



REPORT ON THE 2007 SYMPOSIUM:
**CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY
IN THE COLUMBIA BASIN**

talk, learn, connect, listen

What was the Symposium?

The Columbia Basin Trust has held Symposiums several times in its twelve year life. The 2007 event focused on the themes of change and sustainability. The Symposium was a chance to connect with Basin residents on these themes, to come together and to talk about common issues, and to listen and to learn from each other's experiences working both within and outside of the region.

An important role of the Columbia Basin Trust is bringing residents together at events like the Symposium, helping the region work toward solutions to shared challenges, celebrate our accomplishments and create a legacy of social, economic and environmental well-being for all. In the months after the Symposium, the Columbia Basin Trust will play different roles in responding to the issues that were discussed – by sharing information on affordable housing strategies, by preparing for climate change impacts, and by helping communities plan for change, to name a few. The dialogue on these issues, and many others, began at the Symposium, and these conversations must continue as we begin to take action together.

What is this report?

This report provides a summary of the Symposium, held in Castlegar on October 19-21, 2007. The event included a one and a half day conference at Selkirk College, an evening concert at the Brilliant Cultural Center (A Celebration of Sound – Basin Culture in Song & Voice), and a morning tour of the Columbia Basin Trust and Columbia Power Corporation power projects. For more information, including access to presentations by many of the speakers, visit www.cbt.org/2007Symposium.

Who attended the Symposium?

There were almost 300 participants at the conference portion of the Symposium. They came from all across the Basin, with the majority from the West Kootenay area, which was closer to the venue. More than 80 did make the journey from beyond the immediate area.

Many of the participants were active members of their communities. There were elected municipal and regional officials on hand, as well as MLAs and a Member of Parliament. Other participants play leadership roles in the civil service, health, social, environmental, conservation, economic development and business sectors. In addition there were many Basin residents on hand who attended without a specific affiliation.

An Information Fair, where CBT and other organizations had the opportunity to display information, was open throughout the conference.

On Saturday evening about 800 people jammed the Brilliant Cultural Center for a wonderful and eclectic evening of music from Basin artists. Eighty people braved a chilly Sunday morning to step aboard the buses and head off to the power projects tour.

WHAT WAS SAID

"This is a great way for CBT to facilitate improvements in the Basin."

"There is more appetite in the Basin to fix or improve things than I originally thought."

Friday Evening

Garry Merkel, Chair of the CBT Board, welcomed everyone and pointed out how much has taken place since the dream of the CBT first arose. He noted that along with managing investments and providing funds, the CBT has a role in bringing people together around important issues.

The Columbia River Treaty

This session shined a light on the past, the present and future of the Columbia River Treaty. Lloyd and Ruth Sharpe spoke eloquently, and with emotion, of their personal experience and losses, due to the flooding that resulted from the Treaty dams. Kindy Gosal, CBT Water Initiatives Manager, provided a brief history of the Treaty and expanded on reasons why it's important for Columbia Basin residents to pay attention to water issues and to the upcoming Treaty negotiations. MLA for East Kootenay, Bill Bennett, spoke of the role of the Province and made the well-received announcement that the Columbia Basin Trust is part of the provincial government steering committee reviewing the Columbia River Treaty.

Keynote Speaker: *The Honourable Mike Harcourt, Former Premier of British Columbia*

Bill Bennett, MLA for East Kootenay introduced former Premier Harcourt. In addition to warmly welcoming Mr. Harcourt, he noted that this is an important time in the Columbia Basin with many challenges related to growth and change in the region and also many opportunities for employment and strong communities.

Mike Harcourt, former Premier of British Columbia, Vancouver Mayor, and spinal cord injury survivor, was the Symposium's keynote speaker on Friday evening. At the Symposium, Mr. Harcourt shared a variety of perspectives on sustainability issues, starting first with anecdotes and a history lesson related to the founding of the CBT itself. Few delegates will forget his impeccable imitation of MLA Corky Evans' animated efforts to advocate for CBT in the 1990s with government representatives.

Mr. Harcourt then presented an overview of the sustainability initiatives undertaken by the Province over the past few decades, emphasizing the importance of a strategic and empowered approach to planning processes, and helping delegates understand the far-reaching impact of past planning efforts. Moving to a national level of focus, Mr. Harcourt shared recommendations he provided to Prime Minister Stephen Harper in From Restless Communities to Resilient Places, the final report of the External Advisory Committee on Cities and Communities. He finished his talk using the report's four dimensions of sustainability – economic, environment, social and cultural – to share stories from communities across Canada where focused sustainability planning is showing results.

