information contact CBT Community Liaison Kindy Gosal, 1-800-505-8998 or 1-250-365-6633.

WATER MANAGEMENT

The Columbia Basin Trust is actively working with Basin residents and agencies in Canada and the United States to ensure water management issues address the Canadian Columbia Basin region’s interests.

The Columbia Basin Trust created a Water Management Task Force, which is working to identify issues and opportunities, values and goals of Basin residents with respect to water management, and to develop educational tools and materials to increase awareness of water management issues among Basin residents.

For more information contact CBT Community Liaison Kindy Gosal, 1-800-505-8998 or 1-250-365-6633.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

The Columbia Basin Trust is currently developing the Environmental Conditions Program, which will help identify potential roles and an implementation strategy for CBT in areas such as:

- Environmental State of the Basin
- Environmental indicators
- Environmental monitoring
- Environmental risk assessment
- Population growth and human settlement issues

For more information contact CBT Community Liaison Kindy Gosal, 1-800-505-8998 or 1-250-365-6633.

LIVING LANDSCAPES

Living Landscapes is a partnership between the Columbia Basin Trust and the Royal BC Museum that led to the creation of 31 research and public education projects about the Columbia Basin region that are available online.

Living Landscapes projects increase our understanding of the Basin through research in the region and engage people in the discovery of their cultural and natural heritage through special events, exhibits and other educational programs.

For more information contact the Royal BC Museum at 1-250-356-5008.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

Last year, the Columbia Basin Trust provided funding to support the Columbia Mountain Open Network (CMON) Inc., a not-for-profit corporation made up of a partnership of organizations, which is working to improve telecommunications in the Basin region.

CMON is investigating the possibility of constructing an open-access network infrastructure that provides reliable, high-bandwidth, last-mile connectivity to every community in the region and connects the region to the outside world. The concept includes mobile data and voice communications for all communities and the highways that link them.

For more information contact Jeff Roberts, CMON Chief Executive Officer at jroberts@comon.ca.
As water users, we must learn to understand where we use it, what the main uses are, and how these uses compete and interact with each other. There are two main uses of water in the Columbia River and its tributaries: consumptive and non-consummptive.

Most consumptive uses "consume" some of the water, meaning less is returned to the source than was taken out, such as:
- Domestic use: tap water for drinking and water licenses
- Agricultural: farm land irrigation
- Industrial: water licenses
- Recreational: watering of golf courses and parks

Non-consummptive uses occur in the natural setting, although they are not always harmless. These include:
- Holding water in reservoirs for flood control
- Power generation: hydroelectric
- Recreation and tourism: boating, fishing, swimming
- Fish and wildlife aquatic ecosystems (fish, birds, insects, flora)
- Transportation: barges, tugs, ferries

The Columbia River
The Columbia River begins its journey at Columbia Lake near Canal Flats in the East Kootenay. It travels approximately 2,000 kilometres before it meets the Pacific Ocean at Astoria, Oregon.

The entire Columbia River Basin is 671,000 square kilometres, or about the same size as the Province of Alberta. The Columbia River Basin is the fourth largest river basin in North America, exceeded only by the Mississippi, Mackenzie, and St. Lawrence Rivers. The annual average discharge is enough water to meet the needs of 320 million families. Humans have lived along the river system for more than 10,000 years. Fifteen percent of the Columbia River Basin - or 101,000 square kilometres - lies in Canada. The region involving the Columbia Basin Trust (see map on Page 5) makes up 88,000 square kilometres of the Canadian Columbia River Basin - an area twice the size of Vancouver Island. There are approximately 170,000 people in the Columbia Basin Trust area.

The Columbia River Treaty - Managing the River
Canada and the United States were facing two major challenges after the Second World War. The "untamed" Columbia River was causing periodic and sometimes devastating flooding and an upswing in the economy and population increased the need for energy resources.

This led to the creation of the Columbia River Treaty (the Treaty), which was ratified by Canada and the U.S. in 1964. The objective was to regulate the water in Canada to prevent the river from flowing freely and to increase the amount of usable energy generated at power plants in both countries.

This was achieved through the construction of three dams, Duncan in 1968, Keenleyside in 1969, and Mica in 1973. There was also a provision in the Treaty for the construction of the Libby Dam in Montana (1973) and the Revelstoke Dam (1984).

In return for creating the storage, British Columbia is entitled to half of the additional power produced at American power plants downstream of the Treaty dams (this is often referred to as the downstream benefits). The revenue from the downstream benefits goes to the Province of B.C.

There is no "official expiry date" for the Columbia River Treaty. However, the power provisions of the Treaty may be terminated after 60 years, or in 2024, provided notice is given by 2014.

Water management is at the core of Columbia Basin Trust's existence. CBT was created because of the ongoing impacts of the creation of the Treaty dams and reservoirs and there is clear direction from Basin residents that a key role for CBT is involvement in water management issues on their behalf.

