



APRIL / MAY / JUNE

- 2019 -

QUARTERLY REPORT

BY THE NUMBERS

\$146.0 million in Trust funding invested into the region since 2005

\$218.8 million in funding approved and administered
into **3,610** projects since 2005

\$14.9 million approved for **381** projects to date in 2019

\$37.1 million leveraged to date in 2019 as new project investment

\$13.9 million invested into **417** First Nations projects since 2005

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cabins **p. 4**

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Northern B.C. **p. 15**

First Nations' values and technology
win award **p. 16**

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NORTHERN DISPATCH: **THE STATE OF FORESTRY IN** **NORTHERN B.C.**

Each year, Northern Development identifies topical issues for those living and working in Northern B.C. and invites industry experts to add commentary and context on the specific subject in Northern Dispatch.

The first Northern Dispatch of 2019 has been released and it focuses on the forestry industry. Backed by research from MNP and insight from the BC Council of Forest Industries, Pinnacle Renewable Energy, the University of Northern British Columbia and the Canadian Bioeconomy Conference and Exhibition, the report provides a deeper understanding of the current state of the forestry industry and what the future looks like.

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/northern-dispatch



SUITE OF HOUSING PROGRAMS TO ASSIST NORTHERN COMMUNITIES WITH RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING PROGRAMS



Three new housing programs open for application from local governments

On April 3, Northern Development announced a suite of Housing Programs that will support local governments in the creation of new, market-based housing units across Northern B.C.

“Northern Development recognizes the need for increased housing options throughout the communities in Northern B.C. as a way to retain seniors, attract workforce and in turn, increase business and employment opportunities,” said Joel McKay, CEO of Northern Development. “The mission of the Trust has always been to secure economic success in our region and these new programs offer one more option for communities to achieve that success.”

The Housing Needs Assessment Program, the Community Planning for Housing Program and the Northern Housing Incentive Program are designed as a step-by-step process that will assist local governments in key aspects of new residential development.

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“Communities throughout Northern B.C. have identified a real need for new housing developments and through these programs, local governments can seize the opportunity to grow their population and their economy. The Board is very pleased to support this type of initiative which supports development and sustainability.”

- **Tom Hoffman**, Past Acting Chair,
Northern Development Initiative Trust



CABIN FEVER: THE TRUST BACKS BACKCOUNTRY CABINS



The newly constructed cabin on Morfee Mountain near Mackenzie.

Photo: Rocky Mountain Riders Snowmobile Club

Volunteer labour and funding builds improvements for outdoor recreationalists

Residents and visitors are keen to explore B.C.'s majestic backyard. To ensure their outdoor experience is fun and safe, clubs across Northern B.C. are hard at work to maintain recreation facilities. To help with this, Northern Development has invested more than \$100,000 in backcountry cabins throughout the region through its Community Halls and Recreation Facilities grant program. This funding supports the hundreds of volunteer labour hours that are invested by community-minded residents and club members.

Backcountry cabins are integral pieces of infrastructure for expeditions into B.C.'s wilderness. They improve safety by providing a refuge for

recreationalists and a base for emergency search and rescue operations. They offer a welcoming place for people to rest, warm up and socialize with like-minded people and they attract out-of-town visitors to the destination. More than that, cabins reduce environmental impact by concentrating human use in one area, providing a waste disposal facilities and reducing human/wildlife interactions.

For the clubs that strategize and work hard to maintain the facilities, their members experience a stronger sense of community, more members join and a feeling of satisfaction is earned by knowing they are contributing to people's physical well-being and safety.

Here's a snapshot of cabins supported by the Trust in its service region:

Prince George Region:

Morfee Mountain Cabin Rebuild

The Rocky Mountain Riders Snowmobile Club is based in Mackenzie and makes significant effort to maintain quality riding experiences for all those snowmobiling in the area. They have a strategic infrastructure plan to ensure that aging infrastructure is maintained and rebuilt to standard.

In 2017, they identified that the first cabin on Morfee Mountain was in disrepair and they created a plan to disassemble the existing cabin and replace it with a new building. The club successfully applied to the Trust's Community Halls and Recreation Facilities funding program and received \$29,900 for the \$57,254 project. The cabin serves many purposes, including being a space for avalanche response training and a home base for avalanche rescue teams. Safety is a priority and the building is equipped with emergency first aid equipment, emergency response equipment and rescue equipment.



Preparing to remove the old cabin on Morfee Mountain.
Photo: Rocky Mountain Riders Snowmobile Club

Northeast Region:

Snowmobile Club Safety Cabin

In Fort Nelson, a trail built specifically for off-road vehicle users skirts the city to help make motorized recreation more accessible to residents. Maintaining the momentum from the trail opening, it was decided that a shelter would be built at a remote recreation site to increase the interest and active involvement of residents in the Snowmobile Club.

In April 2018, a newly constructed cabin was transported to the recreation site after 88 hours of volunteer labour. The Trust invested \$14,733 into this \$22,496 project that provides snowmobilers with a place to rest and warm up during a day on the trails.



The newly constructed safety cabin in Fort Nelson.
Photo: Fort Nelson Snowmobile Club

Northwest Region:

Robinson Ridge Recreation Area Improvement

In 2014, Northern Development approved \$30,000 to help the Kitimat Snowmobile and Hiker's Club replace a cabin, install a backcountry toilet and improve trail conditions. This was a piece of the club's conscious effort to improve the quality and accessibility of local alpine recreation resources.

The \$89,950 project replaced a 30-year old cabin that was originally built as a warming hut, emergency shelter and meeting place for people recreating in the Robinson Ridge area. Over the decades, heavy snow loads and inclement weather rendered the cabin unsuitable for overnight stays. The new cabin is welcoming, well-built and features a solar panel and battery bank for interior lighting and a propane system for cooking.



The newly constructed Robinson Ridge Cabin near Kitimat.
Photo: Kitimat Snowmobile and Hiker's Club

Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lilloet Region:

Yank's Peak Snowmobile Cabin

Near Williams Lake, Yank's Peak is a popular destination for adventurers seeking pristine powder. The recreation area is becoming so popular that in 2016, the Williams Lake Powder Kings Snowmobile Club recognized that some upgrades needed to be done in the area to maintain a high quality visitor experience.

