



WINTER  
- 2018 -  
QUARTERLY REPORT

## BY THE NUMBERS

- \$138.9 million** in Trust funding invested into the region since 2005
- \$206.1 million** in funding approved and administered into **3,257** projects since 2005
- \$37.3 million** approved for **481** projects to date in 2018
- \$84.2 million** leveraged in 2018 as new project investment
- \$13.1 million** invested in **383** First Nations projects since 2005
- \$29.6 million** approved for **344** projects to help communities recover from the Mountain Pine Beetle epidemic since 2005

## IN THIS ISSUE

- Accessible trail network in the Cariboo **pg. 3**
- Ski facilities receive funding **pg. 4**
- Passenger numbers take-off in Fort St. John **pg. 8**
- Benefits of biking in Burns **pg. 9**
- Fabulous fall festivals **pg. 13**
- Funding programs for Northern B.C. business **pg. 14**
- Partnership delivers free business webinars **pg. 16**

# GOVERNING A SUSTAINABLE & RESPONSIVE ORGANIZATION

The Trust exists to stimulate economic growth through strategic and leveraged investments that build a strong and diversified economy in Northern B.C. We strive to be trusted for our integrity, accountability, collaboration and passion. Our goal is to maximize investment in Northern B.C. projects each year and to effectively manage and administer third-party funding programs.



Photo credit: Cariboo Regional District

## Accessible trail network contains 21 trails throughout the Cariboo

**OCTOBER 2018** Years of research, numerous funding sources, dozens of supportive community partners and one ambitious plan have led to the creation of an accessible trail network in the Cariboo. This network includes more than 20 trails that encourage people of all ages and abilities to get outside and explore the vast landscapes that the Cariboo is known for.

Since 2012, Northern Development has committed \$60,000 to the \$540,000 project budget that the Cariboo Regional District has used to establish 25 kilometres of accessible trails in the region. This multi-year initiative is a major part of establishing the Cariboo Chilcotin as a niche travel destination for people with low mobility.

“The Cariboo Regional District is well-known for its rugged and appealing landscapes, but wilderness areas can be difficult for people with mobility issues to access,” said Margo Wagner, Cariboo Regional District chair. “Having an accessible trails network means people of all abilities can enjoy the beauty of our region. Accessible recreation is vital in creating an inclusive, healthy society; attracting more people to our region; and providing better job opportunities as we partner with local community groups to construct the trails.”

The first phase of accessible trail building received funding from the Towns for Tomorrow program. This resulted in six priority trails being completed in the communities of Kersley, Horsefly, 108 Mile Ranch, Cottonwood House Historic Site, Kosta’s Cove (Ten Mile Lake) and Stanley Cemetery.

This accessible trail development strategy and implementation received the President’s Award at the 2010 Cariboo Chilcotin Coast annual general meeting “for ongoing accomplishments with their ‘Accessible Trails Project’, focused on positioning the region as a world leader in accessible outdoor recreation for persons of low mobility.”

continued on page 6



Photo credit: Cariboo Regional District

# IT'S NOT ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE



Photo Credit: Mike Palangio - Caledonia Nordic Ski Club

## The Trust has provided \$1.8M in funding for nordic and downhill ski facilities in the region

**NOVEMBER 2018** Winter is in full swing throughout our region and people are eager to clip into their ski bindings and experience the serene surroundings that snow brings. Northern Development is proud to support the organizations that build and maintain ski trails and encourage people to get outside during the winter months.

Since 2005, the Trust has helped 22 downhill and Nordic ski organizations in its region complete 40 unique projects by providing \$1,868,312 in funding. This support has, for many facilities, increased the amount of time skiers can enjoy on the trails and increased the user experience by creating a higher-quality recreation area.

Such is the case for Snow Valley Nordic Ski Club, located midway between Terrace and Kitimat. In 2009, the Trust committed \$60,000 to the club to assist with upgrades prior to the 2010 BC Winter Games held in Terrace. With a budget of \$322,000, the club accomplished a lot of meaningful upgrades that continue to have long lasting impacts to both communities.

“Not only did our membership double after the Games, but our day use and rentals doubled too and have continued to climb,” shared Liz Thorne, president of the Snow Valley Nordic Ski Club. “Our kids’ program, B.C. Rabbits, has grown to 60 plus kids and coaches and only stays at that level because that’s all the coaches we have... the fact that we’ve grown from four dozen pairs of skis and boots eight years ago to 200 plus speaks volumes. People are always asking where they can buy equipment and clothing and it’s great to be able to direct them to local businesses.”

Hart Highlands Winter Club is another ski organization that benefited from receiving a grant from the Trust, which enabled them to purchase a snow gun. At the beginning of the 2017 season, their hardworking volunteers were so dedicated to creating a strong base that some

volunteers spent the entire night many times over making snow. This dedication paid off and the Hart Ski Hill was open for a record 100 days during the 2017/18 season, drastically increased from the previous year’s 17 days.

