



## **The Coast Sustainability Trust**

Eric van Soeren, Trustee  
6705 London Drive  
Delta, B.C. V4K 4W7

Phone: 604-940-0850  
Cell: 604-318-6259  
Fax: 604-940-0858  
Email: [eric@vansoeren.net](mailto:eric@vansoeren.net)  
[www.coastsustainabilitytrust.com](http://www.coastsustainabilitytrust.com)

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### **January 2005 News Release**

## **\$2-MILLION IN NEW ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY FUNDS**

Communities and First Nations in coastal B.C. can tap into an additional \$2,000,000 just approved by the Coast Sustainability Trust (CST).

\$500,000 in Community Matching Funds will be made available to each of the four CST Regional Steering Committees. The money will continue to support sustainable economic development projects in the Comox Strathcona, Mount Waddington, Central Coast and North Coast regions.

“With these additional funds we will be able to support even more sustainable projects in the region,” said North Island MLA Rod Visser. “They will ensure the region will benefit today – and in the future.”

The Province of British Columbia established the Coast Sustainability Trust in 2002 to mitigate any adverse impacts arising from land use decisions associated with the Land and Resource Management Plan process in the Central Coast, North Coast, and Queen Charlotte Islands.

Since then, Trustee Eric van Soeren reported that almost \$4,000,000 has been committed to 54 projects throughout the regions. Additional funds are expected to be released to the Regional Steering Committees in April.

“The Trust was created to retain and create jobs through diversified and revitalized local economies,” said George Abbott, Minister of Sustainable Resource Management. “Thanks to the Trust and the people behind the innovative programs it supports, we have seen many worthwhile projects move forward.”

Communities, First Nations and community based non-profit organizations are invited to submit funding proposals to the CST. General information about the Trust and guidelines for submission are available on the CST website at [www.coastsustainabilitytrust.com](http://www.coastsustainabilitytrust.com).