

# THE BOARD - 2025

















### NEW DIRECTORS



Jared Teneese CAMAL



Milutin Milo Milutinovic Heritage Inn/Cranbrook Chamber



Landon Elliot Golden Life

### THE BOARD - 2025

- Heidi Romich Vice Chair (The Heid Out and Fisher Peak Brewing)
- Crystal Scott Treasurer (Prestige Rocky Mountain Resort)
- Tristen Chernove (Canadian Rockies International Airport)
- Lynn McCreadie (Sandman Hotels)
- Jamie Curiston (Wildstone Golf Cours)
- Breanne Luiewen (The Cranbrook Bucks)
- Landon Elliot GoldenLife
- Jared Tenesse (Cranbrook Archives Museum and Landmark Society)
- Milutin Milo Milutinovic -Appointed Director Cranbrook Chamber of Commerce
- Ron Popoff Appointed Director -The City of Cranbrook
- Janice Alpine Appointed Director Ktunaxa Nation
- Stephanie Wells Appointed Director College of the Rockies

### THETEAM



Kristy Jahn-Smith Executive Director

Sven Sloeserwij Marketing Coordinator Sandeep Saini Community Manager Holly Gauvin Administrative Assistant

### TOURISM ECONOMIC IMPACT AT A GLANCE



**2023 ANNUAL REVENUE** 

\$22.1 Billion

Source: BC Stats



**EXPORT REVENUE** 

in 2023

Source: BC Stats



in real GDP growth for 2023 compared to 2022

Source: BC Stats

**JOBS IN 2023** 

125,700



+7.9%

increase over 2022

Source: BC Stats



25MYVR passengers in 2023

Source: YVR



occupancy rate in BC hotels in 2024

Source: STR Data Tabulations



\$16.3 B

total in restaurant receipts in 2023

Source: Statistics Canada



international overnight

visits in 2023

Source: Statistics Canada

### A POWERHOUSE INDUSTRY

2023 GDP BY PRIMARY RESOURCE INDUSTRY

### TOURISM



**FORESTRY** 



AGRICULTURE & FISH



OIL & GAS

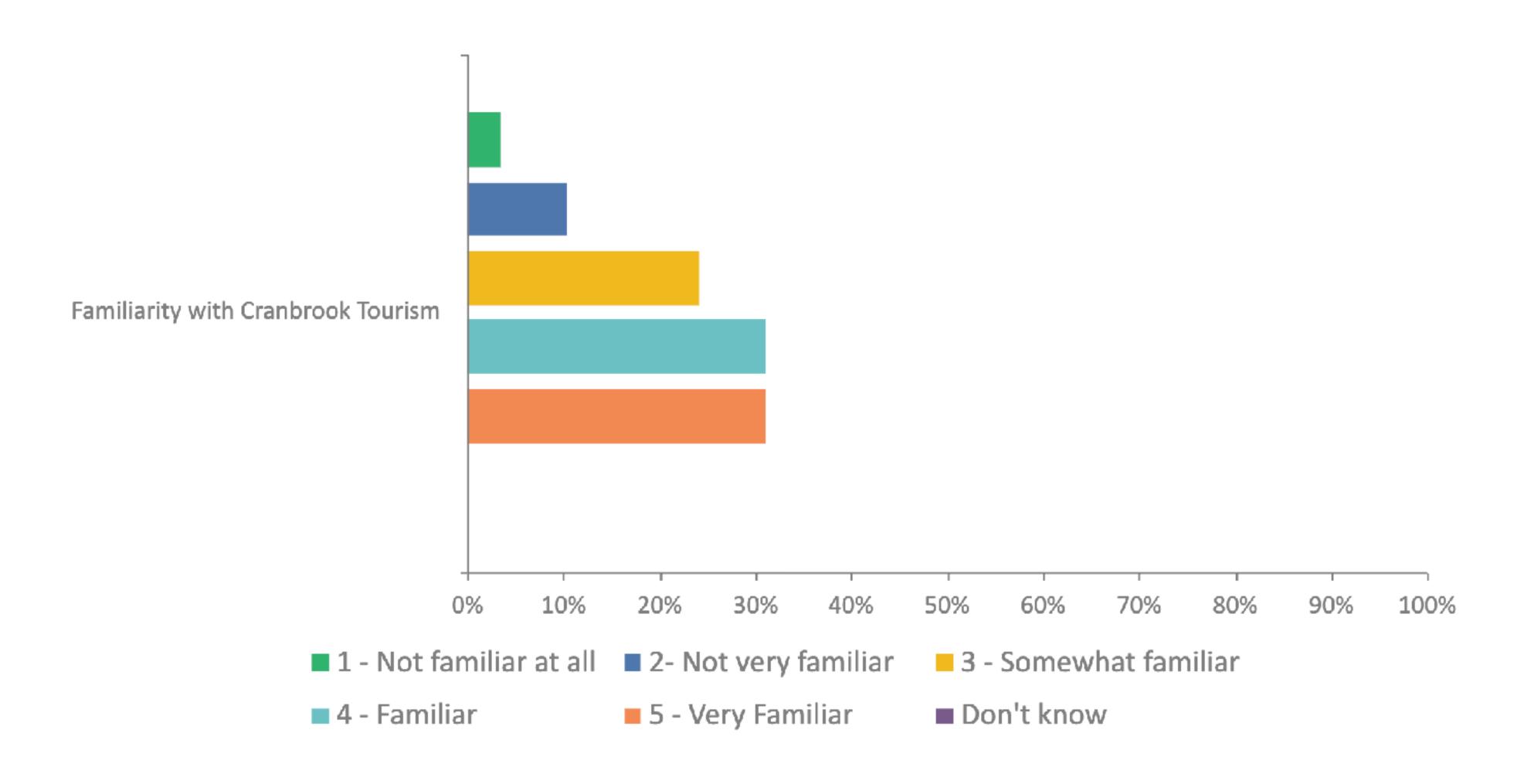


MINING (except oil & gas)

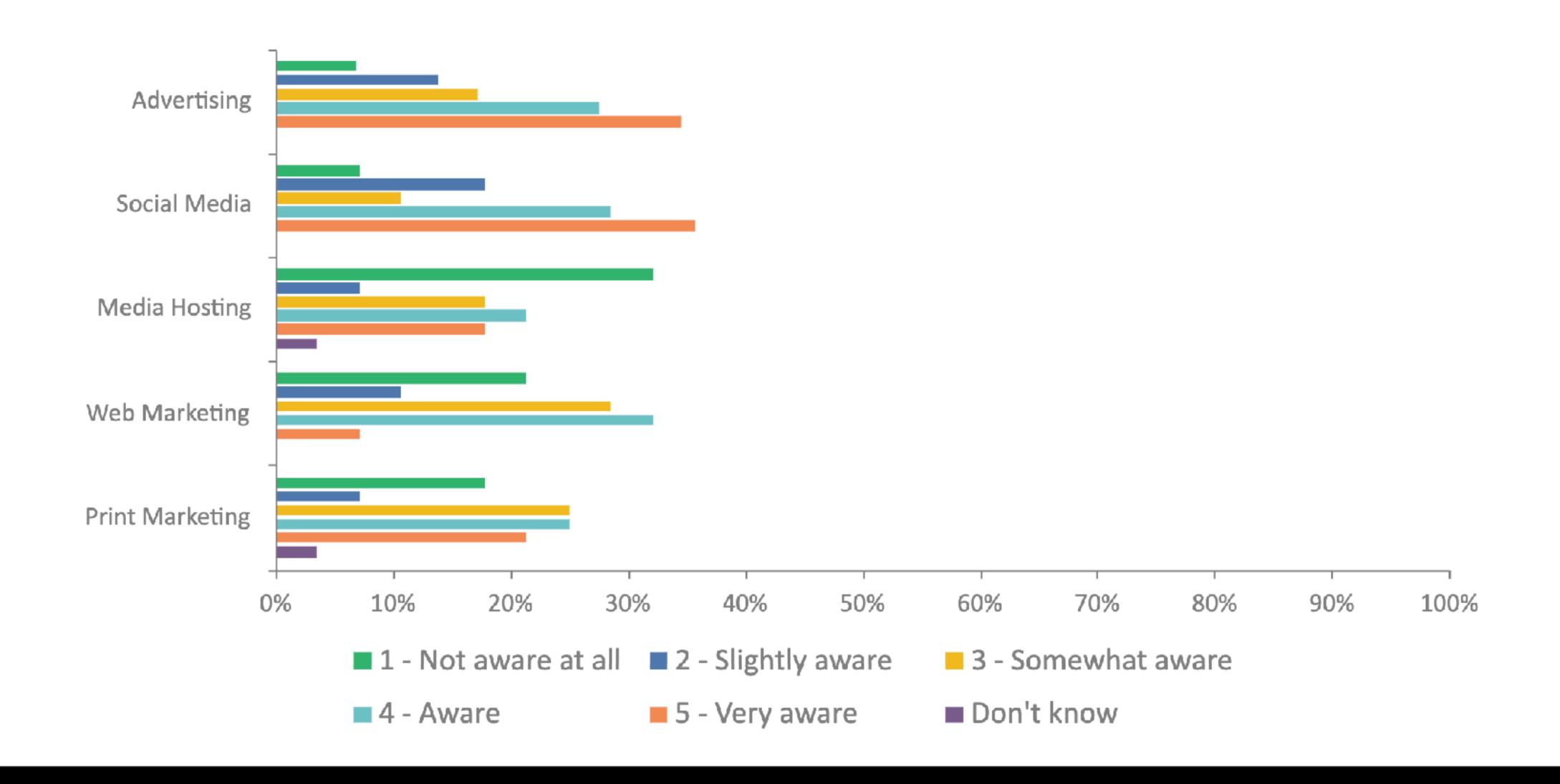




Q1: Overall, how familiar is your organization with the services and programs offered by Cranbrook Tourism? Please rate on a scale of 1 - Not familiar at all and 5 - Very familiar.