The club expanded the parking area by approximately 8,000 square feet to accommodate the additional vehicles and trailers that were transporting sleds and riders to the area, they enhanced eight kilometres of trail leading to the safety cabin and upgraded the Yank's Peak Safety Cabin. Built in 1999, the cabin required upgrades to its flooring, new paint, minor repairs and a new stove. Volunteers committed 421 hours of labour to this \$44,239 project while Northern Development contributed \$27,385.



A group of hardworking volunteers at the recently renovated Yank's Peak Safety Cabin.
Photo: Williams Lake Powder Kings Snowmobile Club

COMMUNITY HALLS AND RECREATION FACILITIES JANUARY 1 – JUNE 30, 2019

Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region		
NEW Toosey Indian Band	Toosey Old School Renovation	\$15,000
NEW Cariboo Regional District	Low Mobility Wilderness Trail Network Expansion - Phase Two	\$30,000
NEW Quesnel Curling Club	Quesnel Curling Club Equipment Replacement	\$14,698
NEW 70 Mile Community Club	70 Mile Community Hall Upgrades	\$30,000
NEW Quesnel Skyfest Society	Quesnel SkyFest Outdoor Furniture Acquisition	\$5,985
NEW Bridge River Valley Community Association	Bralorne Church and Hall Repair and Revitalization	\$30,000
Quesnel and District Heritage Association	Quesnel Antique Machinery Park Roof Replacement	\$7,688
100 Mile House Snowmobile Club	100 Mile House Snowmobile Club Groomer Acquisition	\$3,679
City of Quesnel	South Hills Trail Development	\$30,000
Williams Lake Cycling Club	Foxfire Mountain Bike Trail Upgrade	\$26,750
Wells Snowmobile Club	Wells Snowmobile Club Tiller Acquisition	\$15,000
City of Quesnel	West Fraser Centre Air Conditioning	\$30,000
Esdilagh First Nation	Esdilagh Destination Trails Initiative	\$30,000
Forest Grove & District Recreation Society	Forest Grove Community Hall Improvements	\$30,000

Northeast Region		
NEW Lake Point Golf and Country Club	Lake Point Clubhouse Renovation	\$50,000
NEW Northern Rockies Seniors Society	Heritage Place Energy and Accessibility Upgrades	\$19,895
NEW Poplar Hills Golf and Country Club	Poplar Hills Golf and Country Club Improvements	\$30,000
NEW District of Taylor	Lone Wolf Golf Club Clubhouse Improvements	\$30,000
NEW Tumbler Ridge Forever Young Society	Willow Hall Kitchen Facilities Upgrade	\$6,317
NEW City of Dawson Creek	Kenn Borek Aquatic Centre 2019 Facility Upgrades	\$50,000
NEW Sagitawa Christian Camping Society	Camp Sagitawa Band Shell Construction	\$19,365
NEW Double "H" Saddle Club	Double H Saddle Club Facility Upgrades	\$21,982
Village of Pouce Coupe	Pouce Coupe Skatepark	\$50,000

Northeast Region - cont.		
City of Dawson Creek	Encana Events Centre Jumbotron Replacement	\$50,000
Northland Trailblazers Snowmobile Club	Redfern Lake Trail Warming Shelter Construction	\$20,781
School District No. 59 (Peace River South)	Unchagah Hall Upgrade	\$50,000
City of Fort St. John	Festival Plaza Building Construction	\$50,000
District of Chetwynd	Rotary Park Enhancement	\$21,098
Tumbler Ridge Mountain Bike Association	Tumbler Ridge Pump Track Construction	\$50,000
Fort Nelson Motocross Club	Fort Nelson Motocross Track Upgrades	\$49,846
Bear Mountain Nordic Ski Association	Bear Mountain Cross Country Ski Terrain Park	\$47,568
Whiskey Jack Nordic Ski Club Society	Whiskey Jack Nordic Ski Club Day Lodge	\$50,000
Dawson Creek Ski and Recreation Association	Bear Mountain Ski Chalet Improvements	\$48,800
Fort St. John Curling Club	Fort St. John Curling Club Equipment Replacement	\$19,180

Northwest Region		
NEW Snow Valley Nordic Ski Club	Snow Valley Nordic Ski Club Rental Shop Construction	\$30,000
NEW BV Outdoor Recreation Society	Canyon Creek Ski Area Cabin	\$13,212
NEW Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine	Thornhill Community Centre Beverage Service Upgrade	\$15,000
NEW Houston Link to Learning Society	Houston Link to Learning Kitchen Renovation	\$30,000
NEW Smithers Golf and Country Club	Golf Cart Fleet Completion	\$15,000
NEW Bulkley Valley Cross Country Ski Club	Plowing and Trail Brushing Equipment Acquisition	\$30,000
NEW Smithers Ski Club	Smithers Ski Club Cabin Upgrade - Phase One	\$30,000
NEW Gitga'at First Nation	Gitga'at First Nation Community Hall Renovation	\$30,000
NEW Bulkley Valley Gymnastics Association	LB Warner Building Envelope Upgrade	\$30,000
NEW Morice Mountain Nordic Ski Club	Morice Mountain Nordic Cabin Upgrades	\$15,000
Smithers Mountain Bike Association	Bluff Trail Network Expansion - Phase One	\$30,000

Northwest Region - cont.