For more information, please see: http://www.infrastructure.gc.ca/eaccc-ccevc/rep-rap/index_e.shtml

Saturday

Plenary Speaker: Dr. Laurence Moss, International Amenity Migration Centre

Raised in western Canada, Dr. Moss has since lived and worked all over Pacific Asia, western North America, and Central Europe. In his professional work Dr. Moss has focused on regional and local change and sustainable development. During the past 15 years he has targeted cultural and environmental sustainability issues in mountain regions, particularly the effects of amenity migration, tourism and related global forces.

Dr. Moss began by sharing a definition of amenity migration: "Movement of people to places, permanently or part time, principally because of the actual or perceived higher environmental quality and cultural differentiation of the destination". He then shared details on motivators and facilitators, using examples from the "third coast" (the US Rocky Mountain corridor), seen by many as a pre-cursor to shifts starting to impact upon the Columbia Basin. His talk concluded with lessons learned from communities that have failed to plan for amenity migration impacts, and strategies from around the world that can be successfully employed to maintain sustainability of communities in the face of this unstoppable trend.

WHAT WAS SAID

"Now I have a better understanding of 'amenity migration' and its potential effects on the Basin."

For more information, please see: www.amenitymigration.org & www.banffcentre.ca/mountainculture/mtnconferences/am/

Plenary Speaker: Dr. Ray D. Bollman - Research Economist, Statistics Canada

Dr. Bollman is Chief of Research and Rural Data in the Agriculture Division of Statistics Canada. As both an economist and a statistician, Dr. Bollman is an expert and entertaining speaker on a wide range of social and economic forces effecting rural populations. He is called upon regularly by community groups large and small to translate the complex world of facts and figures into language that helps communities advance their goals.

At the Symposium, Dr. Bollman focused on trends and impacts of population change. Starting with a national perspective, he briefly highlighted provincial trends, before turning our attention for the majority of his presentation to details related to population trends in the Columbia Basin. Using stimulating images and graphs, he covered issues as diverse as the predictors of the costs of babysitters, to the births and deaths balance, to the sources of international immigrants - providing us with a never before collected overview of population issues in our region.

For more information, please see: www.statscan.ca (click "analytical studies" on the left, and search for "rural")

Conversation Cafés

After lunch on Saturday, participants dropped in on one or more conversation cafés, each with a focus on an element of Columbia Basin Trust's work. Supported with fresh cookies and printed information in each room, CBT Board members, staff and volunteers hosted conversations grouped by:

- **Board and CEO**
- **Investment Program**
- **Water Initiatives**
- **Delivery of Benefits**
- **Youth Initiatives**
- **State of the Basin Project**

WHAT WAS SAID

"The café was an excellent opportunity to share partnership ideas with the youth coordinator."

"I went to the investments café and would like more of this on a larger scale. It's impressive info for all of us as Basin stakeholders."

Breakout Sessions

Five workshops were presented in the morning, and repeated in the afternoon, enabling participants to participate in two different breakout sessions. Each session included four panelists, chosen for their varied expertise and viewpoints on their topic. Participants were able to engage with the panelists and participate in other discussion, depending on the facilitator-led format. Every session was well attended, several with standing-room-only.

BREAK-OUT SESSION 1:

Changing Climate, Changing Basin (Facilitator – Michelle Laurie)

This session offered participants knowledge about what has happened over the last 90 years in climate change, and provided a look at what the future will hold. It also introduced community leaders who are moving forward on climate change adaptation and mitigation projects to ensure our communities, economies and infrastructure are prepared for what the future may hold. The panel presenters were:

Trevor Murdock, Associate Director, Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium

Mr. Murdock secured his Masters in Paleoclimatology from the University of Victoria. He has been with PCIC since May 1997, where he specializes in modeling scenarios for climate change impacts and adaptation. Trevor brought the audience regional climate models, methods and impacts analysis specifically focused on the Basin region, helping us understand what to expect with respect to climate change in the coming decades.