“We would not have made it to our record without all the manmade snow... it gave us a base of more than six feet of combined [manmade and natural] snow in various areas,” said Jess Hudson, hill manager of the Hart Ski Hill. “With increased revenue we can increase snowmaking infrastructure. Last year we used fire hoses which would melt the surrounding snow. This summer we installed underground pipes, so we just need to move the gun around, increasing efficiency for volunteers.” Hudson also said that the Club’s membership is on track to double over last year and they are focused on doing more for the community as the organization celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Elsewhere in the north, the Trust’s funds have helped install snowmaking equipment at six different facilities, upgrade grooming equipment and improve trail lighting. All these updates improve upon the trails that already exist. Now, clubs rely less on unpredictable snowfall and can manage a minimal snow base with grooming equipment. We’ve supported nearly two dozen ski clubs throughout Northern B.C., we encourage you to support clubs in your community by visiting them and experiencing the trails they build and maintain.

““ Having Northern Development as a source of funding is a very reassuring feeling... to know you’re not competing with big organizations down south is a good feeling too. ””

- Liz Thorne

# STORY IDEAS?

# LET US KNOW

Has Northern Development enabled your community to achieve something great? We'd love to hear about it!

Whether it's funding the Trust provided to repair a roof on a community hall that later proved invaluable during the wildfire season, or a grant that increased accessibility to a public space that has made a difference in someone's life, please share your experiences with us.

Our region is vast and sometimes we aren't aware of the unique stories people have. Share your good news with us!

**Email** [anna@northerndevelopment.bc.ca](mailto:anna@northerndevelopment.bc.ca).



# ACCESSIBLE TRAIL NETWORK INCREASES TOURISM POTENTIAL

continued from page 3

Accessible trails benefit the residents in numerous, diverse ways. For those who live in the area, they now have trails that anyone can enjoy, whether it be people who rely on mobility aids, people with temporary accessibility aids as they recover from injury, people who are pregnant and families with strollers. The recreation sites are also a destination for travelers, subsequently leading to economic benefits for the communities.

In 2016, a trail counter was placed at each the 108 Lake and Sepa Lake Accessible Trails to provide tangible proof that the trails were being used. In the four months between June and October, 2016, the 108 Lake and Sepa Lake trails experienced a total of approximately 8,600 users, with an average of 72 users per day.

Before embarking on the project, the Cariboo Regional District Wheelchair Accessible Trails Inventory and Assessment Study (2008) was produced by CARE Consulting. Findings revealed that people with disabilities represent a growing population of travelers. There are 700 million people around the globe that face mobility challenges, including 638,000 in B.C. and 4.4 million Canadians. Not included in these numbers are all the family members, friends and care providers that accompany people with disabilities on their travels.

Trails have been established at Lac La Hache Garlic Festival Site (Felker Homestead Garlic Trail Development), 108 Mile Lake (Sepa Lake Trail Improvements) – which was named to the Forest Capital of Canada Legacy Trail Network, 100 Mile Demonstration Forest, Interlakes

Community Complex, Quesnel Forks, Gavin Lake, Horsefly, Dugan Lake, Churn Creek Protected Area, Big Lake, Bull Canyon Recreation Site and Moffat Falls Recreation Site (Horsefly).

Northern Development has provided funding for the development of this accessible trail network through the Community Halls and Recreation Facilities program. Through the program up to 70 per cent of the total project budget, or \$30,000, may be given to First Nations, local governments and non-profits for projects that improve, expand or develop facilities in order to increase the number of events held in the community.

Learn more:

[www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/  
community-halls-and-recreation-facilities](http://www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/community-halls-and-recreation-facilities)



Photo credit: Cariboo Regional District

## 2018 INVESTMENTS IN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION INFRASTRUCTURE

### ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION INFRASTRUCTURE

This program provides up to \$250,000 in funding for municipalities, regional districts, First Nations and non-profit organizations in the region for projects that significantly strengthen the local economy via a major capital investment. The program specifically targets funding for public multi-use facilities or capital investments that drive revenue and job creation and provide a long-term asset for the community.

[www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/  
economic-diversification-infrastructure](http://www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/economic-diversification-infrastructure)

<i>2018 as of December 31</i>	<b># Projects</b>	<b>\$ Approved</b>
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	5	\$718,031
Northwest Region	5	\$971,434
Northeast Region	4	\$784,920
Prince George Region	7	\$751,402
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>\$3,225,787</b>

# STIMULATE WELCOMING, THRIVING COMMUNITIES

Northern Development primarily funds brick and mortar capital infrastructure projects that provide a lasting asset for community benefit. Driven by community priorities, our investments into these facilities vary from mountain bike trails and community halls to airports and marinas. Northern Development aims to deliver funding to help communities improve, expand or build facilities that diversify the local economy.

# PASSENGER NUMBERS IN B.C.'S NORTHEAST TAKEOFF



Photo Credit: North Peace Regional Airport

## A 53% increase in passengers over 5 years encourages nearly \$5M in upgrades to Fort St. John Airport

**NOVEMBER 2018** When cities grow, their infrastructure needs to keep pace. Such is the case with North Peace Regional Airport in Fort St. John. In 2013, it was forecasted that the population in Fort St. John would increase by 40 per cent in the following decade and the region was expected to follow a similar trend. This growth encouraged nearly \$5 million in expansions and upgrades to the North Peace Regional Airport between 2013 and 2016. Northern Development provided \$731,528.93 in funding for a total of five projects to the airport's growth.