R.E.M. Lee Theatre Alive (1988) Society	R.E.M. Lee Theatre Light and Sound Upgrade - Phase Two	\$15,000
Bulkley Valley Bowmen Association	Bulkley Valley Bowmen Clubhouse Utility Improvements	\$12,675
Lake Babine Nation	Tachet Lakeshore Trail Construction	\$30,000
Kitimat Chamber of Commerce	Heritage Park Amphitheatre Construction	\$30,000
Terrace Little Theatre Society	Terrace Little Theatre Technical Booth Upgrades	\$20,618

Prince George Region

NEW Autumn Services Society For Senior Support	Autumn Centre Social and Service Hub	\$30,000
NEW District of Vanderhoof	Vanderhoof Friendship Centre Kitchen Upgrade	\$15,000
NEW District of Vanderhoof	Vanderhoof Ball Diamond Four Upgrade	\$6,600
NEW Village of Fraser Lake	Fraser Lake Arena and Complex Lobby Lighting Upgrade	\$3,220
NEW Village of Fraser Lake	White Swan Boat Launch Parking Area Rehabilitation	\$10,580
NEW Village of Fraser Lake	Fraser Lake Softball Infields Rehabilitation	\$12,127
NEW Village of Fraser Lake	Thornhill Community Centre Beverage Service Upgrade	\$13,600
NEW Village of Fraser Lake	Fraser Lake Trails Chip Sealing	\$30,000
NEW Caledonia Nordic Ski Club	Caledonia Nordic Centre Facility Improvements	\$15,000
NEW Stellat'en First Nation	Stellat'en First Nation Destination Trails Development	\$30,000
NEW Mackenzie Elks Lodge #547	Mackenzie Elks Lodge Upgrades	\$30,000
NEW District of Mackenzie	Cicada Ball Diamond Upgrades - Phase Two	\$15,000
NEW District of Mackenzie	Snow Groomer Acquisition	\$15,000
Blackburn Community Association	Blackburn Bicycle Park	\$30,000
Valemount and Area Recreation Development Association	Valemount Bike Park - Phase Five	\$15,000

Prince George Region - cont.

Canadian Mental Health Association - Prince George Branch	Clubhouse Kitchen Upgrades	\$30,000
Regional District of Fraser-Fort George	Sinclair Mills Community Hall Upgrades	\$27,846
District of Vanderhoof	OK Cafe Upgrade - Phase Two	\$11,463
Young Men's Christian Association of Northern BC	Prince George Family YMCA Revitalization	\$15,000
Prince George Tennis Club	Tennis Court Reconfiguration	\$15,000
Northern Adapted Sports Association	Wheelchair Basketball Adapted Equipment Purchase	\$30,000
Tabor Mountain Recreation Society	Tabor Mountain Trail Rehabilitation	\$15,000
Hart Highlands Winter Club	Hart Highlands Winter Club Snow Making - Phase Two	\$15,000
Prince George Golf and Curling Club Ltd.	Prince George Golf and Curling Club Accessibility Upgrades	\$15,000
Tl'azt'en Nation	Tl'azt'en Gathering Place Upgrades	\$20,438
Mackenzie Community Arts Council	Mackenzie Community Theatre Stage Acquisition	\$30,000
Prince George Agricultural and Historical Association	Portable Bleachers Acquisition	\$30,000
Youth for Christ Prince George	92 Youth Centre - Phase One	\$30,000
Mackenzie Golf & Country Club	Mackenzie Golf & Country Club Rental Equipment	\$14,350
District of Mackenzie	Mackenzie Outdoor Event Space Development - Phase Two	\$15,000
Village of McBride	Bill Clark Memorial Park and Ball Diamond Restoration	\$30,000
Village of McBride	Phil and Jennie Gaglardi Park Trail System Upgrade - Phase One	\$30,000
Bear Lake Recreation Association	Bear Lake Community Hall Upgrades	\$5,813

NEW = Newly approved projects this quarter

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS JANUARY 1 – JUNE 30, 2019

BUSINESS FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/business-facade-improvement

2019 as of June 30	# Communities	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	7	135,000
Northeast Region	1	20,000
Northwest Region	8	160,000
Prince George Region	5	95,000

MARKETING INITIATIVES

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/marketing-initiatives

2019 as of June 30	# Projects	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	7	100,940
Northeast Region	3	41,251
Northwest Region	2	91,921
Prince George Region	6	113,854

FABULOUS FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/fabulous-festivals-and-events

2019 as of June 30			
Fort Nelson Community Literacy Society	2019 CultureFest	Sept. 28	NEW
Peace Liard Regional Arts Council	2019 Words North Writing Festival	Sept. 27 - 29	
Horsefly River Roundtable	2019 Horsefly Salmon Festival	Sept. 14 - 15	NEW
Lakes District Fair Association	2019 Lakes District Fall Fair and Music Festival	Sept. 6 - 8	NEW
Ashcroft and District Fall Fair Association	2019 Ashcroft and District Fall Fair	Sept. 6 - 8	NEW
Robson Valley Arts and Culture Council	2019 Fraser Heritage Festival	Aug. 31 - Sept. 2	
Lac La Hache Community Club	2019 South Cariboo Garlic Festival	Aug. 24 - 25	NEW
Robson Valley Music Society	2019 Robson Valley Music Festival	Aug. 16 - 18	
South Cariboo Chamber of Commerce	2019 South Cariboo Summer Festival	Aug. 10 - 11	
Wolverine Nordic Mountain Society	2019 Emperor's Challenge	Aug. 10	NEW
Hazelton Area Historical Association	2019 Pioneer Day	Aug. 10	NEW
Edge of the World Music Festival Society	2019 Edge of the World Music Festival	Aug. 9 - 11	
Skeena River Metis Community Association	2019 Skeena Valley Country Music Festival	Aug. 9 - 11	
Spences Bridge Community Club	2019 Desert Daze Music Festival	Aug 9 - 10	NEW
Smithers Community Radio Society	2019 Deck Fest	Aug. 9	NEW

