

Nelson, BC, October 6, 2010

Nelson To Host Its 2nd Annual Green Building Tour

On Sunday, October 17th, 2009, the public and the building industry will have the opportunity to learn why green buildings are the future. Following on the great success of last year's tour, the local branch of the Cascadia Green Building Council is proud to offer Nelson's 2nd Annual Green Building Tour. This event is supported through funding from the Kootenay Association for Science and Technology and the Industrial Research Assistance Program of Natural Resources Canada.

"Green is the future of building," says Robin Urquhart, Coordinator for the Kootenay/Rockies Leaf and Manager at The Building Tree. In addition, to their environmental benefits, Urquhart points out that, "buildings employing green principles are often cost saving and offer a higher return on investment, not to mention they're healthier places in which to live."

Buildings in Canada currently consume 12% of potable water and 33% of energy produced, and they generate over a quarter of all landfill waste and over a third of all greenhouse gas emissions. Climate change cannot be tackled if we do not increase focus on building structures that use less energy, reduce strain on water resources and reduce waste.

Cascadia's annual tour of green buildings will open the doors to the inner workings of Nelson's high performance green homes and buildings. The public will learn about the costs and benefits of building and retrofitting green on both a small and large scale. They will also learn how innovative features and systems work and how they can be easily incorporated into homes and businesses.

Funding provided through the Kootenay Association for Science and Technology has made this event possible. In addition to offering sustainable building ideas to the community, the tour will also be an opportunity to highlight local businesses that are doing their part to develop and promote the green building industry in the Kootenays.

"The Kootenays is garnering a lot of interest as a green building centre." says Kootenay/Rockies chair, Paula Kiss. "It's a good idea to showcase what we have, both in terms of creating capacity in our community, and attracting investment in our local industries."

Tours of the green buildings and homes kick off at 11:00am on Sunday, October 17 and run until 4:00pm. Participants can register by calling 250 352-7933, emailing robin@cascadiagbc.org or visiting The Building Tree at 621 Herridge Ln., Nelson. General admission is \$10, students 5\$, children and Cascadian members are free.

Proceeds from the tour will support green building events held by the Kootenay/Rockies Leaf of the Cascadia Region Green Building Council.

For more information on the tours, or to purchase tickets, please go to:
<http://www.cascadiagbc.org/education/green-skyline-nelson>

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The Cascadia Region Green Building Council is a registered non-profit society and is the leading green building organization in the Pacific Northwest. As a cross-border advocacy organization we bring a unique perspective to green building by taking a bioregional approach to problem solving. We endeavor to make significant change out of all proportion to our size, by acting as a lever for organizations in both the private and public sectors through creative programs, events and tools.

For more information about Cascadia Region Green Building Council and its other events and programs, please visit www.cascadiagbc.org.

For further information, please contact:
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