In 2013, WestJet introduced regular service to the North Peace Airport and overall passengers rapidly increased. The price of airfare to the city was reduced, and even more passengers were attracted to the airport. In 2014 more passengers were flying to and from Fort St. John than their Alberta neighbor of Grande Prairie, who has a population of 63,000 compared with Fort St. John's of 21,000. By 2016, the passenger load had increased by 80,000 people to 230,000 in just five years.

"The North Peace Regional Airport provides significant economic benefit to industry and community. The ability to access direct flights with international airlines to major centres not only benefits business but adds to the livability of our community and provides endless travel options," said Lori Ackerman, Mayor of Fort St. John. "The significant upgrades supported by Northern Development Initiative Trust have allowed the North Peace Regional Airport to enhance service and manage dramatic increases in air travel. These improvements have allowed the North Peace Airport Society to implement projects that support the substantial increase in air travel to and from our region. The number of travelers is only expected to grow as economic opportunities in the area increase."

To ensure a positive experience for the tens of thousands of people utilizing the airport, the North Peace Airport Society significantly improved their parking facilities. In just four years they did two parking lot expansions, which allowed space for 275 more vehicles, 100 more rental cars and three bus lanes. A duo of other projects was also completed in the parking lot: LED lights were installed to increase visibility and reduce operational costs and the parking system was upgraded to meet chip and PIN standards for fraud protection.

Inside terminal upgrades were completed between 2014 and 2016. Existing washrooms were improved and a new washroom was built in the screening area. Spaces were furnished with new furniture, additional electrical outlets were installed for charging devices and the business space area was increased.

Funding for these five projects to the North Peace Regional Airport came through Northern Development's Economic Diversification Infrastructure program. This program provides funding to support major infrastructure projects to strengthen the local economy, drive revenue, create jobs and provide a long-term asset for communities throughout central and northern B.C.

[www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/economic-diversification-infrastructure](http://www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/economic-diversification-infrastructure)



# BRINGING HOME THE BACON IN BURNS LAKE

## Rising from grassroots initiatives, mountain biking generates positive change in Burns Lake

**OCTOBER 2018** — In B.C.'s northwest, in a village where the population hovers around 2,800 people, Canada's first designated International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) Ride Centre is found on Boer Mountain, minutes away from downtown Burns Lake. Trails are integral threads that weave together to strengthen community and economies throughout Northern B.C. The Trust is proud to invest in recreation infrastructure in the region and financially contribute to developing areas into better places to live and visit. In Burns Lake, Boer Mountain has quietly become a bucket list destination for mountain bikers.

"Fun, freedom, family, independence, active community, balanced lifestyles, pride, inclusiveness and sense of ownership: these are just a few of the terms used to describe the benefits of the Burns Lake Trails," says a 2017 report by the University of Northern British Columbia's (UNBC) Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management Program titled Social and Economic Benefits of the Burns Lake Trails. "The development of the extensive network of multi-use trails... is a testament to a community dedicated to rebrand itself: a community that builds trails to build community."



Photo Credit: Dave Silver (Destination BC)

[www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/](http://www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/)  
community-halls-and-recreation-facilities



In 2006, the Burns Lake Mountain Bike Association (BLMBA) officially formed and two short years later Northern Development provided \$59,998 in funding for trail development. Since then, the Trust has given an additional \$25,000 to the society to help them develop and enhance their flagship event, the Big Pig Bike Festival. In the 10 years since the BLMBA's inception, they have received \$1,998,037 in both cash and in-kind donations to develop mountain bike trails on Boer Mountain.

The positive economic effects of this sector can be felt throughout the community. During the annual Big Pig Bike Festival, heading into its twelfth year in 2019, the energy in Burns Lake is high and more than half the competitors make the competitions a destination event, while approximately 40 locals take advantage of the perks of racing on their home trails.

Local accommodators are benefiting from the influx of bikers during the Big Pig Festival. The Sunshine Inn is keen to ensure their property is appealing to guests travelling with mountain bikes. In the Big Pig Festival's early years, between 2011 and 2012, the Sunshine Inn enjoyed a 217 per cent increase in room bookings during the festival. They had 19 rooms booked for two nights in 2012, compared to just six rooms in 2011. This accounted for 40 per cent of their rooms being booked directly due to the festival for the weekend.

Community members readily recognize the direct economic benefits that the trails have created. The opening of Burnt Bikes, Burns Lake's locally owned bike shop, is a direct result of the trail network. Increased guests at restaurants and cafes, visitors buying gas and groceries and more people staying at hotels, bed and breakfasts and campgrounds all contribute to diversifying and strengthening the local economy.

Other benefits, as observed in the report from UNBC, "that are equally, if not more, important than the injection of cash into the economy. The benefits of community cohesions as measured by volunteer hours can be conservatively measured at \$300,000. The annual health benefit savings... is conservatively measured at \$150,000 annually. The trails are also noted as being a key attractant for individuals to stay in the community and the energy and community pride they build encourages a sense of community and business optimism."