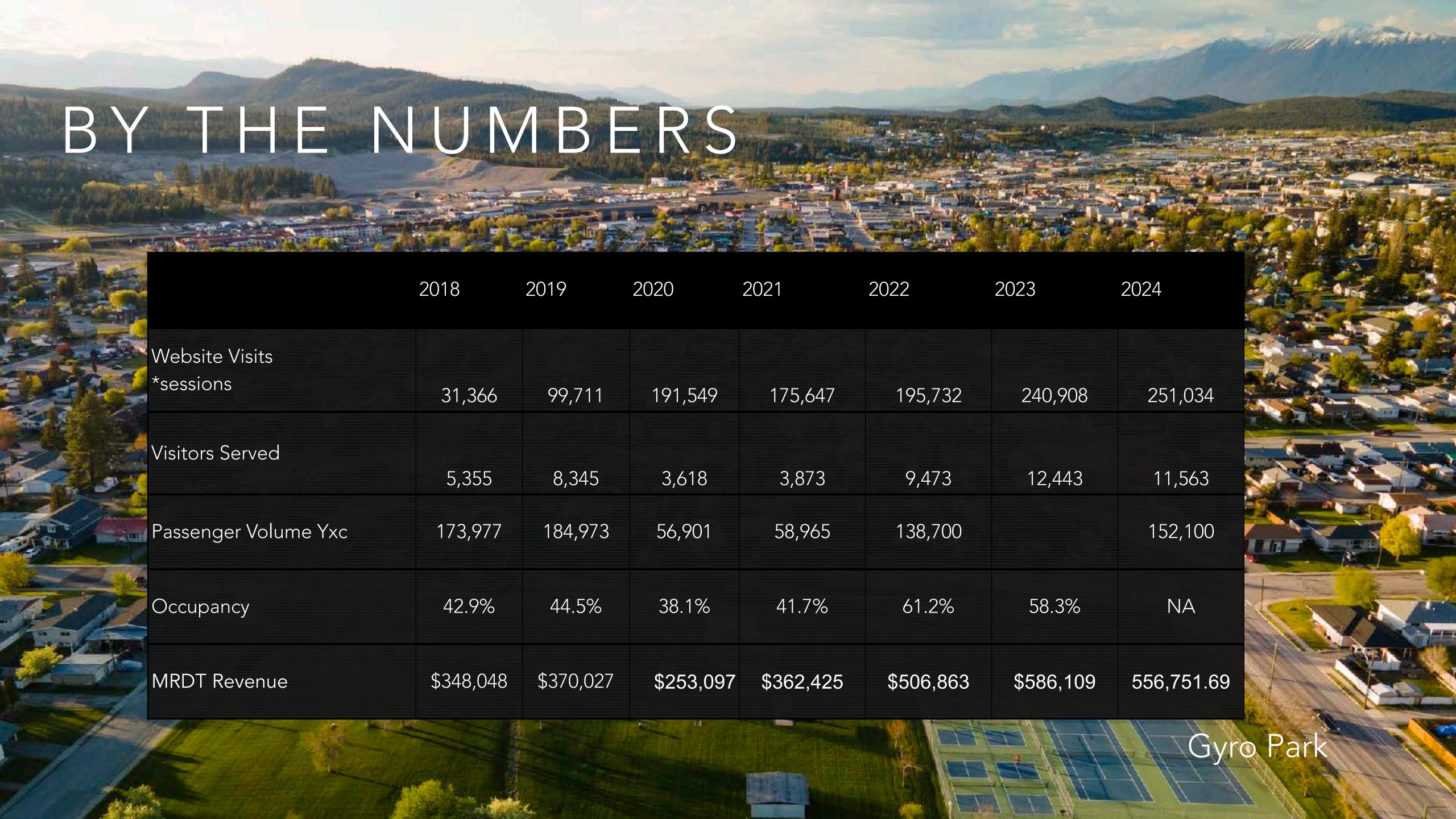
Q2: On a scale of 1-5, where 1 - Not at all aware and 5 - Extremely aware, how aware are you of the following marketing activities that Cranbrook Tourism implemented in 2023?



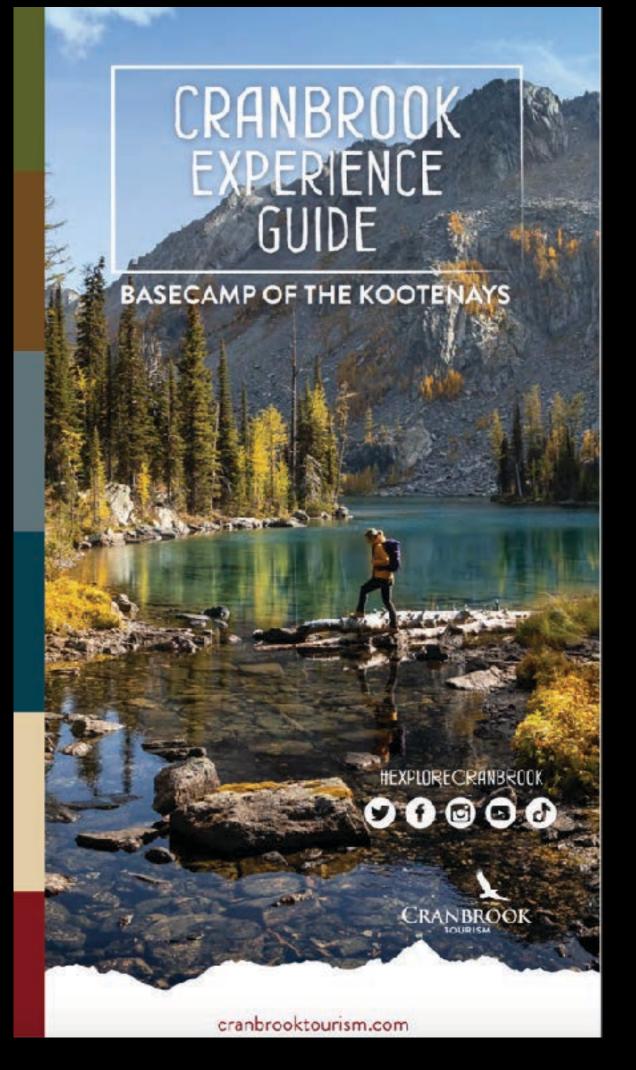
### 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