Al Dawson, Director Area F, Regional District of Central Kootenay

Mr. Dawson has lived most of his life in the Nelson area, having been self employed for most of his career. Al has been the elected representative for Electoral Area F for 19 years, where he has recently taken a leadership role in adaptive and mitigating projects related to climate change. Al briefly shared with participants the RDCK's signing-on to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Partners for Climate Change Program, a network of 151 Canadian municipal and regional governments who have committed to reducing greenhouse gases and acting on climate change. He then provided an overview of the possibilities for geothermal energy production in the region, a not so surprising "hotbed" of geological activity for those of us who are fans of bathing in local hot springs. Al also shared some of the initial work the RDCK has undertaken to look at co-generation plants for heating the Nelson Area Aquatic Centre.

Lori Daniels, Assistant Professor, UBC Department of Geography (morning session)

Dr. Daniels applies analysis of tree rings to investigate population and vegetation dynamics of temperate forests, particularly in the context of disturbance and climate variation. Her interests in conservation and natural resource management result in her work being applied in collaborative projects with NGOs, government agencies and private companies and have led her to be advising community leaders in the Basin on forest fire mitigation strategies. Lori shared an overview of historic forest fire patterns in our region. She then discussed the impact of recent fire suppression, drought and climate warming on our forests, and the potentially devastating result of these factors in terms of human and economic costs, as witnessed in the 2003 fire season. Lori finished her talk with a brief overview of the mitigating and restorative practices that can be employed to address this threat.

WHAT WAS SAID

"Good overview and I learned who to chase for further information."

"I loved the examples of communities doing it right."

Hans Schreier, Professor Emeritus, UBC Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability (afternoon session)

Dr. Schreier is one of Canada's distinguished scholars in the field of watershed management. Winner of the 2004 United Nations International Year of Fresh Water Science in Action Award, Hans has spent his career making watershed management knowledge and innovative, cost-effective applications possible in Canada and Developing Countries. In the afternoon session, Hans shared a broad range of mitigating and adapting strategies communities can employ to increase their resiliency to climate impacts on water systems. Hans' recent trip to the Alps in Europe, where communities are in many ways ahead of North America in terms of water management approaches, proved a rich addition to his presentation.

Dr. Mel Reasoner, Chairperson, West Kootenay Eco Society

Dr. Reasoner is an internationally noted climate scientist and member of the CBT's Climate Change Initiative Advisory Committee. Mel talked about the current CBT Initiative – including the background, guiding principles, objectives and application process of the program. Mel then concluded with a case study of Güssing, Austria, a community not unlike many in the Basin that is a leader in Europe on climate change adaptation and mitigation, and reaping economic development rewards as a result.

Following the panel discussion, the audience engaged in a question & answer session and discussion on a variety of topics of interest. Examples included:

- Kootenay Lake in 2020
- Bridging citizen/community involvement in climate change action
- Net impacts of alternative energy
- Biomass
- Expanding transit and transit use
- Geothermal – impact of taking heat from underground
- Alternative energy – bylaws to mandate green building practices
- Local agriculture, food security, adaptation
- Adaptation versus mitigation in CBT initiative

Breakout Session 2:

Strategies for Effective Influence over Development - Planning for Sustainability (Facilitator – Wayne Lundeberg)

This session offered some insights into how citizens can be effectively involved in community planning and highlighted innovative approaches from the field of integrative sustainable community planning. The panel presenters were:

Ione Smith, Special Projects Coordinator, Smart Growth BC

Ione brings a background in Land Resource Science and Agricultural Watershed Management to inform her work with environmental, health, business, agricultural, and community advocates to promote the creation of more livable communities across British Columbia. Ione talked about Smart Growth, community engagement in the planning process and charettes.

WHAT WAS SAID

"These were hopeful perspectives in relation to development challenges."

"I just wish the council for our community were present."

"I'm glad the topic of public engagement was raised."

Kelvin Saldern, Executive Director, Kootenay Association for Science & Technology

A resident of Rossland for over 20 years, Kelvin helped to initiate, design and continues to guide, as part of the project steering committee, the Visions-To-Action community planning process. As Executive Director of the Kootenay Association May (KAST) a regional economic development organization, Kelvin is involved with planning and development projects throughout the region. In a previous role working with SFU, North Island College and the Greater Trail Community Skills Centre he was instrumental in the successful completion of the Rossland Visions Project, which continues to influence Rossland community development. Kelvin talked about implementing the Rossland strategic sustainability plan.

Mary Storzer, Planning Systems Analyst,**Smart Planning for Communities Initiative, Ministry of Community Services**

Mary's work focuses on supporting local government sustainability planning efforts across BC, and related Provincial initiatives. This is through the Smart Planning for Communities initiative (formerly called Integrated Community Sustainability Planning). Mary provided an overview of the project, including financial and other supports available to communities interested in moving forward with 'smart planning'. Mary identified some legislative tools to promote green planning.

