

Planning for Community Transition

CIT Partners

CIT partners are non-profit organizations, government agencies, and institutions with mandates related to planning for social, economic and environmental sustainability, and real estate and land use issues.

BC Non-Profit Housing Association	Northwest Corridor Development Corporation
BC Real Estate Association	North Central Municipal Association
BC Society of Landscape Architects	Okanagan Mainline Association
BC Treaty Commission	Planning Institute of British Columbia
BC Wilderness Tourism Association	Real Estate Foundation of BC
BC Water and Waste Association	Real Estate Institute of BC
Chinook Institute for Community Stewardship	SFU Centre for Sustainable Community Development
Columbia Basin Trust	SFU City Program
Community Futures Development Association of BC	Smart Growth BC
Community Transition, Ministry of Community Services	South Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Program
East Kootenay Conservation Program	UBC School of Community & Regional Planning
Fisheries & Oceans Canada, Habitat Branch	University of Northern BC
Grasslands Conservation Council of BC	UVic Faculty of Law, Environmental Law Clinic
Land Trust Alliance of BC	

Funding

Some CIT partners may be able to help fund a project. Funding partners, such as the Real Estate Foundation of BC (REF), are looking for proposals that can become successful grant applications. Proposed projects must meet the individual funder's criteria, as well as exhibit a strong compatibility between the funder's and CIT's mission and goals.

To find out about the REF funding application process, visit the REF website at www.realestatefoundation.com and review "How to Apply". Please note that there is a special application form for CIT projects.

For more information

Visit the CIT website for more information about CIT and its projects:
www.communitytransition.org.

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Communities in transition
Real Estate Foundation of BC



Lake Windermere, BC

Communities in Transition: A Partnership Initiative for Non-Metropolitan Communities

What will your community look like in 25 or 50 years? Many rural communities in BC are changing at a rate they find alarming. Some are experiencing decline of traditional industries, erosion of economic opportunities, and loss of jobs. Others are facing a very different set of challenges because of skyrocketing recreation and resort real estate markets, and changes that accompany new industries moving into the area. Often, the rapid rate of development and economic growth taxes a community's ability to plan effectively for land use and conservation. These communities are concerned about what their area will look like in 25 or even 50 years. They have questions about their sustainability.

What is your community's long-term future? In recent years, rural communities facing land use and conservation planning issues have approached the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia (REF) for grants to conduct research and education projects that will help them address the changes that are occurring in their area. The Foundation has taken an active role in working with such cases, establishing the Communities in Transition (CIT) program in 2004. Through CIT, a diversity of organizations is partnering to share expertise and information, and collaborate on research and education initiatives that will help non-metropolitan communities plan for transition.

CIT's Mission & Goals

CIT's mission is to support values based planning processes that balance social, environmental, economic and governance concerns to address regional and local land use and conservation issues in non-metropolitan areas of BC. The CIT has a ten member Advisory Group formed from founding partners. The following goals are intended to help the partners carry out the CIT mission.

Goal #1. Help communities plan for transition. CIT strives to help communities plan for transition and address impacts arising from specific and cumulative events or the erosion of traditional economies and social structure. CIT enables research, professional and public education services, and work on public policy concerns.

Goal #2. Encourage and support partnerships and collaboration. CIT brings together many agencies and practitioners whose responsibilities and professions or vocations play a role in shaping the use and conservation of land for local communities and their regions.

Goal #3. Share achievements, expertise and implementation strategies. CIT shares the achievements (in the form of practical services), expertise and implementation strategies of its partners through a web-based resource library and applied educational services.

CIT Projects

CIT partners agree to share the expertise they acquire through projects and produce resource information, research, analyses, and educational services. CIT partners also engage with other organizations, as collaborators, to carry out projects. Funding for CIT projects can come from a variety of sources including the Real Estate Foundation. Some of the organizations that have received REF funding for CIT projects include:

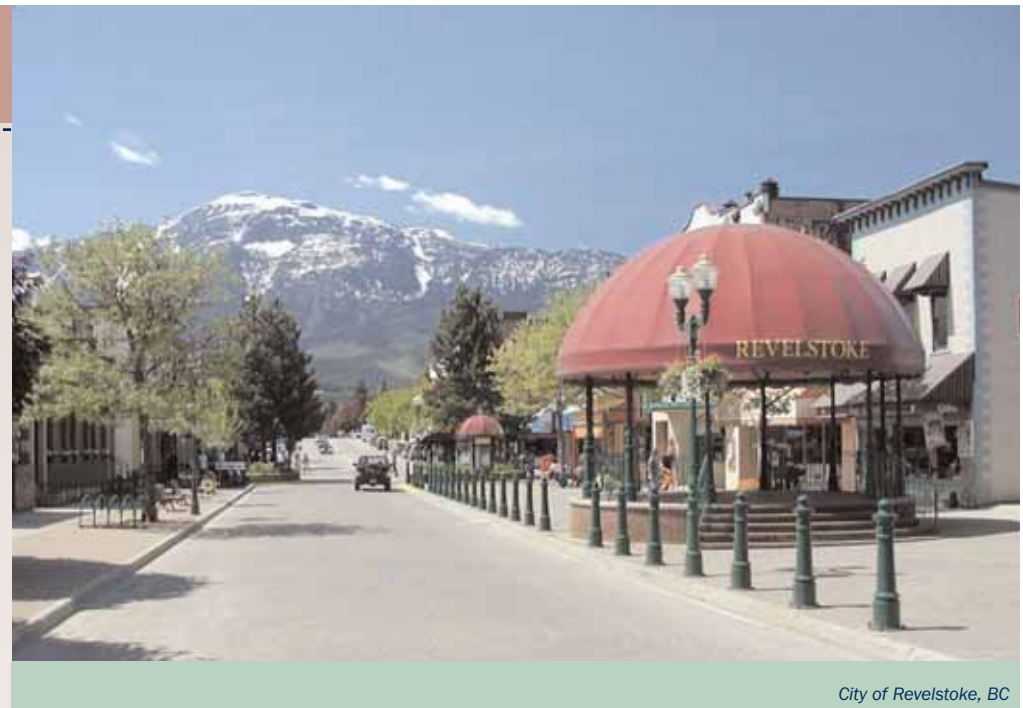
Oliver & District Community Economic Development Society to develop an agricultural area plan and a designated agricultural resort area for Oliver.

BC Treaty Commission for a pilot project on community-based intergovernmental planning, to be conducted with the Sliammon First Nation and Powell River local governments.

Wildsight for research and education associated with the Healthy Water, Healthy Communities - Lake Windermere project in the East Kootenay.

City of Revelstoke for development of a retail strategy, which will take into account future development at the proposed Mount Mackenzie Resort, and the City's downtown core.

Urban Futures Institute in partnership with the REF, to research the impacts of recreation and resort property market growth in the Columbia Valley.



City of Revelstoke, BC



CIT projects are located across the province.

Day to day, we don't notice ourselves age or our children grow. Yet over time, such changes are profound. This is also true of our communities. While change just happens, successful transition is planned and strategically executed.

We hope the cumulative expertise of the CIT partnerships -- and the services it provides -- will assist BC's non-metropolitan communities to create clear visions for their future, make appropriate land use decisions, and implement positive transition plans to achieve and maintain greater overall well being.