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# COLUMBIA River Treaty



# Columbia River Treaty Local Governments' Committee

September 2014  
CBRAC Inaugural Meeting

With support from Columbia Basin Trust

# Our Role

1. Ensure Basin residents and local elected officials:
  - increase their knowledge on the Columbia River Treaty (CRT)
  - have opportunities to be actively engaged on CRT issues
2. Build understanding of regional views and values among Provincial and Federal agencies
3. Advocate for specific regional interests
4. Work collaboratively with local MLAs and MPs



See our full Terms of Reference on the AKBLG website

# Committee Members

AKBLG	Deb Kozak, Nelson Councilor - CHAIR
RDEK	Wayne Stetski, Mayor of Cranbrook Mike Sosnowski, Area A Director
RDCK	Karen Hamling, Mayor of Nakusp – VICE CHAIR Hans Cunningham, Area G Director
RDKB	Linda Worley, Area B Director Marguerite Rotvold, Midway Councilor
CSRD	Ron Oszust, Golden Councilor Loni Parker, Area B Director
Valemount	Andru McCracken, Mayor of Valemount

\* CBRAC members

# Listening, Learning & Seeking Advice

- 3 rounds of community meetings and a technical conference in Castlegar with the Provincial CRT Review Team
- 4 workshops with technical and political advisors and a meeting with Ktunaxa Nation
- 2 US conferences
- 9 meetings with US local government reps

**1005 Basin residents & advisors at 29 events & 34 meetings**

# Recommendations to Government

- October 2013 - Draft recommendations available for public input
- December 2013 - Input incorporated in recommendations sent to government
- Summary of Feedback on Committee webpage

The screenshot shows the 'Columbia River Treaty: Recommendations' webpage. At the top, it features the 'COLUMBIA River Treaty LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' COMMITTEE' logo. The main heading is 'Columbia River Treaty: Recommendations December 2013'. The page contains several paragraphs of text, including a summary of the committee's role and plans, contact information for the committee chair and executive director, and a 'Background' section detailing the treaty's history and the committee's mission. A 'LEARN MORE AT' link is provided at the bottom.

**COLUMBIA River Treaty LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' COMMITTEE**

## Columbia River Treaty: Recommendations

December 2013

The BC Columbia River Treaty Local Governments' Committee (the Committee) has prepared these Recommendations in response to the Columbia River Treaty-related interests and issues raised by Columbia River Basin residents in Canada. These Recommendations are based on currently-available information. They have been submitted to the provincial and federal governments for incorporation into current decisions regarding the future of the Columbia River Treaty (CRT).

The Committee plans to monitor the BC, Canadian and U.S. CRT-related processes and be directly involved when appropriate. As new information becomes available, the Committee will review this information, seek input from Basin residents, and submit further recommendations to the provincial and federal governments, if needed.

The CRT Local Governments' Committee will post its recommendations and other documents at [www.klwg.ca/content/columbia-river-treaty](http://www.klwg.ca/content/columbia-river-treaty).

For more information contact the Committee Chair, Deb Kozak ([dkozak@nelson.ca](mailto:dkozak@nelson.ca) 250 352-9383) or the Executive Director, Cindy Pearce ([cindy.pearce@keluz.net](mailto:cindy.pearce@keluz.net) 250 837-3966).

### Background

The Columbia River Treaty (Treaty) was ratified by Canada and the United States (the U.S.) in 1964, resulting in the construction of three dams in Canada—Mica Dam north of Revelstoke; Hugh Keenleyside Dam near Castlegar; and Duncan Dam north of Kaslo—and Libby Dam near Libby, Montana. Since 1964 the Treaty has provided benefits for the Pacific Northwest region in the U.S. and in BC. However, here in the Canadian portion of the Columbia River Basin (the Basin)—the area that was most impacted by the Treaty—substantial sacrifices were made by residents during the creation of the dams and reservoirs, and impacts continue as a result of hydro operations.