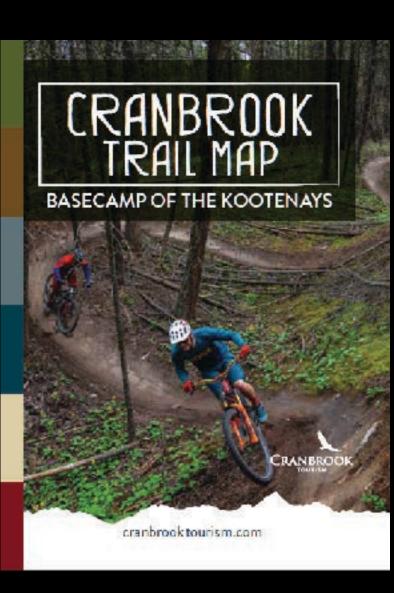
- Continued to expand marketing reach
- Increased stakeholder and business engagement
- Increased training (staff, board, stakeholders)
- Tested some new programs

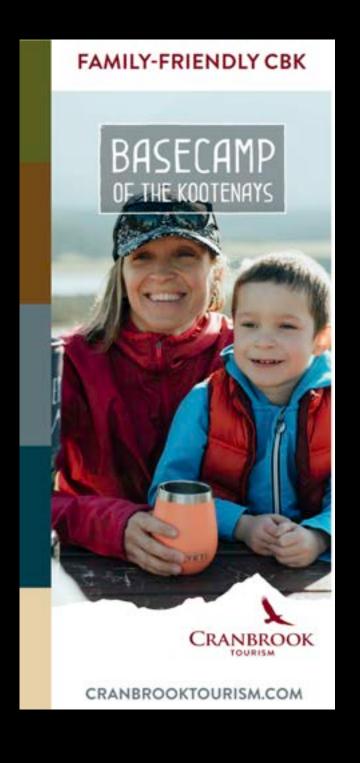




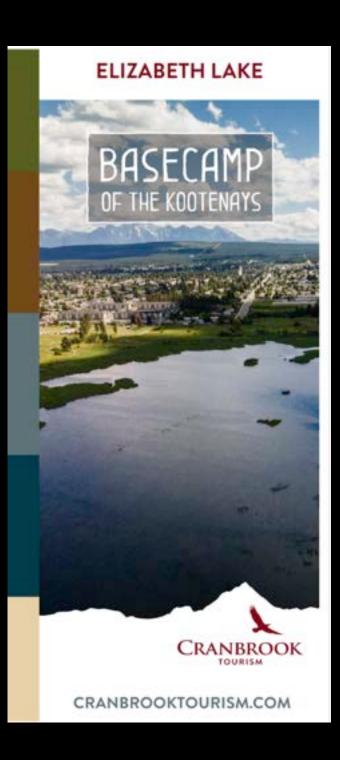
### MARKETING-PRINTING & DISTRIBUTION





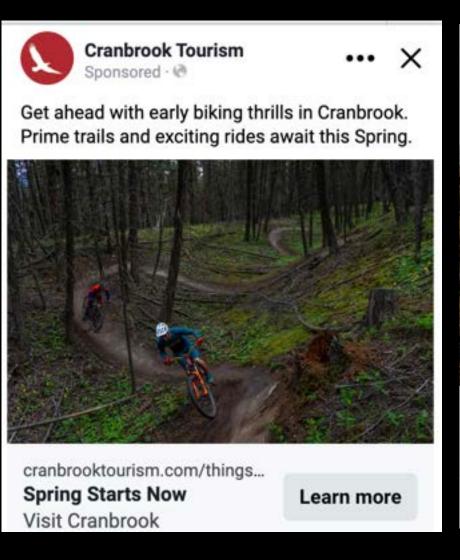


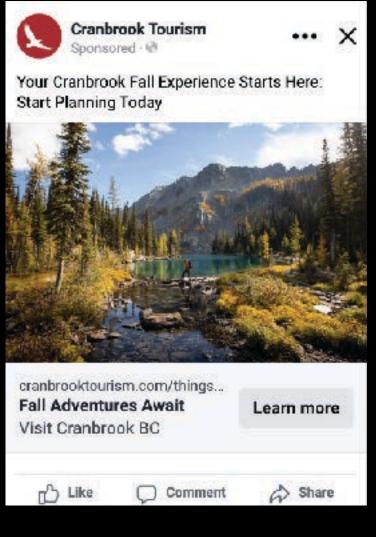


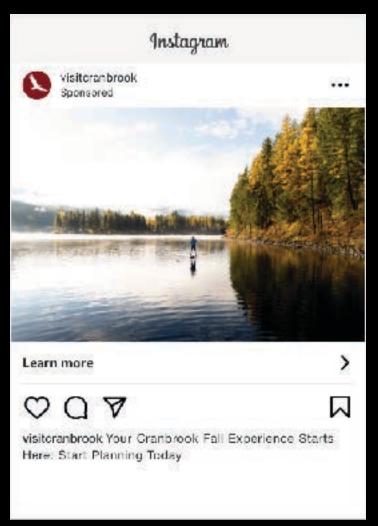


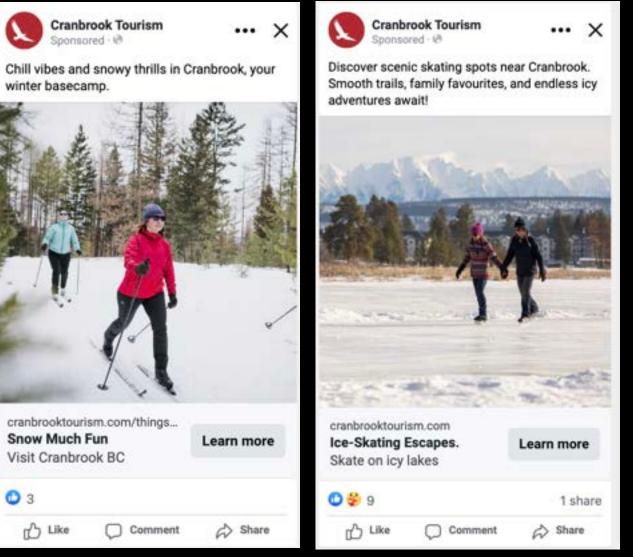


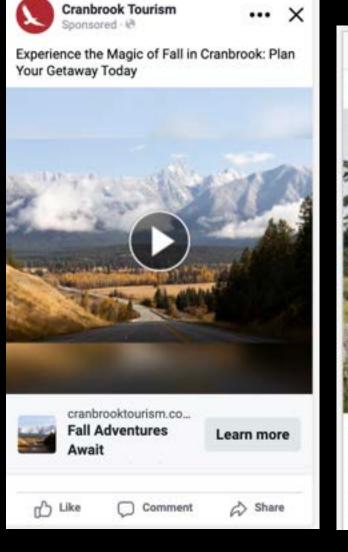
### MARKETING-ADVERTISING

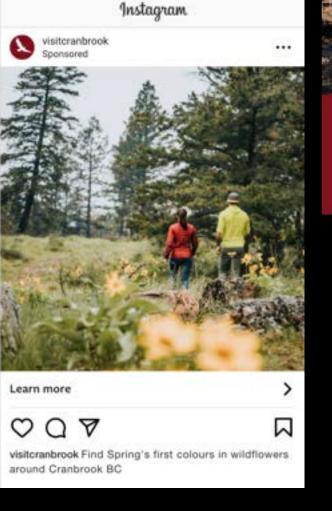














### MARKETING-EMAIL



### Cranbrook's Springtime Wildflowers

Sometimes the smallest wonders shine the brightest, even in the shadow of some of the most spectacular mountain scenery around. The Cranbrook area is blessed with a rolling carpet of wildflowers that slowly works its way from the open grasslands up through the forested meadows to a final, riotous display of colours and smells in the alpine sky meadows. Learn more about where and what time to find Spring wildflowers.

Learn More



### Early Season Biking Thrills

Gear up for early season biking adventures in Cranbrook Bristish Columbia. Traverse rugged trails, surrounded by mountainous scenery, as you explore Cranbrook's biking playground. Whether you're a novice or a seasoned rider, Cranbrook offers thrills for all levels. Get ready to pedal into Spring.

Learn More



### Spring Swing: Golf Course Opening Dates

Dust off your clubs and prepare for an unforgettable golf season in Cranbrook BC. From sush fairways to stunning views, see off and kickstart your golfing adventure in Cranbrook this spring.

Learn more



### Cranbrook Gavel Grind - May 25

Ready for an exhitarating challenge? Tackle the rugged traits of the Kootenays at the Cranbrook Gravel Grind. Gear up for an adventure that tests your limits and rewards you with flowing traits, challenging climbs, and breathtaking views. Join fellow cycling enthusiasts in this thrilling ride, where each pedal stroke brings you closer to nature and the raw beauty of the mountains.