FABULOUS FESTIVALS AND EVENTS - continued

2019 as of June 30

Stewart Bear Arts Festival Society	2019 Stewart Bear Arts Festival	Aug. 9 - 11	NEW
Tlell Fall Fair Committee	2019 Tlell Fall Fair	Aug. 4	NEW
Terrace Riverboat Days Society	2019 Terrace Riverboat Days	Aug. 2 - 11	
Island Mountain Arts Society	2019 ArtsWells Festival of All Things Art	Aug. 2 - 5	NEW
Quesnel Skyfest Society	2019 Skyfest	Aug. 2 - 4	NEW
District of Kitimat	2019 Kitimat Mud Games	July 26 - 27	NEW
Kispiox Valley Music Festival Society	2019 Kispiox Valley Music Festival	July 26 - 28	NEW
Discovery Coast Music Festival Society	2019 Bella Coola Music Festival	July 19 - 21	
District of Lillooet	2019 Lillooet Apricot Tsaqwem Festival	July 19 - 21	NEW
Quesnel Billy Barker Days Society	2019 Billy Barker Days Festival	July 18 - 21	NEW
Dawson Creek Dare to Dream Society	2019 Dawson Creek Music Festival	July 13 - 14	NEW
2 Rivers Remix Society	2019 2 Rivers Remix	July 6 - 7	NEW
Prince George Two Rivers Canoe Society	2019 Northern Hardware Prince George Canoe Race	July 6	NEW
South Peace Community Arts Council	2019 Multicultural Fusion Festival	July 6	NEW
Prince George Art Gallery Association	2019 BMO KidzArt Dayz	July 5 - 6	
Bulkley Valley Folk Music Society	2019 Midsummer Music Festival	July 5 - 7	
Nechako Valley Rodeo Association	2019 Nechako Valley Rodeo	June 21 - 23	NEW
Friends of Walhachin Society	2019 Walhaschindig	June 15	
Mile Zero Cruisers Car Club	2019 Summer Cruise	June 12 - 14	
Valemount Community Sport Days Association	2019 Valemountain Days	June 7 - 9	NEW
Village of Cache Creek	2019 Graffiti Days	June 7 - 8	NEW
Prince Rupert Special Events Society	2019 Seafest	June 7 - 9	NEW
Chetwynd International Chainsaw Carving Championship Society	2019 Chetwynd International Chainsaw Carving Competition	June 6 - 9	NEW
North Peace Cultural Society	2019 Bright Nights in June	June 6 - 8	NEW
Foothills Team Roping Club	2019 Chetwynd Rodeo	June 1 - 2	NEW
Friends of Bouchie-Milburn Society	2019 Billie Bouchie Day Celebration	May 24 - 26	NEW
Clinton Annual Ball Committee	2019 152nd Clinton Annual Ball	May 18	NEW
Cayoos Creek Band	2019 Statimc Nation Gathering	May 10 - 12	NEW
Kiwanis Arts Centre Society	2019 Peace River South Festival of the Arts	April 23 - 28	NEW
Bridge River Valley Community Association	2019 Winterfest	Feb. 16 - 18	
Prince George Downtown Business Improvement Association	2019 Downtown Winterfest	Feb. 10	
Interlakes Economic Association	2019 Interlakes Outhouse Races	Feb. 10	
Fort St. James Sled Dog Association	2019 Caledonia Classic Dog Sled Races	Feb. 8 - 10	
Prince George Folkfest Society	2019 Coldsnap Winter Music Festival	Jan. 25 - Feb. 2	

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS JANUARY 1 - JUNE 30, 2019

ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION INFRASTRUCTURE

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/economic-diversification-infrastructure

2019 as of June 30	# Projects	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	0	218,000
Northeast Region	1	500,000
Northwest Region	3	663,679
Prince George Region	1	250,000

COMPETITIVENESS CONSULTING REBATE

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/competitiveness-consulting-rebate

	# Projects	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	7	68,032
Northeast Region	1	6,265
Northwest Region	2	28,300
Prince George Region	12	119,248

NORTHERN INDUSTRIES INNOVATION FUND

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/northern-industries-innovation-fund

	# Projects	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	0	0
Northeast Region	1	50,000
Northwest Region	0	0
Prince George Region	4	200,000

SUITE OF HOUSING PROGRAMS TO ASSIST NORTHERN COMMUNITIES WITH RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Continued from page 3.



HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

This program provides grant funding to local governments for the development of a comprehensive housing needs assessment that covers the entire community and meets the requirements of the Local Government Statutes (Housing Needs Reports) Amendment Act.

One-time funding is available to eligible local governments up to \$10,000 to a maximum of 50 per cent of the project budget. Without a Housing Needs Report, it will be difficult for communities to take advantage of housing grant programs. Access to these funds will help to offset the cost of completing that report.

COMMUNITY PLANNING FOR HOUSING PROGRAM

This program provides grant funding for municipalities and regional districts to assist with the cost of hiring a contract staff position to assess, and support the development of, the community's housing needs over a 12-month period.

The Trust commits to one placement per regional development area for a total of \$160,000 annually, with local governments eligible to receive up to \$40,000 from Northern Development to assist with the cost of the hire. The host community is required to provide at least \$10,000 toward a minimum base salary of \$50,000, including statutory benefits and vacation days or pay.

Preference will be given to collaborative applications where multiple communities have equal access to the planner.

NORTHERN HOUSING INCENTIVE PROGRAM

This program provides grant funding to local governments to create a "Dollars to the Door" program by incentivizing private sector housing developments. Local governments are eligible to receive a grant up to \$10,000 per dwelling, created in a multi-unit housing project to a maximum contribution of \$200,000.

In late 2017, Northern Development partnered with the City of Prince George to expand the City's Multi-Family Housing Incentives Program, which is very similar to this newly announced initiative.

Approved housing projects

2019 as of June 30	# Projects	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/ Lillooet	3	\$60,000
Northeast	0	\$0
Northwest	2	\$50,000
Prince George	3	\$90,000

CABIN FEVER IN ATLIN'S ALPINE

Photos: Atlin Alpine Society



\$30,000 investment elevates backcountry potential to new heights in B.C.'s remote northwest

In 2018, Atlin's first ecotourism attraction was built at the base of Sentinel Mountain by the Atlin Alpine Society. Tucked into the subalpine, this six-person cabin features a solar power system and propane fireplace to keep hikers, backcountry skiers and other recreationalists safe and comfortable.

