



CRESTON VALLEY COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION



Photo courtesy of Trails for Creston Valley Society

2022
ANNUAL REPORT



Photo courtesy of CCSBS

In the garden, members of the CCSBS Board, a dedicated project coordinator and 14 garden and greenhouse volunteers, spent roughly 500 volunteer hours growing, measuring and observing 115 tomato plants, and 500 bean plants of several varieties.

Growing for an uncertain future

In 2022, the Creston Community Seed Bank Society (CCSBS) began an ambitious project to assess and improve climate resilience in local seed bank seed varieties. A dedicated group spent their summer growing, measuring, recording and harvesting as part of a larger effort to guarantee food security in the Creston Valley for generations to come. The Creston Valley Community Foundation is proud to have contributed \$15,900 towards this vital effort.

The well managed CCSBS gardens at the College of the Rockies yielded a delicious side benefit: 806 kg of fresh produce donated to the Gleaners Food Bank, enough to provide vegetables for about 29 people per week over the harvest period.

The Seed Bank also offered workshops on protecting seeds from cross-pollination, harvesting and saving seeds and threshing. When not busy in the garden, the group has been hard at work building strong partnerships, with charities Farm Folk City Folk and Seeds of Diversity, and volunteers from the Creston Valley Food Action Coalition's Harvest Share program, who helped harvest the final crop of tomatoes for the Food Bank.

For the Seed Bank, this year was just a beginning. The long-term goal of this project is to shift seed varieties towards those most able to thrive in a changing climate.

Martell Beach upgrades showcase Kootenay Lake and improve access

Martell Beach, along Highway 3A on Kootenay Lake, is now a safer, cleaner, more welcoming gateway to enjoying the natural beauty of our valley. Thanks to the hard work of the Trails for Creston Valley Society (TCVS) and funded in part by a \$5,000 grant from the CVCF, the historically well-used location now boasts a levelled picnic table area, facilities, a garbage bin and stewardship signage.

Based on a sampling of user comments, the project has been gratefully received by lake visitors. "It's now a place I would be proud to bring an out-of-town guest," reads one report.

Aside from cleanliness and safety, Martell Beach is one of the few easily accessible beaches for families with children, seniors, and those with mobility issues. "I always did come to this beach because it is one of the few beaches where I can get my paddle board to the water with the least amount of effort and the beach is dog friendly," writes another frequent visitor.

For the next phase of this project, TCVS hopes to extend portable toilet and garbage services into the fall, winter and spring months, using a CIP grant. They are also considering a shelter at the site.



Photo courtesy of Trails for Creston Valley Society

Low-maintenance picnic tables, installed above the high water mark, are one of the improvements to the Martell Beach site. In 2022, the Trails Society completed the initial phase of the project, funded in part with a \$5,000 grant from the Creston Valley Community Foundation.



Fiscal Report – 2022

Audited financial statements for 2022 were not completed at the time of printing. Stay tuned for a more complete set of numbers in our next newsletter.

In the meantime, a number of highlights from 2022:

Passed the
\$1,000,000
threshold for total grants
issued since inception (2005)

Approximately
\$100,000
Total grants
issued in 2022

Total of
\$169,555
donations in 2022
to the endowment

Total of
\$5,600,000
Assets
at year end

Planning for changing CRA rules

In 2022 we were informed by Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) that two rules are changing next year. Both of these will have a meaningful impact on how our Foundation operates.

The first, and most onerous, is a change made to the disbursement quota that applies to all public foundations. CRA has a minimum threshold that foundations like ours are obligated to grant or use to finance programs. In the past, this amount has been set at 3.5 percent of the average year end holdings for the past two years. This has always been a challenge, particularly for smaller Community Foundations that have fewer annual donors and a smaller asset base than other foundations. As of 2023, the CRA will increase this disbursement quota to 5 percent. While pushing more money into the community in the form of grants is wonderful, maintaining donated capital intact will become very difficult, particularly given the risk-averse stance we take when selecting investments. Our goal will always be to protect donated capital so that it can provide grants in perpetuity, but this new rule may impact our ability to achieve that goal. In 2023, this will be a challenge facing all public foundations, community and otherwise.

On the bright side, the second rule change will make granting less restrictive. In the past, grants from a Community Foundation had to be made to what CRA categorizes as qualified donees. This list includes registered charities, municipal governments, select amateur athletic associations and a few others. Grant applicants that were not a qualified donee had to find a partner who would agree to accept the grant on their behalf and then pass the money on to them. This created a significant administrative burden for all, and even concerns of liability for potential partners. The new rule will allow us to grant to some non-qualified donees, which means that we can consider making grants directly to non-profit groups that are not registered charities. There are lots of rules and conditions (after all, we are talking about CRA here!) but there will be changes to how we select our grant applicants in the future.

