

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 25, 2007

**COLUMBIA RIVER EDUCATION
WORKSHOP BEING HELD IN CRANBROOK**

(Cranbrook) - The Canadian Columbia River Forum (CCRF) invites you to attend a one-day workshop on water and watershed issues in the Canadian Columbia River Basin. This workshop is being held Wednesday May 30, 2007 from 8:30am – 4:30pm at the Canadian Museum of Rail Travel in Cranbrook. **The deadline to register is May 15, 2007.** This workshop is free of charge.

This public workshop is designed to provide information and stimulate discussion. It will continue the development of a collaborative, strategic relationship amongst Canadian organizations and Basin residents to understand Columbia River issues.

Workshop topics include:

- How the Columbia River system is managed. An overview of the Columbia River Treaty and other major management agreements.
- Major emerging water management issues in the Canadian Columbia River System.
- Major water management issues in the US portion of the Columbia River System and how these issues may affect Canadians.
- Climate Change in the Columbia Basin – The impact of climate change on the water resources of the Columbia Basin. How Climate Change might impact the management of water between Canada and the US in the future.

“This workshop brings together stakeholders from regional, provincial, federal and First Nations governments, and Basin residents to share information and gain a collective understanding on water and watershed issues in the Canadian Columbia River Basin,” says Marilyn Christensen, Forum Coordinator. “We know the workshops will be interesting and relevant to Basin residents and we encourage you to register for this event.”

The Columbia River Basin in Canada has economic, environmental, cultural and social importance to all Canadians. There are existing issues in the Basin that need collective attention now, and a growing list of new and emerging issues.

The 16 agencies involved in the CCRF, inviting you to join this workshop are:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ BC Hydro▪ BC Ministry of Environment▪ BC Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources▪ Canadian Columbia River Inter-tribal Fisheries Commission▪ Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada▪ Columbia Basin Trust▪ Environment Canada▪ Ktunaxa Nation Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Natural Resources Canada▪ Okanagan Nation Alliance▪ Shuswap Nation Tribal Council▪ Regional District of East Kootenay▪ Regional District of Kootenay Boundary▪ Regional District of Central Kootenay▪ Columbia Shuswap Regional District▪ Regional District of Fraser Fort George
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Under a recently signed memorandum of understanding, these 16 agencies have agreed to work on the following four main objectives:

- Enhance the working relationship among federal, provincial, First Nation and regional organizations.
- Aid governments (including First Nations) in sharing perspectives and developing a common understanding and set of values for dealing with trans-boundary issues.
- Develop mechanisms to maintain this common understanding and to help agencies stay abreast of and active in relevant ongoing and emerging trans-boundary issues.
- Identify tangible initiatives that warrant collaborative attention.

For more information on the work of the CCRF visit, [Canadian Columbia River Forum background paper](#) and the [Memorandum of Understanding](#).

To register for the free workshop being held in Cranbrook please contact Canadian Columbia River Forum Coordinator Marilyn Christensen at 1-250-278-0025, or macabc@shaw.ca.