"The cabin was inspired by the cold winter up here," said Manuel Sidler, president of the Atlin Alpine Society. "I started building a log cabin off-site thinking I would just put it up there as a basic shelter but as it evolved more and more people saw it and got stoked on the idea so we decided that we would try and make it all official. From there one thing lead to the next and suddenly it all worked out."

The cabin's construction is one of the tools that the Atlin Alpine Society will use to promote environmental awareness. The group is invested in the well-being of the natural environment and played a key role in having the fragile alpine ecosystem above the cabin designated as a non-motorized zone.

"The cabin is also beneficial to Atlin's environment because the alpine in the Burdette Valley has been designated as a non-motorized zone," Sidler continued. "This protects the fragile ecosystem which was on the brink of being connected by a quad trail, this will help preserve this beautiful valley for future generations to enjoy."

Drawing people to Atlin will have an economic spin-off for local businesses as recreationalists will be purchasing food, supplies, gas, accommodations, souvenirs and other goods from local businesses. The society also hopes that in the long-term, the cabin will be used by Atlinites and visitors to host educational retreats of all kinds. The income generated by the cabin will create employment opportunities for locals such as cabin maintenance, trail building and trail maintenance.

Building the cabin was a labour of love and more than 500 hours of skilled labour were donated to constructing the cabin and outhouse in a remote location. Materials were transported in by helicopter, which required seven hours of flight time.

For those not travelling by helicopter to the cabin, backcountry enthusiasts can follow an eight-kilometer trail along small sections of talus and steep slopes that enters the valley from the side and gains approximately 350 metres of elevation. A vehicle with high clearance is necessary to reach the trailhead.

Funding for the \$76,504 Burdette Cabin project came from numerous sources. Northern Development pitched in \$30,000 through the Community Halls and Recreation Facilities program, three companies donated skilled labour and Recreation Sites and Trails BC also provided support for the cabin.



TALKING TOURISM WITH THE TRUST



Photo: Destination BC

#BCTourismMatters
TOURISM WEEK | MAY 26 – JUNE 2, 2019

BELLA COOLA

B.C. Tourism Week 2019

From May 26 through June 2, tourism supporters throughout B.C. celebrated the importance of tourism throughout the province. Tourism Week is a national, grassroots initiative that brings attention to the economic opportunity available to Canada, and British Columbia, through travel and tourism. As operators, employees, suppliers, destination marketing organizations, visitor centres and sectors were acknowledging their industry, Northern Development took the opportunity to review their support of the tourism industry.

“Since 2005, tourism-related businesses and visitors in Northern B.C. have been benefiting from Northern Development’s support,” said Clint Fraser, CEO of the Northern BC Tourism Association. “By investing in mountain biking trails, visitor centres, recreation facilities, destination marketing projects and so much more, the Trust has contributed to making Northern B.C. an incredible place to visit and live. Continued investment in tourism infrastructure will support the long term destination development planning that is taking place across Northern BC and allow for continued growth of the sector in the region.”

Since 2005, the Trust has supported 776 tourism-related projects with more than \$23 million. This funding is accessed by organizations through four main funding programs: Community Halls and Recreation Facilities, Economic Diversification Infrastructure, Fabulous Festivals and Events and Love Northern BC.

The first project ever approved by Northern Development was for \$195,300 for the construction of an Information/Interpretive Centre in Valemount. Prior to the opening of the 3,600 square-foot eye-catching centre, 6,189 visitors stopped at the Valemount Visitor Centre, creating a revenue of nearly \$130,000. The centre’s grand opening was held in March 2007, and in 2010 the visitor centre welcomed 18,488 visitors and earned a revenue of \$388,248.

More recently, the Trust has supported sport tourism in Prince George. The Caledonia Nordic Ski Club received \$420,000 for six projects that assisted them in the preparation for hosting the 2019 World Para



Information/Interpretive Centre in Valemount.
Photo: Northern Development

Nordic Skiing Championships – the first global competition held in Prince George. The championships generated \$5.3 million in local economic benefit and the upgrades will be enjoyed by all skiers that visit the facility for years to come.

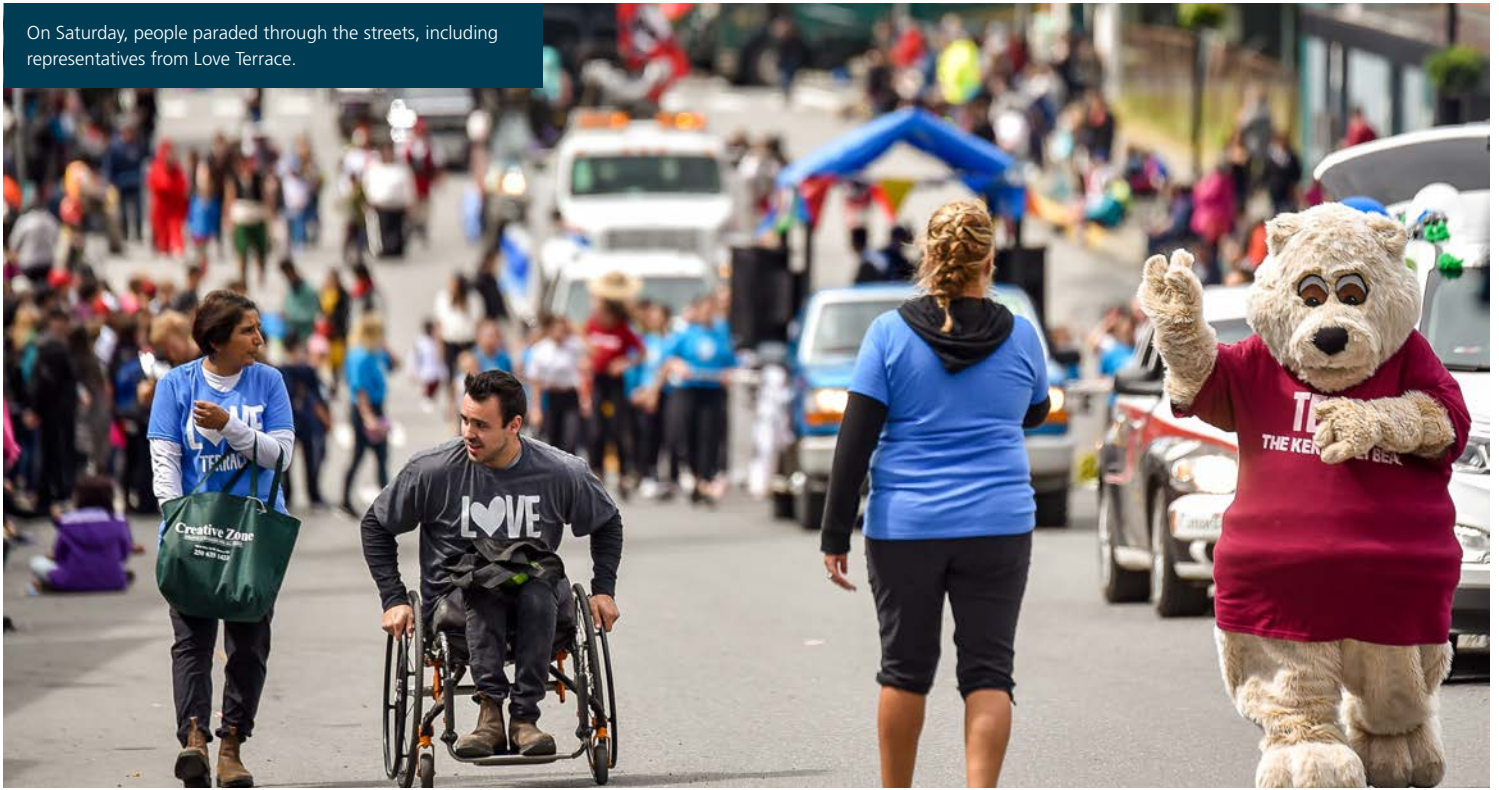
Tourism improves the quality of life for all those living in B.C. Tourism attractions and activities such as museums, galleries, festivals, transportation, restaurants, parks and sporting events all benefit from tourism.