Funding for the Burns Lake Mountain Bike Society and their mountain bike-related projects has come from three of the Trust's funding programs. The initial grant given to the club for nearly \$60,000 came from the Economic Diversification Infrastructure program. Subsequent funding came from the Marketing Initiatives (\$20,000) and Fabulous Festivals and Events (two grants of \$2,500) programs.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS TO DATE 2018

## COMMUNITY HALLS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

This program provides local governments, First Nations and registered non-profits with a maximum of \$30,000 (or \$50,000 in the northeast region) in funding to improve, expand or develop facilities throughout the region.

**NEW** = Newly approved projects this quarter

Northwest Region		
Burdette Cabin Construction	Atlin	\$30,000
Wistaria Hall Foundation	Burns Lake	\$15,000
Lakes District Fairgrounds Concession Renovation	Francois Lake	\$14,997
New Beach Campground Improvements	Granisle	\$30,000
Curling Rink Accessibility Upgrade	Granisle	\$15,000
Tourist Information Centre Roof Replacement	Granisle	\$15,000
Community Hall Restoration	Gitsegukla	\$19,326
Skeena Centre for Water, Land and Arts	Hazelton	\$28,500
Shooting Range Perimeter Fencing and Facilities Upgrades	Kitimat	\$10,000

Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region		
Green Lake Snowmobile Clubhouse Renovations	70 Mile House	\$24,300
Nordic Ski Lodge Upgrade	100 Mile House	\$15,127
HUB Facility Improvements	Ashcroft	\$10,000
Ashcroft Indian Band Community Gathering Space	Ashcroft	\$30,000
Community Hall Renovations	Anahim Lake	\$24,426
Nimpo Lake Community Trail System Expansion	Anahim Lake	\$30,000
Hall Improvements	Barlow Creek	\$20,437
Ice Rink Improvements	Bouchie Lake	\$15,000
Cayoose Campground Revitalization	Lillooet	\$30,000
Logan Lake WHY Recreation Facility	Logan Lake	\$30,000
Community Hall Revitalization	Loon Lake	\$3,783
Memorial Hall Kitchen Upgrades	Lytton	\$15,000
Desous Mountain Recreation Site Development - Phase Two	McLeese Lake	\$15,000
Skate Park Upgrade and Expansion	Quesnel	\$30,000
Telegraph Trail Upgrades	Quesnel	\$30,000

Gymnastics Club Flooring Upgrade	Kitimat	\$15,000
Community Hall Acoustic Upgrade	Masset	\$10,705
Haida Access at Hiellen	Old Masset	\$10,000
Museum Pavilion and Storage Shed Enhancement	Port Clements	\$18,558
Earl Mah Aquatic Centre Improvements	Prince Rupert	\$15,000
Dze L K'ant Friendship Centre Revitalization	Smithers	\$15,000
Commercial Dishwasher	Smithers	\$4,339
Community Centre Upgrades	Thornhill	\$30,000
Fall Fairground Upgrades	Tlell	\$15,174
Shangri-La Trail	Terrace	\$20,000
R.E.M. Lee Theatre Sound and Lighting Upgrade	Terrace	\$29,794
	<b>20 projects</b>	<b>\$361,363</b>

[www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/  
community-halls-and-recreation-facilities](http://www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/community-halls-and-recreation-facilities)

<b>NEW</b> Archie Clemes Community Hall Upgrades	Spences Bridge	\$15,000
Ranger Park Upgrades	Williams Lake	\$10,717
Dragon Mountain Trail Network Development	Williams Lake	\$30,000
Wonderland Trail Network Development	Williams Lake	\$30,000
Cariboo-Chilcotin Museum Display Cases	Williams Lake	\$16,404
Alex Fraser Park Multi-Use Agriculture Building	Williams Lake	\$30,000
Cariboo Friendship Society Accessibility Upgrades	Williams Lake	\$30,000
Xat'sull Heritage Trails Initiative Phase Four	Soda Creek	\$15,000
	<b>23 projects</b>	<b>\$500,194</b>

Prince George Region		
Community Hall Bathroom Renovation	Cluculz Lake	\$24,812
Schoolhouse Improvements	Dunster	\$27,851
Music Makers Theatre Renovation	Fort St. James	\$17,060
East Twin-Chalco Trail Upgrade - Phase One	Fraser-Fort George	\$30,000
Paddle Board Acquisition	Fraser Lake	\$1,582
Complex and Visitor Centre Outdoor Lighting Upgrade	Fraser Lake	\$15,000
Museum Mine Equipment Restoration	Fraser Lake	\$4,097
Arena Ice Plant Upgrade	Fraser Lake	\$15,000
Weight Room Upgrades Phase 2	Mackenzie	\$30,000
Waterfall Trail Connector	Mackenzie	\$24,000
Go Zone Community Facility	Mackenzie	\$18,081
Mackenzie Indoor Climbing Centre	Mackenzie	\$30,000
Golf and Country Club Building Upgrades	Mackenzie	\$17,300
Range Upgrades - Phase Two	Mackenzie	\$30,000
Cross Country Ski Trails Storage Facility	Mackenzie	\$30,000
Community Bike Park Trails and Trailhead Development	Mackenzie	\$30,000
Recreation Centre Accessibility Upgrades	Mackenzie	\$30,000
Wheelchair Lift for the Public Hall	Prince George	\$15,000
Caledonia Nordic Centre Lodge Accessibility Improvements	Prince George	\$30,000
Off Road Vehicle Trail Construction	Prince George	\$15,000
1919 Community Hall Kitchen Renovation	Prince George	\$27,220
Soccer Equipment Upgrade	Prince George	\$5,000
Community Hall Upgrade	Stellat'en	\$30,000
Bike Park Trail Development	Valemount	\$29,132
Youth Soccer Field Development - Phase Two	Vanderhoof	\$30,000
Skatepark Construction	Vanderhoof	\$30,000
Nechako Nordics Cross Country Ski Terrain Park	Vanderhoof	\$15,000
	<b>27 Projects</b>	<b>\$601,135</b>