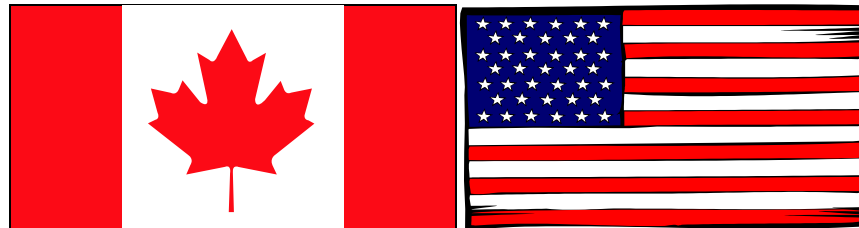
Beginning in 2024, either the U.S. or Canada can terminate substantial portions of the Treaty, with at least 10 years' prior notice. Canada—via the BC Provincial Government—and the U.S. are both conducting reviews to consider whether to continue, amend or terminate the Treaty.

Local governments within the Basin have formed the BC Columbia River Treaty Local Governments' Committee (the Committee) to actively and meaningfully engage in decisions around the future of the Treaty. Through the Committee, with support from Columbia Basin Trust (CBT), Basin local governments are working together to seek refinements to the Treaty and to address existing domestic issues to improve the quality of life for Basin residents.

LEARN MORE AT: [www.klwg.ca/content/columbia-river-treaty](http://www.klwg.ca/content/columbia-river-treaty)

# Recommendations to Government

**A. International Treaty** – Issues that can be solved by changes to the Treaty



**B. Domestic** – Issues we can solve in BC



## B. Domestic Issues

***We invite the Province, BC Hydro, CBT and others to work together with us to address these issues:***

1. Mitigate and/or compensate for negative impacts in the BC Basin
2. Community economic development
3. Meaningful ongoing engagement of Basin residents in hydro operations decisions



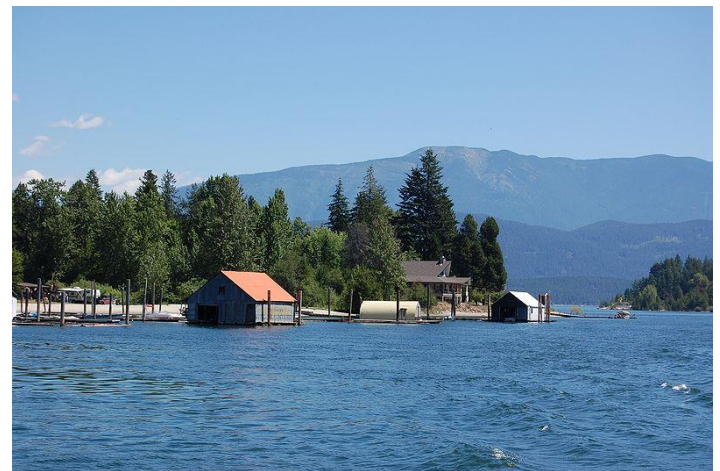
*Nakusp waterfront during spring on Arrow Lakes Reservoir*

## B. Domestic Issues (continued)

4. East Kootenay-Koocanusa fish and wildlife restoration and conservation program funding
5. Water management process for the Kootenay River
6. Full implementation of the Columbia and Duncan Water Use Plans
7. Columbia Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program



*Duncan Dam*



*Kootenay Lake*



# 2014/15 LGC Workplan



- Continue Committee under AKBLG with support from CBT; in Feb. 2015 brief new members
- Monitor B.C., Canadian and U.S. Treaty activities to engage when appropriate
- Continue communicating with Basin residents, First Nations and US local governments
- Continue Basin education via CBT

# September 16, 2014

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Treaty

- **Encourage Basin residents and communities to recognize this important anniversary**

**September 2014**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

# Resources

Key Interests of Canadian Columbia Basin  
Residents

Summary of Dam and Reservoir Issues

***Committee webpage:***

**[www.akblg.ca/content/columbia-river-treaty/](http://www.akblg.ca/content/columbia-river-treaty/)**



## ***Photo Credits – With Thanks***

BC Hydro

Nicole Tremblay

Ron Oszust

David Gluns

Brian Sperling

Laura Keil

Korie Marshall

## ***Questions?***



# Columbia River ReConnect Mural



Trail Memorial Centre - Trail, B.C.

