

This Board Highlights provides a general overview of discussion items and major decisions made at the Board of Directors meeting on **September 23/24, 2016** which was held in Kaslo, BC. It excludes confidential information such as business negotiations, personnel issues and legal matters.

- The Board endorsed a framework in principle that will help guide the Trust's role and activities in the Basin related to the Trust's agriculture strategic priority. This framework outlines six objectives where the Trust may be able to provide support, as identified in consultation with over 50 agriculture producers and those involved with the agriculture sector across the region:
  - Improve access to technical and business development extension support;
  - Enhance access to existing capital and financial tools;
  - Support efforts to attract and retain a reliable workforce;
  - Improve access to and development of key agricultural infrastructure;
  - Strengthen access to markets for Basin products; and,
  - Identify valuable agricultural land in the Basin and support efforts to increase access and production on these lands.

For more information on the Trust's agriculture strategic priority contact H. Mitchell, Manager of Special Initiatives at 1.800.505.8998.

- In order to bring greater housing industry expertise to help guide the Trust's affordable housing strategic priority activities, the Board appointed Celeste Mullin, Jenny Robinson and Simon Howse to the Housing Initiatives Committee, a subcommittee of the Board.
  - Celeste Mullin, based in Cranbrook, is Vice President of Corporate Business at Golden Life Management. Golden Life is the Kootenays largest seniors housing and care provider as well as the sixth largest employer.
  - Jenny Robinson, based in Nelson, is Executive Director of Nelson CARES Society and active on the Nelson Housing Committee. Nelson CARES Society is an accredited non-profit that operates 156 units of affordable housing; a 17 bed emergency shelter that operates 24/7 and three licensed group homes for adults with developmental disabilities in the Nelson area.
  - Simon Howse, based in Fernie, is General Manager and CEO at Parastone Developments. Parastone has completed numerous commercial real estate projects over the last decade including Veneto Place, a public-private partnership with BC Housing and CMHC, for an affordable housing development in Fernie.

The Trust will be completing an overall framework this fall which will guide its work on how to support Basin communities with their housing needs. Community organizations seeking more information should contact their local Manager, Community Relationships at 1.800.505.8998.

- The Board endorsed the theme of "thriving in a changing landscape" for the Trust's upcoming 2017 Columbia Basin Symposium being held in Kimberley from October 13 to 15, 2017. The Symposium will focus on three global drivers that will have a long-term impact in the Basin (e.g. changing demographics, technology and climate change) and how the region can adapt to the challenges and leverage any opportunities they bring. More information in the new calendar year.
- The Trust held its Annual General Meeting. This focused on the presentation of the *2015/16 Annual Service Plan Report* and highlights from the past year. The report is available online at [ourtrust.org/annualreport](http://ourtrust.org/annualreport) or call 1.800.505.8998 for a copy.

- The following is the 2016 meeting schedule for the Trust Board of Directors:
  - November 25/26 Trail
  
- The following is the 2017 meeting schedule for the Trust Board of Directors:
  - February 3/4 Cranbrook
  - April 7/8 Golden
  - May 26/27 Rossland
  - September 22/23 Salmo
  - November 24/25 Invermere
  
- Board minutes from previous meetings can be viewed [here](#).

Residents are welcome to attend the public component 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](mailto:jmedlar@cbt.org).