Northeast Region		
Little Prairie Community Forest Nordic Centre Development	Chetwynd	\$9,773
Ball Park Upgrades	Chetwynd	\$30,000
Golf and Country Club Cart Replacement	Dawson Creek	\$30,000
Snowmaking Pipeline Replacement	Dawson Creek	\$50,000
Aquatic Centre Improvements	Dawson Creek	\$50,000
Encana Events Centre Renovations	Dawson Creek	\$50,000
Northern Rockies Regional Recreation Centre Tables and Chairs	Fort Nelson	\$22,714
Beatton Park Stadium Construction	Fort St. John	\$26,043
Curling Stone Replacement	Fort St. John	\$50,000
Speed Skating Facility Improvements	Fort St. John	\$17,122
Clearview Arena Flooring Replacement	Goodlow	\$50,000
Horse Stall Breezeway Replacement	Hudson's Hope	\$25,900
Community Facility Flooring Upgrade	Pouce Coupe	\$4,764
Community Hall Deck Extension	Toad River	\$50,000
Northern Lamplighters Shop Upgrade	Fort Nelson	\$50,000
North Peace Super Park	Fort St. John	\$50,000
Community Hall Roof Replacement	Moberly Lake	\$8,700
King's Valley Camp Hall Renovation	Peace River Regional District	\$39,393
Tower Lake Community Hall Furnace Replacement	Peace River Regional District	\$12,250
Community Curling Centre Insulation	Rose Prairie	\$14,350
Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Lower Level Update	Tumbler Ridge	\$28,000
	<b>21 projects</b>	<b>\$669,009</b>

## BUSINESS FACADE IMPROVEMENT

Northern Development provides annual grant funding for municipalities and regional districts throughout the region to encourage private sector investment in local business improvement. Visual improvements such as facades, signage, murals, architectural features, siding, lighting and awnings can enhance economic viability and the vibrancy of northern communities. The improvements can support the recruitment of new businesses and/or residents, and even increase the tax base as a result of increased property values.

[www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/business-facade-improvement](http://www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/business-facade-improvement)

2018 as of December 31	# Communities	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	5	\$89,017
Northwest Region	11	\$210,000
Northeast Region	2	\$40,000
Prince George Region	3	\$60,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>\$399,017</b>

## COMMUNITY FOUNDATION MATCHING GRANTS

This program provides communities with up to \$50,000 to assist with the establishment of a dedicated endowment within a registered community foundation. The funds can then be used to provide grants for community and social enhancement in the community area.

[www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/  
community-foundation-matching-grants](http://www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/community-foundation-matching-grants)

## FABULOUS FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

This program provides non-profit organizations with up to \$5,000 in grant funding to support unique events and festivals throughout the region that generate destination tourism-based service sector revenues for the local economy.

[www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/  
fabulous-festivals-and-events](http://www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca/fabulous-festivals-and-events)

**NEW** = Newly funded projects this quarter

### 2018 Funded Fabulous Festivals and Events

Coldsnap	Prince George	Jan 26 - Feb 3
Winterfest	Bridge River Valley	Feb 11 - 12
Interlakes Outhouse Races	Logan Lake	Feb 11
Downtown Winterfest	Prince George	Feb 11
Nechako Valley Rodeo	Vanderhoof	April 28 - 29
Anahim Lake Canoe Race	Anahim Lake	May 12
Gold Country Geocache Event	Cache Creek	May 11 - 13
Little Britches Rodeo	100 Mile House	May 16 - 20
2 Rivers Remix	Lytton	May 18 - 19
Masset Harbour Days	Masset	May 18 - 20
Clinton Annual Ball	Clinton	May 19
Invisible Migration Event	Burns Lake	May 24
Walhachindig	Walhachin	Jun 16
Midsummer Music Festival	Smithers	Jun 29 - Jul 1
BMO Kidz Art Dayz	Prince George	Jul 6 - 7
Summer Cruise	Dawson Creek	Jul 13 - 15
Bella Coola Music Festival	Bella Coola	Jul 19 - 22
Quesnel Cutting Horse Show	Quesnel	Jul 28 - 29
Terrace Riverboat Days	Terrace	Aug 3 - 12
Vanderhoof International Airshow	Vanderhoof	Aug 4
6th Annual Metis Jamboree	McLeese Lake	Aug 8 - 10
19th Annual Chilcotin Series Redstone Rodeo	Alexis Creek	Aug 8 - 9
Desert Daze Festival	Spences Bridge	Aug 10 - 11
Skeena Valley Country Country Music Festival	Terrace	Aug 10 - 12
Music on the Meadow Festival	Fort St. James	Aug 10 - 12
South Cariboo Summer Festival	100 Mile House	Aug 11 - 12
North Peace Fall Fair	Fort St. John	Aug 17 - 19
Nechako Valley Exhibition	Vanderhoof	Aug 17 - 19