Cleo Corbett, Manager of Development Services/Planner, Town of Golden

Cleo Corbett is the Manager of Development Services for the Town of Golden. Before Golden, she worked in the Planning Departments in Ucluelet and Tofino. Under her mentor, Felice Mazzoni, she helped create the nationally and internationally award winning Ucluelet Official Community Plan. Golden's new Official Community Plan will soon be off the presses and the document hopes to push new limits on sustainable planning in the Basin. Cleo focuses on helping communities reap the benefits of having a tourism industry while mitigating the negative impacts of being a destination.

Cleo described the innovative way that Golden has engaged residents in contributing to the Official Community Plan. Hundreds of people, including many youth, have had their say and become involved in creating a plan that really represents the collective interests and views of the community.

Following the panel discussion, the audience engaged in a question & answer session and discussion on a variety of topics of interest. Examples included:

- The need for many Basin communities to quickly address planning issues.
- Communities need to define how they grow – and they can!
- Affordable housing is an issue that can be addressed through planning.
- In planning, there is a need to engage as broad a perspective of community members as possible using creative means.
- Help can be gotten from organizations like Smart Growth, the Ministry of Community Services, CBT and the Real Estate Foundation.
- Golden's success in engaging with many different citizens
- The use of OCPs to direct development

Breakout Session 3:

Where Have All the Workers Gone? (Facilitator – Ruth Beck)

Empty schools, the allure of Alberta, a growing service sector, boomers getting set to hit the lakes, rivers and golf courses, and a skills gap in many critical trades and professions. All these factors are alive and well in the Basin today, and are just some of the critical issues discussed in this panel presentation. The panel presenters were:

Jan Morton, Executive Director of the Greater Trail Community Skills Centre

Jan presented findings from a Basin-wide environmental scan of employers in the trades and hospitality sectors. Labour force issues include training (access and cost), managing apprenticeships, recruiting and retaining workers, housing costs, and childcare. Mobile training, student financial assistance, affordable housing and childcare, and shared labour force planning are some of the proposed solutions.

WHAT WAS SAID

"I went out of curiosity and now I feel I know more about this issue."

Wayne Peppard, President of the BC and Yukon Building and Construction Trades Council

Wayne provided a province-wide view of the construction trades and major projects, starting with turning the workshop title on its head, asking: Have all the workers gone? He noted that, in the building trades, there are plenty of workers. Issues relate to the timing of major projects so as not to compete with other large scale initiatives, and finding ways to keep workers employed in the Basin, as our skilled trades people are excellent and renowned.

Connor Stewart, General Manager, Staples in Cranbrook

Connor offered panel attendees a glimpse into the day-to-day world of recruiting and retaining workers, and motivating a work force team that spans several generations. Connor noted that the priorities of younger employees differ greatly from those of older workers. Extended health benefits mean nothing, wage rates are important. And fun is absolutely essential. At Staples, Connor finds ways to coach employees without making things "heavy". Connor has also engaged his team in community volunteer efforts that are fun and meaningful to everyone.

Paul Wiest, Project Manager, BC Skills Force Initiative

Paul and the BC Skills Force Initiative are looking into the issue of skills shortages affecting business owners in BC. Key challenges include a mismatch between needs and skills available, the need for on-the-job training, and insufficient human resources capacity particularly for small businesses. Paul notes that while many issues are common across BC, each community has its particular needs, interests and values that must help inform its strategies. To that end, Regional Skills Advisory Councils are being formed across BC to bring together people and organizations interested in brokering regional and local solutions to labour force issues.

Following the panel discussion, the audience engaged in a question and answer session and discussion on a wide variety of topics of interest, including:

- What can we do to keep youth in the community?
- What initiatives support women going into trades and technology?
- What does the high cost of housing mean for recruiting and retaining workers?
- The need for local involvement and inclusion of all perspectives in solution generation.

WHAT WAS SAID

"It was interesting, but didn't address affordable housing for the working poor – just below middle income."

"CBT should consider what role it could play in funding assessments, strategies and partnerships on affordable housing projects."