21.6 million overnight visitors in B.C.
\$12.3 billion spent by visitors
Tourism jobs in 2017 **137,800**
\$18.4 billion in revenue generated
\$5.4 billion in export revenue

Source: Destination BC

SEAFEST MAKES A SPLASH

On Saturday, people paraded through the streets, including representatives from Love Terrace.



People travel from across the province to celebrate the sea

For the 41st time, the Prince Rupert Special Events Society hosted Seafest from June 7-9. This annual celebration lures more than 10,000 people to the coastal town in Northern B.C. for three days of festivities and celebration.

"We have vendors and guests that travel from Vancouver, Williams Lake and Prince George," said Joy Sundin, director of Prince Rupert Special Events. "Seafest gathers people to Prince Rupert each year and they have great fun. Everyone is just happy."

For three consecutive years, Seafest has received financial support through the Trust's Fabulous Festivals and Events program. This year, Northern Development had From the Treehouse photography visit the oceanside festivities to capture the spirit of celebration.

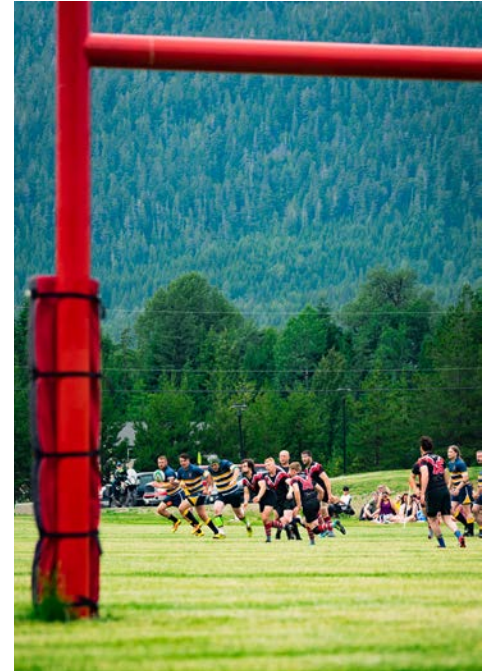
Participants in Saturday's parade.



Making memories at Prince Rupert's waterfront.



NEW PITCH IN TERRACE A FIRST FOR NORTHERN B.C.



Terrace Northmen Rugby Club celebrate opening of Northern B.C.'s first rugby field

The Terrace Northmen Rugby Club have been scrumming in their namesake for the past 45 years and on June 15, the club was thrilled to officially open the first dedicated rugby field in Northern BC.

Evan van Dyk, president of the Terrace Northmen Rugby Club, was on hand for the opening, along with Carol Leclerc, mayor of Terrace and a director on the Northern Development board.

"This project was five years in the making," said van Dyk. "And to finally see the field player-ready is very satisfying."

The total cost to upgrade the field was approximately \$100,000. Through fund-raisers, sponsors, donations and a \$30,000 grant from Northern Development's Community Halls and Recreation Facilities program, the rugby pitch received a much-needed overhaul.

The field is situated at the Northwest Community College and has been used as a rugby facility by the Northmen for the past 20 years. The field was not adequately maintained over the years and had begun to pose a safety concern for players.



Photos: Northern Development

"Despite the existence of multiple local teams, there were no fields designated for rugby," said van Dyk. "We had no other option but to use unmaintained fields, which resulted in injuries to players as well as an inability to host tournaments or travelling clubs."

With the addition of this new field, Terrace now has the capability to host tournaments with clubs from across the province, which has the potential to bring in significant sport tourism revenue to the community. This will also provide an opportunity to grow the sport.

"Rugby is an incredibly popular sport, not only in Terrace, but in many surrounding communities," said Carol Leclerc, mayor of Terrace. "I am so pleased that Northern Development played a role in bringing this important project to fruition."

In order to achieve a functional rugby pitch of the calibre the Northmen wanted, several upgrades were completed including fencing, levelling and sodding of the field, and the installation of an automatic underground sprinkler system.

van Dyk added that in order to reduce costs, he and his fellow Northmen physically took on some of the work themselves by digging ditches, laying pipes and installing sprinklers.