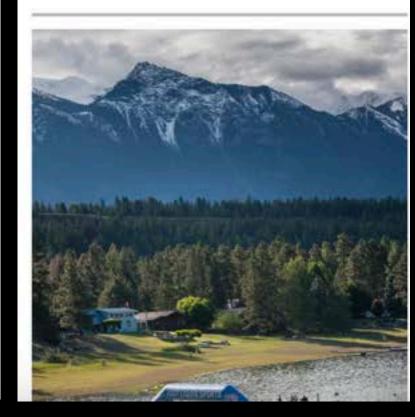
Learn More



### Spirit of the Rockies Festival - June 13-16

Visit Cranbrook for 4 days filled with music, art, competitions, and community at the Spirit of the Rockies Festival. take part in the celebrations, enjoy five music, watch the parade, and join outdoor competitions. Mark your calendar for this unique celebration that brings the local spirit to life.

Learn More





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Learn More



### E-Scooters have arrived in Cranbrook

Discover Cranbrook in a whole new way with E-Scooters. Zip around the city with ease, explore scenic routes, and enjoy the freedom of eco-friendly travel. Whether you're commuting, sightseeing, or just out for fun, Bird E-Scooters offer a convenient and exciting way to experience all that Cranbrook has to offer. Check out how to enjoy Cranbrook by e-scooter.

Learn More



### Rock The Kootenays Single-Day Tickets on Sale Now!

Get ready to Rock the Kootenays with single-day tickets now on sale. Don't miss your chance to experience an incredible lineup of live music, local food



### Ed Fest - September 6-7

Experience a day where creativity meets community at the Ed Fest Arts & Music Festival on September 6th and 7th at Rotary Park. Cranbrook comes alive with headliners like Leonard Sumner, Tonye Aganaba, and the Derina Harvey Band. From live performances to interactive art installations, there's something for everyone to discover. Don't miss out on the fun—come in your best carnival costume to honour Ed the elephant's legendary escape! And the best part? It's all free and open to everyone.

Learn More



### Cranbrook Beerfest - September 14

Raise your glass! The Cranbrook Beer Fest returns on September 14th, bringing over 50 craft beers and beverages from across Canada right to your glass. With brews from B.C., Alberta, and even exclusive selections from as far as the Maritimes and Yukon, this festival is a true celebration of Canadian craft brewing. Whether you're a seasoned beer lover or just curious, come join the community and experience the best of our nation's craft breweries. Don't miss out—this year's festival promises new and exciting flavours you won't want to miss!

Learn More



### 7 Reasons Serious Snowmobilers Sled in Cranbrook

Feel the thrill of winter from the seat of a snowmobile as Cranbrook's backcountry opens up to limitless adventure. This is more than just a sledding destination; it's a gateway to high-alpine runs, well-groomed trails, and a community where riders and enthusiasts alike find their groove. With endless terrain, expert-led avalanche resources, and cozy après-sledding options, Cranbrook is where snowmobilers go to challenge themselves and connect with a community that shares their passion.

Learn Mor



### Season's Events

This November, Cranbrook comes alive with events to keep you warm and connected through the season's chill. Dive into live performances at Key City Theatre, find holiday treasures at the Christmas Market, and don't miss the magic of the Santa Claus Parade. With a line-up that leads right into December's holiday festivities, there's no shortage of ways to celebrate, connect, and enjoy the very best of Cranbrook this season.

Learn More





### Basecamp of Winter Awesome

Winter in Cranbrook offers endiess opportunities to enjoy the season. Glide across frozen lakes, ski or snowshoe through serene forest trails, or explore the excitement of snowmobiling in the nearby mountains. For downhill skiing, you're within a 90-minute drive of three major resorts, offering terrain for every skill level. For a more relaxed pace, try ice fishing or take a snowy hike with breathtaking views. Whether you're seeking adventure or quiet moments, winter in Cranbrook has it all.