2018 as of December 31	# Communities	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	2	\$100,000
Northwest Region	-	-
Northeast Region	-	-
Prince George Region	1	\$25,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>

2018 as of December 31	# Events	\$ Approved
Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Region	20	\$60,000
Northwest Region	15	\$57,500
Northeast Region	9	\$32,500
Prince George Region	12	\$47,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>\$197,500</b>

Valemount Days	Valemount	Jun 8 - 10
Four Directions Festival	Williams Lake	Jun 30
Lillooet Harvest Festival	Lillooet	Sep 8
Lytton River Festival	Lytton	Aug 31 - Sep 2
Bulkley Valley Exhibition	Smithers	Aug 23 - 26
Grizfest Music Festival	Tumbler Ridge	Aug 3 - 5
Kiskatinaw Fall Fair	Dawson Creek	Aug 3 - 5
Stewart Bear Arts Festival	Stewart	Aug 10 - 12
South Cariboo Garlic Festival	Lac La Hache	Aug 25 - 26
Kispiox Valley Music Festival	Hazelton	July 27 - 29
Four Directions Festival	Williams Lake	Jun 30
Valemount Bike Fest	Valemount	Jun 16
Bright Nights in June	Fort St. John	Jun 7 - 9
45th Annual Memorial Pow Wow	Quesnel	Oct 5 - 7
Hot July Nights Car and Bike Show	100 Mile House	July 13 - 15
Multicultural Fusion Festival	Dawson Creek	Jul 8
Arts and Music Festival	Atlin	Jul 6 - 8
Hazelton Hootenanny	Hazelton	Aug 17 - 19
Kitimat Mud Games	Kitimat	Aug 10 - 11
Seafest	Prince Rupert	Jun 8 - 10
Potato Festival	Prince George	Sep 2 - 3
Fraser Heritage Festival	Robson Valley	Sep 1
Edge of the World Music Festival	Tlell	Aug 10 - 12
Sandspit Wild Harvest Festival	Sandspit	Sep 7 - 8
Billy Barker Days	Quesnel	Jul 19 - 22
Hudson's Hope Fall Fair	Hudson's Hope	Aug 25

# FALL FAIRS, RODEOS, HARVEST FESTIVALS AND HOOTENANNIES

## The Trust's Fabulous Festivals and Events program supported 56 events throughout the region in 2018

**NOVEMBER 2018** Each year hundreds of unique festivals and events take place in Northern B.C. Since 2015, Northern Development has approved nearly \$500,000 to help these celebrations grow and develop. In 2018, the Trust provided \$197,500 for 56 events. Here's a snapshot of five festivals that took place throughout the region in Summer/Fall 2018:

**Hudson's Hope Fall Fair** is a family-friendly agricultural and homesteading event featuring a variety of categories outlined by the Alberta Horticulture Association, dog agility, pet show, loggers' sports, live music and an evening dinner and dance. The all-day live music was a new aspect for the Fall Fair and it was one of two live events in Hudson's Hope that summer. The performances were thoroughly enjoyed by people of all ages.

**The 19th Annual Chilcotin Series Redstone Rodeo** is hosted by the Alexis Creek Indian Band each summer and features rodeo events for participants of all ages, from Gymkhana events and junior barrel racing to the crowd-pleasing mountain race. Nearly 300 people attended the rodeo in August 2018, with approximately 30 per cent of people travelling to the community to enjoy the rodeo and associated events.

**The Hazelton Hootenanny** was held for the second time in August 2018 at a working hops farm in northwestern B.C. The three-day event brought more than 150 people together from many communities to celebrate art and music, participate in workshops and discuss sustainable agriculture while learning from each other. The \$2,500 they received from the Trust was used to bring power to the barnstage. The hootenanny was almost completely solar powered, apart from running a generator for two hours each night.

**The Fraser Heritage Festival** was held during a huge celebration for the official opening of the Ancient Forest/Chun T'oh Whdujut Provincial Park in the Robson Valley on September 1. The festivities were the result of a partnership between 12 organizations and resulted in more than 800 people celebrating the protection that now exists for the park. The day was also enhanced by various performances by 30 artists throughout the park's trails.

**The Sandspit Wild Harvest Festival** started in 2015 and has been gaining popularity ever since. New this year was live music on Friday evening which was very well attended. Other aspects of the festival included guided nature walks, informative presentations, vendors and the sold-out Wild Harvest Festival Dinner. Attendance for this two-day event is estimated to be between 250 and 400 people, in a community that is 250 residents strong, these are impressive numbers.

