

The Coast Sustainability Trust

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Sustainability funding for five North Coast ventures

B.C.'s North Coast is receiving \$615,703 from the Coast Sustainability Trust to support economic development projects in the region, trustee Eric van Soeren announced today.

"The trust's North Coast Regional Steering Committee members have been working hard to determine the most worthwhile projects," said van Soeren. "Their task is to decide which of the initiatives seem most likely to provide sustainable long-term economic development in the communities of the North Coast."

The five projects approved for funding include a plan by the Kitselas First Nation to reestablish elements of a traditional village in Kitselas Canyon. The trust has approved \$100,000 towards the \$1-million dollar development.

The Port Edward Historical Society will receive \$100,000 for a construction project to allow boat and float plane access to the society's Historic Fishing Village. This project will enhance the Village as a National Historic Site.

The Prince Rupert Airport Authority will get \$100,000 as part of a \$445,000 project to replace its float plane dock. The new facility will be capable of handling 30% growth over the next three years.

The Tsimshian Stewardship Committee and the Turning Point Initiative Society have been awarded \$289,036 towards a \$1.7 million project to expand their shellfish aquaculture programs.

An additional \$26,667 will help the Haisla Fisheries Commission with a \$406,672 project to bring their shellfish aquaculture pilot program into the industrial production stage.

"We are committed to enhancing the sustainability and growth of local economies," said George Abbott, Minister of Sustainable Resource Management. "Through the funds provided by the Coast Sustainability Trust, local residents and their communities will see the benefits from these projects."

Those interested in submitting proposals are invited to go to the Coast Sustainability Trust website at www.coastsustainabilitytrust.com and follow the links to the Community Guidelines.