Break-Out Session 4:

I'm Ready to Work, but Where Can I Afford to Live (Facilitator – Fiona Glass)

In this breakout session, new perspectives, old myths, and innovative strategies to alleviate the challenges related to affordable housing were explored. The panel presenters were:

Tim Pringle – Executive Director, Real Estate Foundation

Tim Pringle's tenure as Executive Director of the Real Estate Foundation spans the past 19 years, making him one of the most respected figures in BC's affordable housing and land use community. Tim kicked off this breakout session by providing participants a statistical overview of the key trends impacting the Basin housing market. Starting first with the turnover and value of our housing stock, Tim pointed out how inflation in prices has greatly outpaced inflation in household incomes. He then presented data on current trends in new housing supply, and potential new sources of demand, none of which give the indication that prices are likely to come down. Finally, Tim set the stage for our next panelists, with a brief overview of the regulatory and policy possibilities available to influence the affordable housing issue.

Brian Schaal - General Manager, Copper Point Golf Club

Brian has been a member of the Canadian Professional Golfers' Association for 17 years and worked at public, resort, semi-private and private golf clubs across British Columbia. At the Symposium, Brian shared a variety of innovative Human Resource policies adopted by Copper Point to provide a quality working environment for his employees. On the Housing front, Copper Point rents homes in town for its younger employees, and covers the down payment on home purchases for its managers. Even more impressively, they are currently planning a large staff housing complex, including accommodation for singles and families, as part of a new hotel and golf course expansion project. Copper Point stands out as a true affordable housing innovator in the Basin's private sector, putting the shelter needs of its people first.

Janice Bradshaw, Executive Director, Canadian Mental Health Association of the Kootenays

Under Janice's leadership, CMHA of the Kootenays delivers a broad complement of specialized services to diverse user groups, including a range of affordable housing options. Janice began her presentation with an overview of the scale and sophistication of BC's non-profit housing sector, before moving to outline her organization's impact on this Basin, with over 175 units under management. This experience allowed Janice to highlight some of the key issues she sees in Basin communities, including housing for low to mid income working families. Janice concluded her talk with a caution for the private sector, given the historic social challenges that have arisen with the provision of non-market employee housing. As an antidote to these issues, Janice offered a prescription to these challenges, starting with leveraging the expertise of BC's non-profit housing sector.

Tim Wake - Councillor, Resort Municipality of Whistler

Tim Wake is an affordable housing consultant, Resort Municipality of Whistler Councillor, Board member of the Whistler Housing Authority, and former General Manager of the Housing Authority. After helping the audience understand the key concept of "market failure" in housing, Tim shared with us some of his learnings over the years at Whistler, which currently has over 4000 "beds" of non-market rental and "shared-equity ownership" housing under management. Tim then shared with us the highlights of a report he authored for Smart Growth BC – "Review of Best Practices in Affordable Housing". Under the headings of approaches, policies and tools, participants learned about the latest and best approaches from communities across North America, already being employed to mitigate the affordable housing crisis. For more information, please see: http://www.smartgrowth.bc.ca/Portals/0/Downloads/SGBC_Affordable_Housing_Report_2007.pdf

Following the panel discussion, the audience engaged in a question and answer session and discussion on a wide variety of topics of interest, which raised these and other points:

- Consensus that affordable housing is, and will continue to be, a serious concern for our communities.
- Recognition that each community needs to have its own definition of what “affordable” means, and what solutions fit.
- Concern that few of the many tools available to communities/municipalities to support affordable housing are being used in the Columbia Basin - tools include official community plans, zoning, bylaws, relationships with developers (public-private partnerships), local housing organizations, etc.
- Discussion of new housing coalition that has recently formed in the Cranbrook-Kimberley area.
- Acknowledgment that municipal staff and politicians at all levels tend to lack the skills and knowledge to effectively address housing – they need to be able to access resources, training etc.
- Recognition that addressing housing issues is complex and requires patience, commitment and various partners.
- Comments that often other needs should to be addressed in tandem, e.g. adequate and affordable child-care.

Break-Out Session 5:

Good Community Decision Making Requires Good Information (Facilitator – Sabrina Curtis)

All too often, important decisions are based on opinion, or worse, on small amounts of data which may be misused. In this session, presenters offered insights into how to get and analyze the information needed for rural communities and organizations to plan, make decisions, and address important issues.

Don McRae, Executive Director, BC Stats

Don McRae is the Provincial Statistician and Executive Director of BC STATS, the central statistical agency for the Province of British Columbia. Don joined the Provincial Government in 1980 and has over 25 years of applied experience in the field of statistical research and analysis. Don provided insights into the process that moves from data through to wise decisions. He then demonstrated some of the challenges of finding the right information for communities and gave an update on BC Stats and a provincial project underway that will make community information more accessible.