Learn More



### 7 Reasons Serious Snowmobilers Sled in Cranbrook

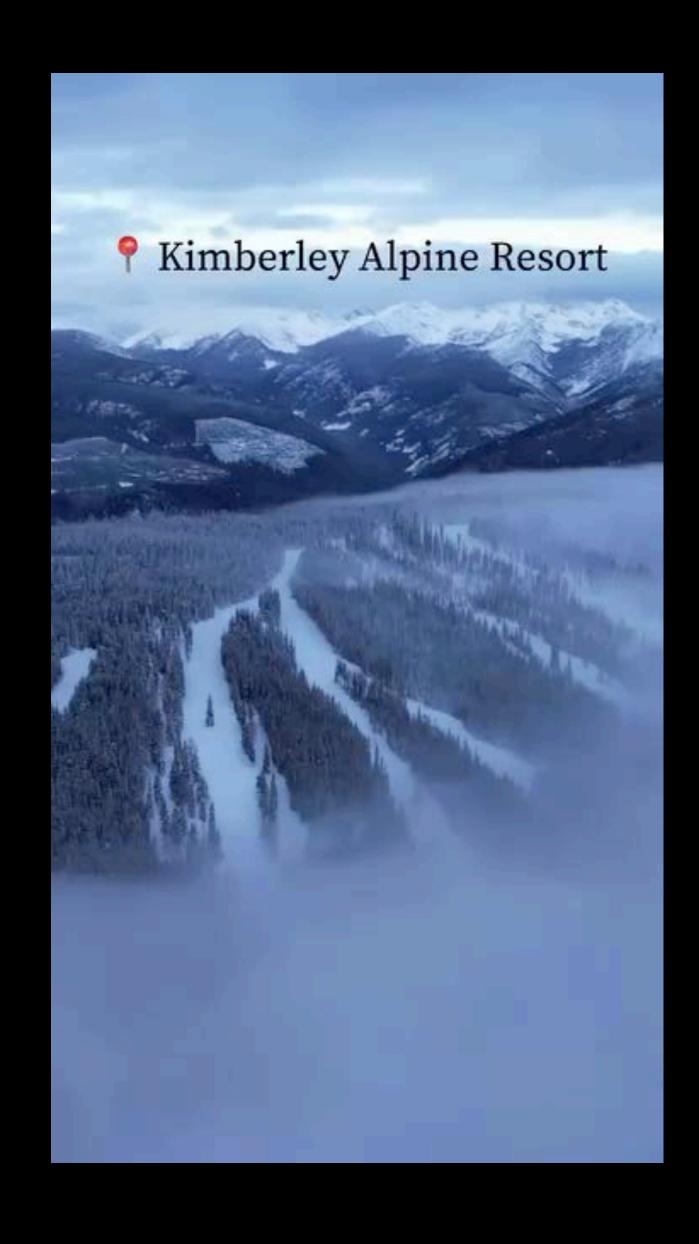
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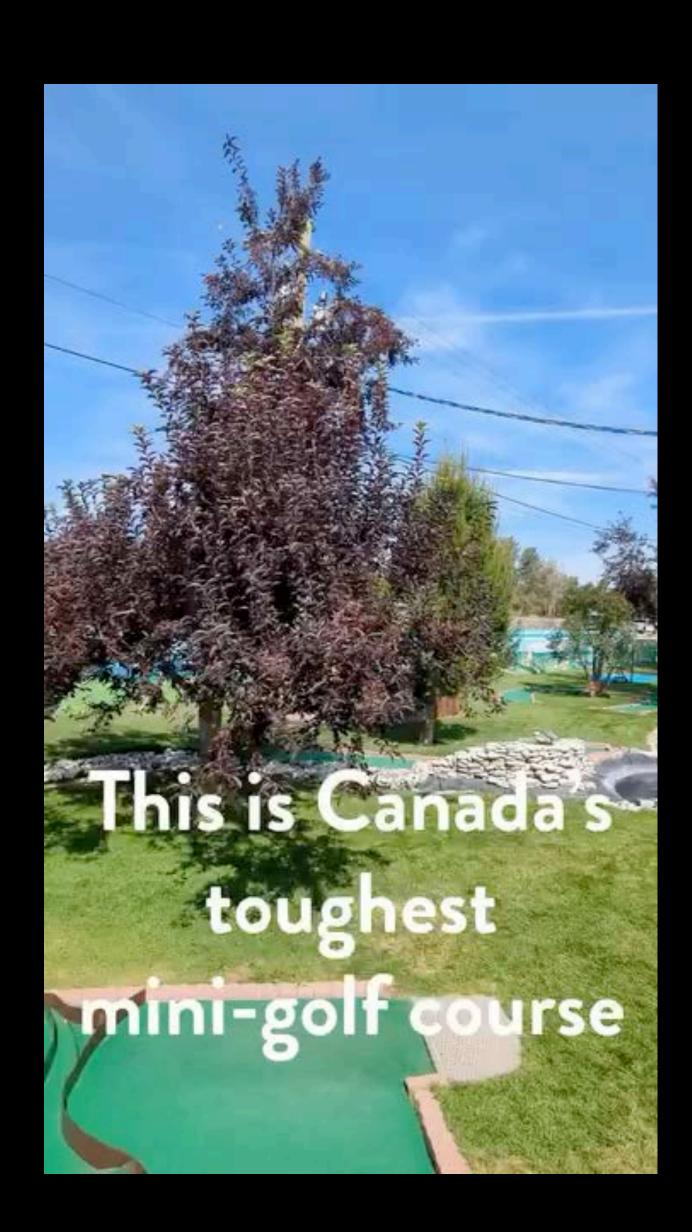
earn More



Frozen Waterfall in Cranbroo

## MARKETING-SOCIAL MEDIA









IT VALERIE BERERTI



THE HELSON FOODIE 50 (WITH OPTIONAL LEG TO CASTLEGAR]

roward Castlegat, along Pass Creek Road, which | strong of log and heart can ride back under starts just across Highway 6 from the cafe.

randa is the perfect place to wrap up an outdoor

their own steam, turning the day into a 100-km out and back with 654 metres of elevation gain

Distance 52 km return the southern trailhead. The North Star is also well used Switching gears from the West Kootenays to the by walkers and runners. You might spot people gathereastern side of the region, the 26-km rail trail ing bundles of fragrant sage in meadows near the trail. linking the towns of Kimberley and Cranbrook, Pack a picnic and eat at one of the awe-inspiring packs a scenic punch. It's tucked between the viewpoints. If you elect to go into Cranbrook, follow Purcells and the Rocky Mountains, sprinkled with aspen the signage of the Rotary Way. The route is confusing

JULY/ALDIST 1024 ATTRIBUTE STREET

JULY/AUGUST 2024

at times, but it eventually leads into downtown. Have

lunch on the patio at the Heid Out Restaurant and Br

house, where you can refuel with tasty Buddha Bowls.

adds an extra 10 km and the ride back to Kimberley is

mostly uphill. That said, there are several access points along the trail, making it possible to park and ride short

sections of the superb North Star.