2022 Grant Highlights

Trails for Creston Valley Society

\$5,000 (improvements to Martell Beach facilities)
Community Health Fund

Creston Museum

\$5,000 (40 Years, 40 Voices Exhibit)
Community Fund

Discovery Centre Society

\$8,000 (Junior Naturalist Camps)
Community Fund

Kootenay Region Association for Community Living

\$4,000 (upgrades to Rosewood Building)
Community Health Fund

Creston Community Seed Bank

\$15,900 (improving climate resilience in vegetable crops)

- \$1,608 from Environment Fund
- \$13,731 from Community Health Fund
- \$561 from Seniors Fund

Kootenai Community Centre Society

\$2,000 (Grizzly Bear summer child care)
Community Health Fund

Creston Valley Public Library

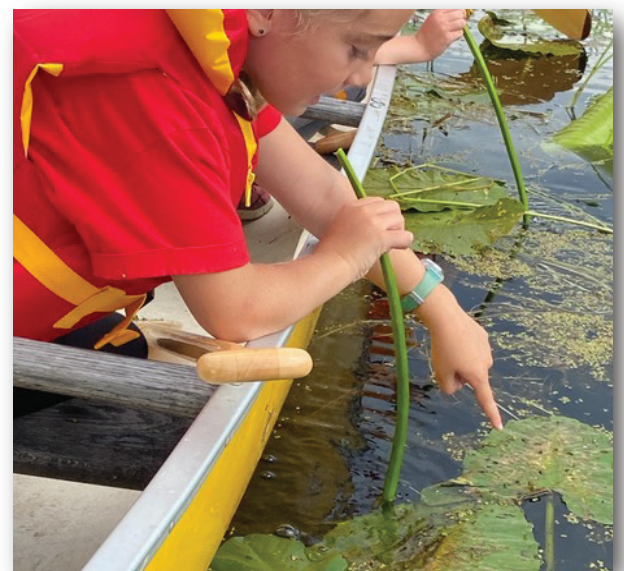
\$400 (Community Connections brochures)
Community Health Fund



In July 2022, a Tutor Jet repainted with the colors of the 1967 Golden Centennaires was installed in the north parking lot of Millennium Park. The memorial stands in honor of both Creston's C.B. Lang, who led the centennaires, and Creston resident John Huscroft, who acquired the jet in 2010 and dedicated more than a decade of his life to the dream of publicly displaying it.

The installation was completed with generous support from donor-advised funds at the Creston Valley Community Foundation. The CVCF would like to thank our private donors who believed in John Huscroft's vision and helped make it a reality.

There is only one other Golden Centenaire Tutor jet on display, at the Southport airport in Manitoba where the group trained for their 1967 programs.



An \$8,000 grant to the Discovery Centre Society helped support 2022 Junior Naturalist camps for children and youth, fostering deeper ties and appreciation for our beautiful valley.

Planning for a more productive and professional board

Over the past few years, the Creston Valley Community Foundation has grown steadily, both in terms of our endowment funds, and the increasing volume of grant applications and administrative work. The CVCF is one of few community foundations operating without an executive director. While we take pride in our extremely low administrative costs and the work done by our volunteer board, it was time to consider whether we could operate more seamlessly with the support of a part-time staffer.

While our former president Ted Hutchinson may have taken a break from the CVCF board this year, he has been far from idle. His work throughout 2022 included compiling all the small and large tasks currently performed by various board members that would be more appropriately and efficiently done by a dedicated part-time position. His goal is to prepare a training manual and template for what such a position would entail, and how to streamline integration with the board.

Taking stock of our volunteer community

Volunteers form the backbone of the Creston Valley community. In 2022, CVCF board members Carol Freeman-Ryll and Debby Johnson worked with Creston super-volunteer Signe Miller to show our appreciation to the individuals and groups that donate their time and energy to our community. This committee's work also included strengthening our local relationships and compiling a lengthy list of groups working to support seniors, the environment, and everything in between.

Along the way, the CVCF had the opportunity to collaborate with the passionate ArtSpace group to create our public display for Philanthropy Month. Our board extends sincere gratitude for their creative support and donation of display space.

As always, we want to thank Ted for the donation of his time, energy and expertise. As a long-time part of the CVCF, his knowledge and deep understanding of the foundation will ensure that any eventual transition and growth respects our individual needs and identity.



Interested in creating your own legacy fund?

Do you have a cause that is important to you, one that you would like to support not just today, but into the future as well? Drop us a line and we will happily discuss with you how the Creston Valley Community Foundation can play a role in your philanthropic goals. Your Legacy Fund can be opened with as little as a \$500 donation. And, once your Fund exceeds \$10,000, annual grants can be made to the group(s) you wish to support.

Some donors appreciate establishing their Fund while they are able to see the grants begin to flow to the local charity of their choice. Others establish their Funds while they are able to participate in the creation process with the understanding that funding will take place as part of their estate planning. Whatever your circumstance, we'd be happy to have a conversation with you to answer any of your questions about establishing a Legacy Fund.

Our current fields of interest are listed below www.crestonvalleycf.ca.



**Arts, Culture
& Heritage**
3 Funds



**Children, Youth
& Families**
3 Funds



**The Environment
& Animal Welfare**
2 Funds



**Health, Wellness
& Recreation**
9 Funds



**Literacy, Education
& Employment**
5 Funds



Community
5 Funds



Want to get involved?

The Community Foundation provides a number of ways to get involved!
Have you considered making a donation, joining a committee, or becoming a volunteer to help with specific tasks? If so, let us know or request more info:

250-254-9606

contact@crestonvalleycf.ca

PO Box 701, Creston, BC, V0B 1G0

crestonvalleycf.ca

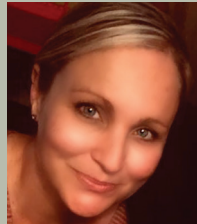
2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**RICK
MINICHIELLO
PRESIDENT**



**CAROL
FREEMAN-RYLL
VICE PRESIDENT**



**AMY
CARTER
TREASURER**



**ALEX
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SECRETARY**



**JIM
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NAEVE**



**JASON
TRUSCOTT**



**AARON
GREGORY**



**BRANDY
DYER**



**DEBBY
JOHNSON**