



The Coast Sustainability Trust

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\$2 MILLION IN NEW ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY FUNDS

Communities and First Nations in the Central Coast region can tap into an additional \$2,000,000 just approved by the Coast Sustainability Trust (CST). These new Community Matching Funds will be made available to support sustainable economic development projects.

The Province of British Columbia established the Coast Sustainability Trust in 2002 to mitigate any adverse impacts arising from land use decisions associated with the Land and Resource Management Plan process in the Central Coast, North Coast, and Queen Charlotte Islands.

Since then, Trustee Eric van Soeren reported that almost \$1,000,000.00 has been committed to 22 projects in the Central Coast.

In November 2003 the CST approved \$200,000 toward a \$2,202,015 project for the Bella Coola Valley Learning Society, to develop and install broadband internet access for the communities on the Central Coast.

The CST approved \$92,325 toward a \$234,650 project for the Oweekeno Nation, to fund the construction of a Traditional Cultural Arts Centre. The Oweekeno hope to use the building for training and studio space for artisans. They also hope the availability of the structure will enable skill development required for entry into the market for cultural arts.

In April 2004 the CST approved \$100,000 toward a \$455,000 project for the Kitsoo First Nation, to construct a small conference centre and 12-room accommodation facility in Klemtu.

QUOTE FROM MAYOR OR SOMEONE ELSE IN AREA.

Communities, First Nations and community based non-profit organizations are invited to submit funding proposals to the CST. General information about the Trust and guidelines for submission are available on the CST website at www.coastsustainabilitytrust.com.