

These board highlights provide a general overview of discussion items and major decisions made at the Board of Directors meeting on **January 24/25, 2020**, which was held in Ainsworth, BC. It excludes confidential information such as business negotiations, personnel issues and legal matters.

- The Board elected Jocelyn Carver as Chair of the Trust Board of Directors and David Raven as Vice-Chair. Bill van Yzerloo from Castlegar was recently appointed by the Province. Learn more about the Trust Board at [ourtrust.org/board](http://ourtrust.org/board).
- The Board approved the budget for 2020/21 which included the budget for Delivery of Benefits. Some highlights include:
  - \$20.4 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, and [recreation and physical activity](#).
  - \$8.4 million for [Broadband Initiatives](#) to support the expansion of high-speed Internet connectivity throughout the region.
  - \$5.4 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.
  - \$4.8 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.
  - \$3.7 million for [Social Initiatives](#) to support residents and communities to experience social well-being which includes [housing](#), [child care support programs](#), poverty reduction and [Social Grants](#).
- Trust work is guided by the [Columbia Basin Management Plan](#) and the 2016 to 2020 [Strategic Priorities](#) which were developed in consultation with people in the Basin.

The renewal process for our strategic priorities is underway and the Trust will be hosting community meetings and online engagement with people of the Basin starting in February 2020. We will be asking people to help shape the future of how we live, work and play in the Basin, as well as celebrating all that we've accomplished together over the past 25 years.

Learn more about **Our Trust, Our Future 2020** at [imagine.ourtrust.org](http://imagine.ourtrust.org).

- The Board approved the draft *Columbia Basin Trust Service Plan for 2020/21 – 2022/23*, 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](http://ourtrust.org/serviceplan) as of February 18, 2020.

- The Board approved the signing of the 2020/21 Mandate Letter which is the annual agreement between the Trust and its shareholder, the Province, on accountabilities and strategic actions for the year. This letter can be found at [ourtrust.org/mandateletter](http://ourtrust.org/mandateletter) as of February 18, 2020.
  
- The following is the 2020 meeting schedule for the Trust Board of Directors:
  - April 3/4                      Invermere
  - May 22/23                     Nakusp
  - July 17/18                    Golden/Field
  - September 18/19            Rossland/Warfield
  - November 20/21            Radium
  
- 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](http://ourtrust.org/publications).