Mike Stolte, Executive Director, Centre for Innovative & Entrepreneurial Leadership

CIEL (www.theCIEL.com) is a Nelson, BC-based organization devoted to innovation, entrepreneurship & leadership. Mike is the co-creator of several strategic assessment tools and processes for communities, including the Business Vitality Initiative (BVI), Community Vitality Initiative (CVI) and the Communities Matrix. Over the past few years Mike has made presentations in Australia, the United States and at more than a dozen national conferences, often speaking on the theme of entrepreneurial and community vitality. Mike is currently President of the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation (CRRF). In this session Mike presented information on the tools mentioned above and gave participants a taste of how information on perceptions is valuable.

George Penfold, Rural Innovation Chair, Selkirk College

A part of George's mandate is to establish a data base, and use it to assess and make available information on key aspects of the regional economy including key drivers, strengths, weaknesses and gaps in sectors and services. George brings a professional background that includes; rural economic development, socio-economic impact assessment, community and organizational development, community planning and

WHAT WAS SAID

“It was excellent, but could have used a couple of hours more for discussion.”

“What about biological information, especially for sustainability planning?”

policy and legislation research and development. George talked about how information can be used in planning and in public policy. The bottom line: while there are certainly challenges in obtaining and using data, information and knowledge – this is still the best approach to addressing social, environmental and economic issues.

Cindy Pearce, Mountain Labyrinths Consulting, Revelstoke BC

Cindy was raised in Salmo at the southwest corner of the Basin, schooled in forest management, policy analysis and regional development at Selkirk College, Oregon State University and UBC and has worked throughout the province in her freelance business for more than 20 years. Striving to link rural community interests with up-to-date information, recent professional projects include sustainable forest management planning and certification assessment, community sustainability planning and reporting, mountain caribou recovery planning and climate change adaptation. Cindy is also working on the CBT State of the Basin project. In her presentation Cindy used examples from the community planning process in Revelstoke to demonstrate the value...and complexity, of using data for planning. She provided a snapshot of the State of the Basin project as well.

Following the panel presentation, the audience engaged in a question & answer session and discussion on a wide variety of topics of interest. Some of the key points raised include:

- People want access to information but cannot easily get it.
- There is value in both quantitative and qualitative data – we need both for a robust picture of community well-being.
- There are many challenges in presenting information and in interpretation.
- Information can be useless if the community readiness is not there or if the planning and decision-making processes do not match the community well.
- Information plays important roles in decision-making at various stages – assessing the current situation, setting priorities, deciding on actions, and evaluating success.

What the participants told us about the Symposium

Everyone who attended was given an opportunity to complete a written feedback form on the event. Perhaps the most important information gleaned from the feedback was a near-unanimous “yes” from participants when asked if they would attend a similar event in the future.

Overall, comments were positive. There were also suggestions for improvement, ranging from ideas for making a Symposium more eco-friendly (providing buses for example) to ideas for guest speakers and topics in the future.

As well, participants were asked to answer these two questions during the conference. The participant answers were posted on the walls of the Selkirk Gym (the meeting venue).

What is one thing you learned at the Symposium?

“I love being with this group of gracious, smart, active, inspiring and inspired people.”

“About specific policies regarding zoning, to assist with affordable housing.”

“That the Basin is on top of some of the best geo-thermal sources of heating.”

“That I am an amenity migrant.”

“There are lots of people with similar concerns about sustainability and who want to do more.”

“I got a so much better understanding of the CBT and its stakeholders.”

“You can’t forecast the future, but you can create it!”

“That affordable housing is an issue that can be successfully addressed.”

“That local and regional planning initiatives generally are not including the input of First Nations within the territories they are located.”

“Many communities are dealing with very similar issues and should be working together to come up with workable solutions.”

What is one action you will take?

"I will pay more attention to community planning problems in my city."

"I will talk to Kimberley city councilors and others about transit development."

"Follow up on commitments to be involved in climate change issues – to be part of the solution."

"I will form a committee to look at affordable housing."

"Reduce my carbon and water footprints."

"I'll be calling on some of the organizations I've met."

"Network! Network! Network!"

"I will take action to make my house/garden more water efficient."

"I will keep communicating with the panel from the Planning and Sustainability workshop."

"Inform our city council about opportunities to be more green, sustainable and community-oriented."

"I'm going to get involved to make change happen."