Map courtesy of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Building a Lasting Legacy

The Columbia Basin Trust, through its subsidiary CBT Real Estate Investment Corp., is investing $1.3 million in a seniors’ housing project in Castlegar.

The investment in Castle Wood Village is a joint venture partnership with Castle Wood Developments Corp., which started construction on the $8 million project in October 2001.

Income earned through CBT’s investments is used to deliver benefits to the Basin.

“This not only will this development have a positive impact on the quality of life for seniors in the Castlegar area, but it also provides a market rate of return for Columbia Basin Trust’s investment portfolio,” says Dave Strachan, Columbia Basin Trust’s Investment Manager.

The 77-unit seniors’ housing project, scheduled for completion in June 2002, includes studios, one- and two-bedroom units, as well as a crafts and hobby area, games room, exercise room, library, beauty salon and barbershop, and lounges.

Seniors can purchase or rent suites. Other services include three meals a day, 24-hour administration services, recreational programs, and a 24-hour emergency alert system.

“This is a market with a huge growth potential as the baby boom generation ages,” says Endre Lillejord, President of Castle Wood Developments Corp.

“This is the first facility in the West Kootenay to offer this unique lifestyle to elderly seniors. It’s perfect for seniors who don’t want the demands of running a household, but want the comfort of having their own home.”

Lillejord opened a similar housing complex in Cranbrook two years ago called Joseph Creek Village. The majority of the rooms in the 66-unit complex were spoken for before it was completed.

“Mr. Lillejord has a proven background as a quality developer with this kind of facility,” says Strachan.

“And just like its Cranbrook counterpart, Castle Wood Village addresses a great need in the community.”

The CBT has a portfolio of debt and equity investments within the Basin totalling approximately $29 million.

For more information about CBT’s Investment Program, contact Dave Strachan at 250-365-6633.

Communicating what we do

The Columbia Basin Trust is attending several trade fairs around the Basin this spring. We encourage you to visit our booth and meet with staff at the following trade fairs:

April 19-20
Association of Kootenay and Boundary Municipalities Conference in Nakusp
April 20
 Revelstoke Home and Garden Show
April 26-28
West Kootenay Trade Fair in Castlegar
April 26-28
Rocky Mountain Home and Outdoor Recreation Show in Cranbrook
May 3-4
Invermere Trade Fair
May 3-4
Creston Valley Trade Fair
May 10-11
Fernie and Area Business Trade Show
May 31-June 2
Global Trade Show in Trail

Making a difference

The Columbia Basin Trust Youth and Community Scholarship program received 125 applications from youth across the Basin this spring.

“We were overwhelmed and impressed with the amount and quality of scholarship applications we received this year,” says Jean Terlesky, CBT Community Liaison. “As a group, these students have volunteered thousands of hours of work in the Basin, from coaching children, working with adults and seniors, to volunteering at the food bank, the Canadian Cancer Society, Multiple Sclerosis Society, to singing, dancing, and volunteering at community events. Many are candy strippers at hospitals, other students are tutors, participants on committees and student councils in their schools. This is a huge display of the positive contribution youth are making to this region.”

The CBT provides $2,000 scholarships each year for four years to one graduating student from each of the 20 high schools, alternate schools, or other organizations which grant high school graduation in the Basin. The main focus of the scholarships are student’s contributions in their communities.

Columbia Basin Trust shortlisted this year’s applicants in early April. Community Committees are interviewing the shortlisted candidates April 15-30. Successful scholarship recipients will be notified at their graduation or awards ceremonies later this year.
Work at the Columbia Basin Trust has been very busy during the past few months.

We presented to the B.C. government’s Core Services Review and Deregulation Task Force last fall and identified options for the government to consider about the Columbia Basin Initiative.

The Province recently told us it is not making any decisions about restructuring the Initiative until a new provincial energy policy is developed and the Core Services Review of BC Hydro is complete.

In the meantime, CBT is receiving $50 million for our power project investments with Columbia Power Corporation, as well as $2 million for annual operations.

April is the beginning of the 2002-2003 Delivery of Benefits programming for Columbia Basin Trust. We are once again providing $3.75 million through a number of programs to fund community driven and supported projects.

The entire list of programs we’re offering is available on Pages 5-8. We urge anyone interested in finding out more about any of these programs to get in touch with one of our four Community Liaisons who can provide further details about the programs and how to apply for funding.

We are excited to announce the Arrow Lakes Generating Station, a hydroelectric power project between CBT and Columbia Power Corporation, recently reached a major milestone.

The first of two turbine units is now generating power commercially. We work to get a second turbine unit operating and a transmission line completed continues.

Watch your local newspapers for news about a public event CBT and CPC plan to hold later this year to celebrate the completion of the project.

