



The Coast Sustainability Trust

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The Coast Sustainability Trust invests in the Comox Strathcona area

Three new initiatives in the Comox Strathcona area worth \$233,000 will receive funding from the Coast Sustainability Trust.

“This brings the total number of approved projects in the Comox Strathcona area to 10, with a total dollar value of \$857,953.” said Trustee Eric van Soeren.

“The mandate of both government and the Trust is to help communities retain jobs and create new ones through a vibrant economy,” said George Abbott, Minister of Sustainable Resource Management. “Thanks to the actions of the Trust, we are able to achieve those goals while making long-term sustainability a key priority.”

The Film Commission will receive \$60,000 towards a new marketing project. A brochure will be produced to distribute at industry marketing events over the next 28 months. An online database will also be established to allow businesses and local job seekers to register and keep their information current.

The Campbell River Indian Band, in partnership with the District of Campbell River, will receive \$100,000 towards a \$225,000 project to build an all weather/all season boat ramp. It will expand direct employment opportunities for First Nations and create opportunities for economic development not only for First Nations, but for all area water users. A portion of all user fees will go to the Pacific Salmon Foundation for habitat improvement.

An award of \$58,000 will help the Comox Valley Economic Development Society and the Campbell River Economic Development Corporation Partnership complete a comprehensive economic development strategy for the Comox Strathcona Regional District.

“There are scores of good ideas out there that strive to provide employment and new opportunities in our communities,” said North Island MLA Rod Visser. “The initiatives announced for funding approval today are standouts in those areas and there will be more to come.”

“The people in our communities working on these strategies deserve our thanks and congratulations,” said Comox Valley MLA Stan Hagen. “Everyone will benefit from their hard work.”

Funding for the three projects was approved at the October 2004 meeting of the Comox Strathcona Regional Steering Committee of Coast Sustainability Trust.

“Regional Steering Committee members Bill Harrison, Peter Rambo, James D. Wilson and Rick Everson are all working hard to sift through the many worthwhile projects,” said van Soeren. “Their task is to decide which of the initiatives seem most likely to provide long-term sustainable economic development in the communities of the Comox Strathcona area.”

Interested parties are invited to go to the Coast Sustainability Trust website at www.coastsustainabilitytrust.com and follow the links to the Community Guidelines (Stage One Proposals).