Fabulous Festivals and Events is a program that provides annual grant funding to support unique festivals and events throughout Northern B.C. that contribute to service sector revenues in the local economy. Up to \$2,500 is available to events with a total project budget that is less than \$50,000. Events with a total budget over \$50,000 can receive up to \$5,000.

[www.northerndevlopment.bc.ca/fabulous-festivals-and-events](http://www.northerndevlopment.bc.ca/fabulous-festivals-and-events)



Hudson's Hope Fall Fair

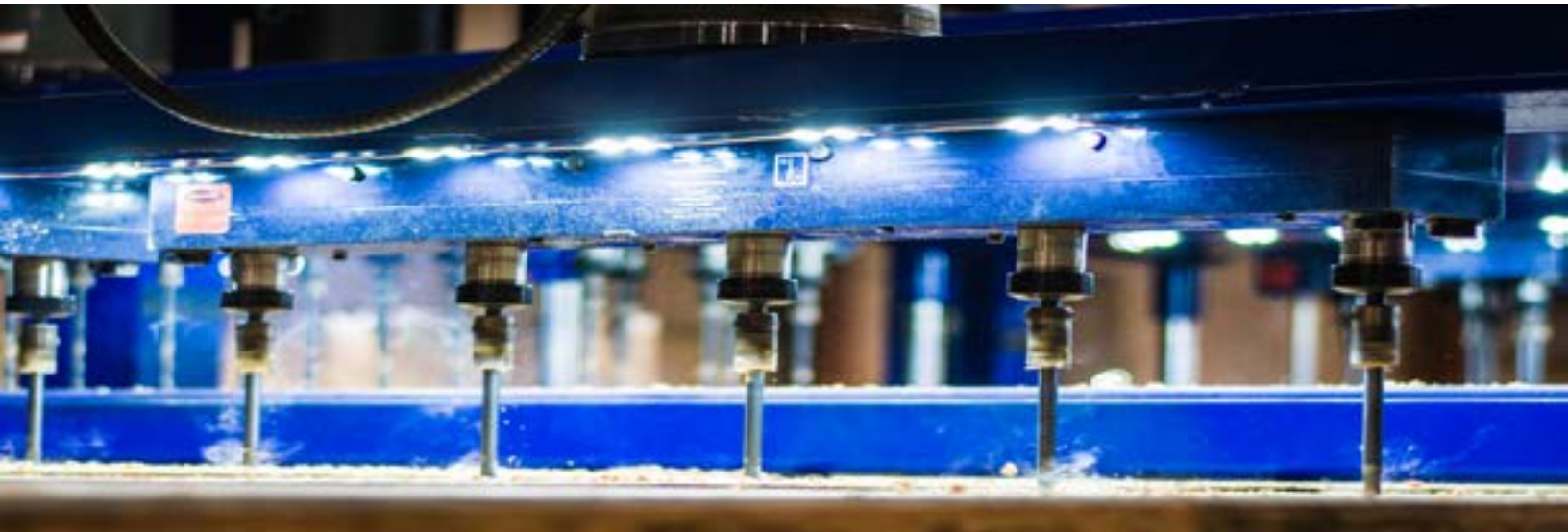


Fraser Heritage Festival



Sandspit Wild Harvest Festival

# TRIO OF PROGRAMS BUILT FOR NORTHERN B.C. BUSINESS



**DECEMBER 2018** Northern Development Initiative Trust has the practical and tangible tools to help businesses in Northern B.C. develop, grow and flourish. There are a trio of programs specifically suited for resource-based businesses throughout the region: Supply Chain Connector, Competitiveness Consulting Rebate and Northern Industries Innovation Fund.

Since 2005, the Trust has provided \$4,736,342.63 in funding for 455 projects in the latter two programs, with project budgets totaling nearly \$12 million.

## **SUPPLY CHAIN CONNECTOR**

The Supply Chain Connector is a free industrial supply and service database for relevant businesses with locations in central and northern B.C. The database offers easy access to a completely searchable database of businesses in 73 per cent of the province. Businesses are given the ability to manage their online profile while providing procurement managers and economic development professionals with critical contact information. Explore the database and register your business at [supplychainconnector.ca](http://supplychainconnector.ca)

## **COMPETITIVENESS CONSULTING REBATE**

The Competitiveness Consulting Rebate aims to directly support manufacturers, innovators, processors and their suppliers to grow their business, implement world-class business practices and become more competitive in the global market. It offers a rebate of up to 50 per cent to a yearly maximum of \$30,000 for external business consulting projects that focus on increased productivity, new or incremental revenues, profitability or job creation.

This rebate encourages businesses to access customized consulting services that understand the unique situations and challenges that businesses in Northern B.C. encounter. If your company does not have a preferred consultant, the Trust can aid in identifying qualified consultants with experience in competitiveness consulting.

[www.northerndevlopment.bc.ca/business-development](http://www.northerndevlopment.bc.ca/business-development)

## **NORTHERN INDUSTRIES INNOVATION FUND**

The Northern Industries Innovation Fund provides up to \$50,000 for companies engaged in forestry, agriculture, aquaculture, mining, energy, oil and gas, manufacturing and the supply chain activities related to these sectors. Eligible expenses include consulting, consultant travel, third party research and capital costs for new technology or equipment for prototype testing for the project.