As we continue to build an organization that is well organized and fiscally responsible, yet flexible and responsive, we strive to work closely with people, organizations and communities in the Basin to achieve greater self-sufficiency.

Our success is directly linked to the relationships we build with you. We look forward to working with you in the upcoming year.

Josh Smienk
Chair
Don Johnston
Chief Executive Officer

Working for the Residents
Board of Directors

The Columbia Basin Trust’s Board of Directors is made up of residents who have chosen to make this region their home. Six local governments in the Basin - the Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council and the Regional Districts of East Kootenay, Central Kootenay, Kootenay Boundary, Columbia-Shuswap, and Fraser-Fort George each appoint two people for a total of 12 directors. 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 Smienk, Chair, Balfour
Garry Merkel, Vice-Chair, Kimberley
Greg Deck, Radium Hot Springs
Deiter Bogs, Trail
Bill Cown, Nakusp
Mike K. Arasheff, Fort Steele
Bill Krusebrink, Valemount
Fred Parker, Castlegar
Lori Parker, Revelstoke
Joe Pierre, Creston
Derryll White, Cranbrook

If you have any questions or comments on Columbia Basin Trust’s Report to Residents or to request additional copies, please contact CBT Communications at 250-426-8012 or 250-426-1103.

The Columbia Basin Trust sincerely appreciates the assistance of all the organizations and individuals who helped in the creation of the Report to Residents. It is the dedication to your communities, organizations, and businesses that make Columbia Basin Trust a legacy of the people.

The Columbia Basin Trust Act is a regional corporation created by an act of the B.C. Legislature in 1995 to support efforts by the people of the Canadian Columbia Basin to create a legacy of economic, social, and environmental well-being and to achieve greater self-sufficiency for present and future generations.

Report to Residents
The Columbia Basin Trust is dedicated to supporting youth activities in the Columbia Basin through skills building, volunteer opportunities, mentorships and grant and service programs.

“Youth and what youth have to say is important to us because youth truly are the future of the region,” says Don Johnston, CBT’s Chief Executive Officer.

In 2001, the Columbia Basin Trust formed a 14-member Youth Committee to increase youth perspectives in Columbia Basin Trust programs.

“I wanted to be a part of the Youth Committee because as a young person I wanted to be involved in making things happen in the Basin,” says Andra Louie a committee member. “I wanted to be part of a team and start creating solutions for youth.”

Committee members are encouraged to bring issues from their communities to the meetings.

“The best thing about being on the youth committee is being a decision maker. It gives me a huge sense of accomplishment and satisfaction to really contribute and have my voice heard,” adds Louie.

As part of the mentorship opportunities the Youth Committee is working closely with members of another CBT committee to develop and implement the Basin Youth in Communities program.

The program funds community projects that encourage youth leadership by involving young people ages 13-29 in developing and carrying out projects.

The Basin Youth in Communities program meets the CBT’s goals to provide assistance in the prevention of social problems and to strengthen families, youth and seniors.

For more information on CBT’s youth programs contact Stacy Barter, CBT Youth Coordinator at 1-250-365-6633.

Supporting youth employment through the Youth Links program

This summer marks the fourth year for Youth Links, which provides 20 youth with an opportunity to learn about social, economic, and environmental issues in the Columbia Basin. Youth work on projects in several communities in the Basin that help them gain important life skills while living and traveling together.

Here’s what some of last year’s participants had to say about their experiences.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The Youth and Community Scholarship recognizes youth and their involvement in their community. Watch for information on applying for next year’s scholarships in early 2003 in Basin newspapers and the CBT website www.cbt.org.

YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The North American Community Services Program is a six-month program from June to December 2002 to raise awareness among North Americans of shared cultural, environmental, social, political, and economic challenges. Three Basin youth have the opportunity to spend two months in Canada, Mexico and the United States. The Canadian part of this program takes place in the Basin in June and July and includes community projects with an environmental and/or heritage conservation focus.

Getting active in communities

Supporting youth employment through the Youth Links program

This summer marks the fourth year for Youth Links, which provides 20 youth with an opportunity to learn about social, economic, and environmental issues in the Columbia Basin. Youth work on projects in several communities in the Basin that help them gain important life skills while living and traveling together.

Here’s what some of last year’s participants had to say about their experiences.

Each “Youthlinker” is made stronger and more confident by the other “youthlinkers”, by positive reinforcement, many compliments and people being amazed by each other’s strength.

Mark Ballard

Last summer was an awesome experience. The program allowed me to see different areas of the Columbia Basin with a group of incredible individuals.

Carly Haycroft

After my magnificent life altering experience this summer, I came home with high hopes for my follow-up project and a chance to help my community.

Alicia Gibson

Want to be part of the Youth Committee? Contact Stacy Barter at 1-250-365-6633 for more information.