

These board highlights provide a general overview of discussion items and major decisions made at the Board of Directors meeting on **January 25/26, 2019** which was held in Montrose, BC. It excludes confidential information such as business negotiations, personnel issues and legal matters.

- The Board elected Rick Jensen as Chair of the Trust Board of Directors and Jocelyn Carver as Vice-Chair. Don McCormick from Kimberley (nominated by the Regional District of East Kootenay), Ron Oszust from Golden (nominated by the Columbia Shuswap Regional District) and Krista Turcasso from Fernie were recently appointed by the Province. Learn more about the Trust Board at ourtrust.org/board.
- The Board approved the 2019/20 budget for Delivery of Benefits. Some highlights include:
 - \$27.1 million for [Community Initiatives](#) to support communities and community groups to develop projects, access funds and obtain resources for their work with residents to identify and achieve their collective priorities in [agriculture](#), [arts and culture](#), [community development](#), energy, [housing](#), and [recreation and physical activity](#).
 - \$11.3 million for [Economic Initiatives](#) to enhance the creation of a diverse and resilient Basin economy that is supported by strong businesses, a trained workforce and sufficient job opportunities.
 - \$5.8 million for [Environment Initiatives](#) to support residents and groups to develop and implement projects and initiatives that address environmental priorities which includes our [Ecosystem Enhancement Program](#) which works with communities to help maintain and improve ecological health and native biodiversity in a variety of ecosystems in the Columbia Basin.
 - \$4 million for [Social Initiatives](#) to support residents and communities to experience social well-being which includes [child care support programs](#), poverty reduction and [Social Grants](#).
 - \$3.1 million for [Broadband Initiatives](#) to support the expansion of high-speed Internet connectivity throughout the region.
 - \$1.8 million for [Youth Initiatives](#) to support partnerships with youth and communities to give youth a range of opportunities and help them engage with their communities and one another.
- The *Columbia Basin Trust Service Plan for 2019/20 – 2021/22*, which outlines Trust goals, budget details, performance measures and related targets and financial forecasts, will be presented in February to the BC Legislature as part of the Province's annual budget. The Service Plan can be viewed at ourtrust.org/serviceplan as of February 19, 2019.
- The Board approved \$275,000 for the renewal of the Trust's partnership with the [Kootenay Boundary Community Services Cooperative \(KBCSC\)](#) through March 2021. KBCSC is a cooperative of 16 community-based social service organizations whose member agencies, work together to enhance and improve the services they provide to individuals and families.

- The Board approved the following appointments to our Social Advisory Committee which provides advice on our social initiatives:
 - Jim Fisher is reappointed for a term expiring January 31, 2020
 - Michele Sam is reappointed for a term expiring January 31, 2021
 - Hugh Watt, Lina Thompson and Patti Larson are each appointed for three-year terms expiring January 31, 2022.
- The Board approved the appointment of Cherie Luke, Aaron Cosbey and Erik Leslie to the Environment Advisory Committee, which provides advice on our environment initiatives, for three-year terms expiring January 31, 2022.

Learn more about our advisory committees at ourtrust.org/advisorycommittees.

- The following is the 2019 meeting schedule for the Trust Board of Directors:
 - April 5/6 Elkford/Sparwood
 - May 24/25 Kaslo
 - July 19/20 Valemount
 - September 20/21 Creston
 - November 22/23 Aq'am
- Board meeting minutes are posted to the Trust website after they have been approved by the Board at the following meeting. View minutes here: ourtrust.org/publications.