

AUGUST  
1995

# INFORMATION SHEET NO. 4

## Accessing Employment Opportunities

**T**he proposed power projects at the Keenleyside, Waneta and Brilliant dams are expected to generate more than 4,400 direct person-years of employment over a period of ten years. This in turn will generate close to 300 indirect jobs in supply and service industries, and will help to create long-term and sustainable economic development for the region.

**T**he projects will be built under the terms of a collective labour agreement between Columbia Hydro Constructors (CHC) and the Allied Hydro Council of British Columbia (AHC). The terms of this agreement reflect values and priorities that are important to the Columbia-Kootenay region; specifically, environmental stewardship, efficiency, social and economic development, equity employment and training opportunities.

**A**ccess for all qualified workers and contractors, both union and non-union, is protected under the agreement. All contractors will be permitted to bid and local companies will be allowed to service the site. Previous restrictions that only union companies may deliver to the site have been removed.

**Q**ualified local residents within 100 kilometres will enjoy employment preference, and a broader preference will be shown to residents of the Columbia Basin as a whole. Equity employment initiatives will help to improve access for First Nations people, women in non-traditional job classifications, visible minorities and people with disabilities.

*(over)*

# Employment Opportunities *continued*

**T**o ensure that local residents will enjoy the opportunity to compete for employment, access to training and apprenticeship programs will be made available. Bridging and Outreach programs will help the disadvantaged share in the benefits that the projects will bring to the region.

**A**s soon as the necessary regulatory approvals have been secured, and prior to the start of construction, CHC will establish an office in Castlegar to coordinate project employment. This office will provide information about the employment and training opportunities that will be available on the Columbia-Kootenay region power projects.

***For more information, please contact:***

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