Their hard work was on display on June 15 at the official ribbon cutting ceremony with events that included rugby matches between the Prince Rupert Seamen, Prince George Gnats and the Williams Lake Rustlers.

The Community Halls and Recreation Facilities program provides funding to improve, expand, or develop facilities in order to increase the number of events held annually in the community, contributing to hospitality, tourism and service sector revenues in the local economy.

FIRST NATIONS' VALUES AND TECHNOLOGY COME TOGETHER TO WIN PRESTIGIOUS PROVINCIAL AWARD



New website plays crucial role in Twin Sisters Native Plants Nursery winning BC Aboriginal Business Partnership award

Midway between the band offices of West Moberly and Sauleau First Nations is Twin Sisters Native Plants Nursery, near the north shore of Moberly Lake in northeastern B.C. Twin Sisters is the result of the two First Nations' vision to be a leader in native plant propagation and distribution.

Founded in 2012, the nursery quickly found its niche in the field of ecological restoration and remediation while incorporating First Nations values and beliefs of healing the land and restoring balance to the earth.

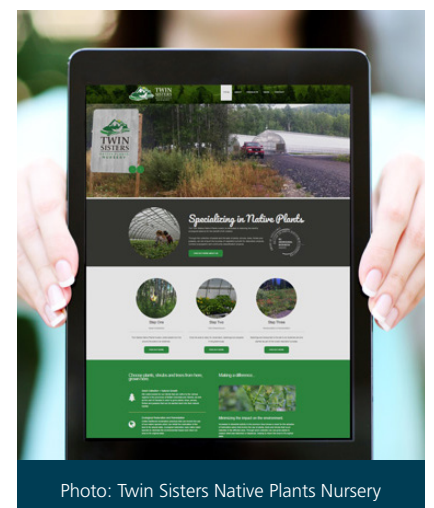
A few years later, Twin Sisters realized the need for a website to build awareness about their products and services and to meet the anticipated wave of demand that proposed projects would bring to the region. To help with the costs of building a website and refining their brand, Twin Sisters applied to Northern Development's Competitiveness Consulting Rebate for nearly \$3,000. The project was successful, and the business now has an engaging, modern website with helpful information.

"The website was, I believe, key in winning the prestigious BC Aboriginal Business Partnership of the Year Award 2017," said

Susan Davis, manager of Twin Sisters Native Plants Nursery. "Sales continue to grow at a rate that was not predicted by our initial business plan."

The Business Partnership of the Year award recognizes the efforts of a business that was created by two or more parties to positively contribute to the economic well-being of the area, increase employment and training opportunities for Indigenous people and businesses and is committed to the community in which they serve.

The Trust's Competitiveness Consulting Rebate has provided more than \$4.2 million in funding to 441 projects that help businesses increase productivity, gain new or incremental revenues, increase profitability or create jobs since 2009. Throughout Northern B.C., this program has aided small- and medium-sized businesses to become more competitive in the global market while creating measurable economic benefit for the region.



COMPETITIVENESS CONSULTING REBATE

A rebate of up to **\$30,000**, or **50% of a project's budget**, is available to eligible small- and medium-sized businesses to assist with costs incurred during external business consulting projects.

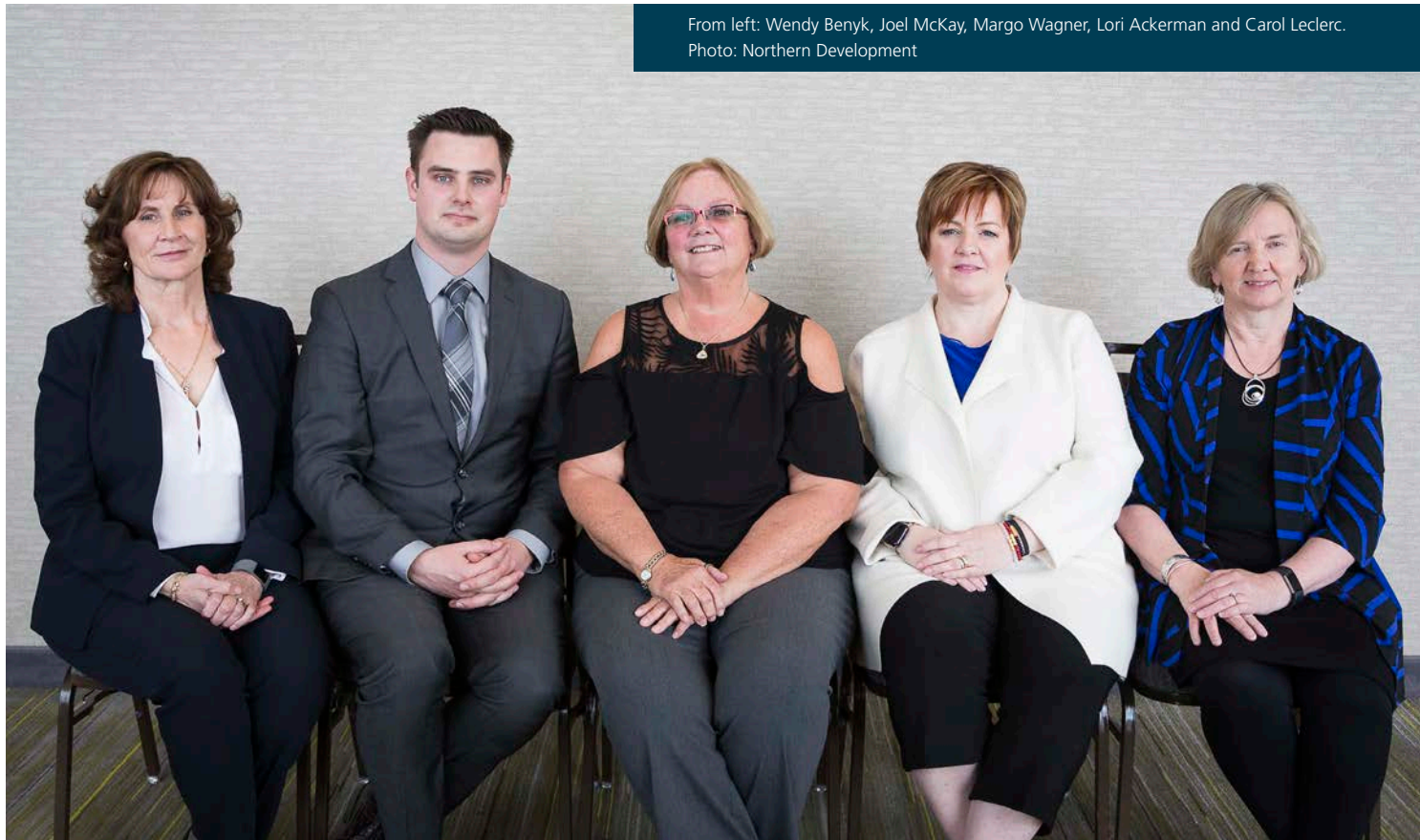
Projects must focus on increased productivity, new or incremental revenues, profitability or job creation. Businesses located in Northern Development's service region that are engaged in manufacturing, innovative technologies, resource processing, transportation, distribution and their first line suppliers are encouraged to visit the website or contact Northern Development to learn more.