The fund supports applied research and development, new or improved products and services and testing of innovative technologies to support capital investment decisions. This program strives to support the expansion and diversification of Northern B.C.'s economy.

All these programs have continuous intakes, meaning you can apply at anytime and your application will be reviewed shortly after being received – no waiting for deadlines to pass before decisions are made!

Northern Development has a passion for growing the economy of central and northern British Columbia. Businesses of the North are leaders in creating jobs, new revenues and improving the quality of life in the region, and the Trust is dedicated to supporting their growth. The Trust combines funding with smart thinking and since 2005 has found more than 3,300 ways to say “yes” to projects that help the region thrive.

“ Northern Development is an organization whose legitimate purpose is to make well-managed companies do better... We recommend Northern Development programs to any other northern businesses that are trying to do better. ”

- Jason Oliver  
vice president of Geotech Drilling

# STRATEGIC INITIATIVES FUND

## INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS

Northern Development is accepting submissions to the Strategic Initiatives Fund until **July 31, 2019**.

**\$600,000** is available in 2019 to support a wide range of community led, strategic economic development initiatives that support economic transition and diversification and leads to long-term economic stability.

Local governments and First Nation communities are encouraged to reach Northern Development staff or visit the website for more details.

[northerndevelopment.bc.ca/strategic-initiatives-fund](http://northerndevelopment.bc.ca/strategic-initiatives-fund)



# PARTNERSHIP OFFERS FREE ONLINE BUSINESS EDUCATION

OVER 730 WEBINARS ATTENDED AT NO CHARGE TO INCREASE BUSINESS KNOWLEDGE

## SMALL BUSINESS EDUCATION

PRACTICAL SKILLS TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS.

[sbbc.co/inside-edge](http://sbbc.co/inside-edge)



SUPPLY CHAIN  
CONNECTOR.CA



Businesses that are members of Love Northern BC, the Supply Chain Connector or are associated with their local Community Futures in Northern B.C. can continue to access free webinars through a renewed partnership between Northern Development and Small Business BC.

“The Northern Development Initiative Trust services more than 70 per cent of B.C.’s geographical area, spanning communities as far apart as Lytton to Fort Nelson and Valemount to Haida Gwaii,” said Sara Clark, VP Strategic Projects for Small Business BC. “Small Business BC sees the partnership with Northern Development as a true win-win collaboration that allows both organizations to better meet the demand for business education in Northern B.C. We are delighted to continue this relationship in 2019.”

In the past year, people throughout the Trust’s region have taken advantage of free enrollment in 734 Small Business BC’s myriad of webinars. Popular webinars included *Publicity for Your Business: Traditional and New Media*, *Mastering Social Media to Grow Your Small Business*, *Trademarks, Copyright, Patents and More* and *TaxSense for Your Business*. Northern Development is pleased to continue offering this free perk to businesses as they strive to keep up with changing trends and rules while running a business.

The partnership between the Trust and Small Business BC began early in 2018 as a one-year commitment to make high-quality and relevant education available to small business owners throughout Northern B.C. With more than one third of people who opened the email with the promotional code registering for a webinar, it is evident that this resource is needed throughout Northern Development’s region and it will continue for another year.

## CHANGING THE NORTH’S REPUTATION ONE TRAIL AT A TIME

### BIKE MAG RELEASES SIX ONLINE STORIES ABOUT MOUNTAIN BIKING IN NORTHERN B.C.

**DECEMBER 2018** After riding “the best mountain biking vacation of [his] life,” rider and author Ryan Stuart penned a six-piece series about riding trails along Northern B.C.’s Yellowhead Highway. The stories were published on bikemag.com and each story was shared an average of 455 times from the website to various other platforms. Each article honestly reflects on trails Stuart rode and the people he met along the way, and each time the praises are numerous and the appreciation for the experience is genuine.

Stuart reached out to the Trust’s CEO, Joel McKay, to learn more about how the trails weaving through raw forest attract tourists and bolster the local community. As a funder of trail building from Valemount to Terrace, Northern Development has committed in nearly of \$875,000 to mountain biking initiatives throughout its region and truly values what trail building does for communities.

Read all six stories by searching “Yellowhead” on bikemag.com.

“Mountain bike trails are an amenity that helps small towns attract and retain professionals for a relatively small investment. Building trails is changing the reputation of the north.”

- Joel McKay  
CEO, Northern Development Initiative Trust



Photo credit: Dave Silver



## NEXT FUNDING INTAKE CLOSES

- **MAY 10** -  
2019

## UPCOMING DATES

**FEBRUARY 20, 2019**

Northern Development Board Meeting

**MARCH 11, 2019**

Prince George Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

**MARCH 19, 2019**

Cariboo-Chilcotin/Lillooet Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

**MARCH 22, 2019**

Northeast Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

**MARCH 29, 2019**

Northwest Regional Advisory Committee Meeting

**APRIL 24, 2019**

Northern Development Board Meeting

**JULY 31, 2019**

Strategic Initiatives Fund applications due



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