northerndevelopment.bc.ca/competitiveness-consulting-rebate



THREE DIRECTORS NEWLY ACCLAIMED TO THE TRUST'S EXECUTIVE

From left: Wendy Benyk, Joel McKay, Margo Wagner, Lori Ackerman and Carol Leclerc.
Photo: Northern Development



Three new executive members join the Trust's board of directors

April 26, 2019 – Northern Development Initiative Trust announces the acclamation of three new executive members to its board of directors, voted in at the Trust's annual general meeting on April 24, 2019. For the first time since the inception of the Trust, the board has a female chair and an all-female executive committee.

New board chair

Margo Wagner is the newly acclaimed Chair of the Northern Development Initiative Trust Board of Directors. She has served on the board since 2016 and on the Cariboo/Chilcotin Lillooet Regional Advisory Committee since 2012.

Wagner has been the Cariboo Regional District (CRD) Electoral Area H Director since 2011 and the CRD Chair since 2017. Wagner served as the vice chair of the Cariboo-Chilcotin Regional Hospital District from 2012 to 2015 and as chair from 2015 to 2017. She has been the chair of the South Cariboo Rural Caucus for the past four years and served as the CRD's Finance Committee Chair for two years.

“ I want to congratulate Chair Wagner on her election as Chair of the Trust's Board of Directors and as the first female to sit at the head of the director's table. I admire Chair Wagner's commitment to the people and causes that impact the north and look forward to working together with her and the rest of our executive team. I would also like to thank Gerald Wesley and Tom Hoffman for their service and dedication, not only to the Trust, but to the communities and residents of Northern B.C. ”

- Joel McKay

CEO, Northern Development Initiative Trust

New vice-chair

Lori Ackerman was acclaimed by the board as the new vice-chair and has been member of Northern Development's board for nearly 11 years. She has also served on the Northeast Regional Advisory Committee since 2008. Ackerman is a resident of the Peace Region and has lived in the area since 1980, most of those in the City of Fort St. John, where she has served as mayor since 2011. Ackerman was first elected to City Council in 2005 and started serving as a director for the Peace River Regional District in 2006.

In recognition of her community involvement in 2002 and 2012, Ackerman received the Queen's Jubilee Medal and in 2005, she received the Silver Acorn for her distinguished service to Scouting. New director at large

Carol Leclerc is the newly acclaimed director at large on the Trust board, having been appointed to the board in January of 2019. Leclerc was first elected as Mayor of Terrace in 2014 and served as a Terrace City Councillor from 2002-2011. She has served as a member of Northern Development Initiative Trust's Northwest Regional Advisory Committee since 2015. She has her Masters of Arts in Professional Communication from Royal Roads University.

Finance committee chair

Wendy Benyk was acclaimed by the board as the finance committee chair for a second term and has been a provincially appointed member of Northern Development's board for five years. Since 2004, Benyk has been the chief executive officer of Lakes District Maintenance Ltd., a highway road and bridge maintenance company. She holds her bachelor's in science from Brandon University and her Chartered Accountant certification from the Manitoba Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Bev Playfair, mayor of Fort St. James and Gary Foster, mayor of the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality, were both acclaimed as members of the board's Finance Committee. Playfair and Foster were appointed to the board in January of 2019.

Retiring Members:

Tom Hoffman has stepped down from Northern Development's board after six years as a provincially appointed member. Most recently, Hoffman filled the role of acting-chair following nearly one term as vice-chair.

After nine years as a provincially appointed member of Northern Development's board, six of those as vice-chair, Gerald Wesley also stepped down from board.

“I am pleased and honoured to have been elected chair of the Northern Development Board of Directors. I am deeply committed to the economic success of all communities in Northern and Central BC and look forward to working with our esteemed directors to achieve that success.” - **Margo Wagner**, incoming chair, Northern Development Initiative Trust

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Front row, from left: Wendy Benyk, Joel McKay, Margo Wagner, Lori Ackerman, Carol Leclerc.

Back row, from left: Gary Foster, Tom Hoffman, Sally Watson, Bev Playfair, Evan Saugstad, Danny Schild, Gerald Wesley.

NEXT FUNDING INTAKE CLOSES

- **AUGUST 9** -
2019

UPCOMING DATES

JULY 24, 2019

Northern Development Board Meeting

SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

Prince George Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

SEPTEMBER 13, 2019

Northeast Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

Northwest Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

OCTOBER 23, 2019

Northern Development Board Meeting

OCTOBER 31, 2019

Fall 2019 Quarterly Intake Deadline



301-1268 Fifth Avenue
Prince George, B.C. V2L 3L2
250-561-2525 | info@northernddevelopment.bc.ca
www.northernddevelopment.bc.ca