Every calorie will be appreciated as the trip into town

and pine forest and grasslands, with sights of the St. Mary

If you start at the top, in Kimberley, you don't really

pedal much for the first 16 or 17 km downhill to where

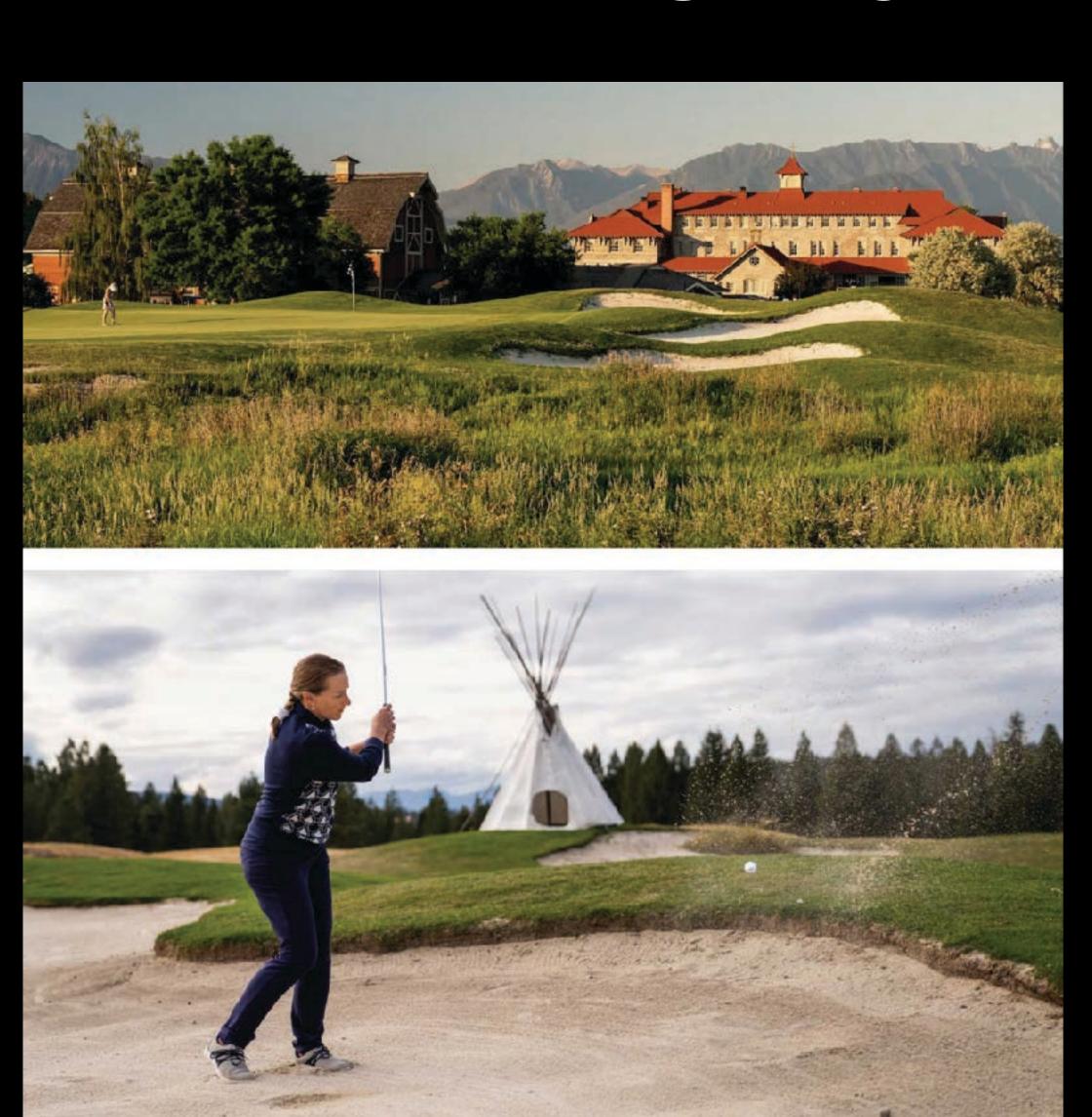
a bridge crosses the river and the trail begins its ascent toward Cranbrook. The paved, car-free trail is lovingly

maintained, with markings for every kilometre, plus out-

houses, benches and even a bike pump and tool station at

## MARKETING-MEDIA RELATIONS





### MARKETING-MEDIA RELATIONS



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ADVENTURE

CAMPING

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S TRA

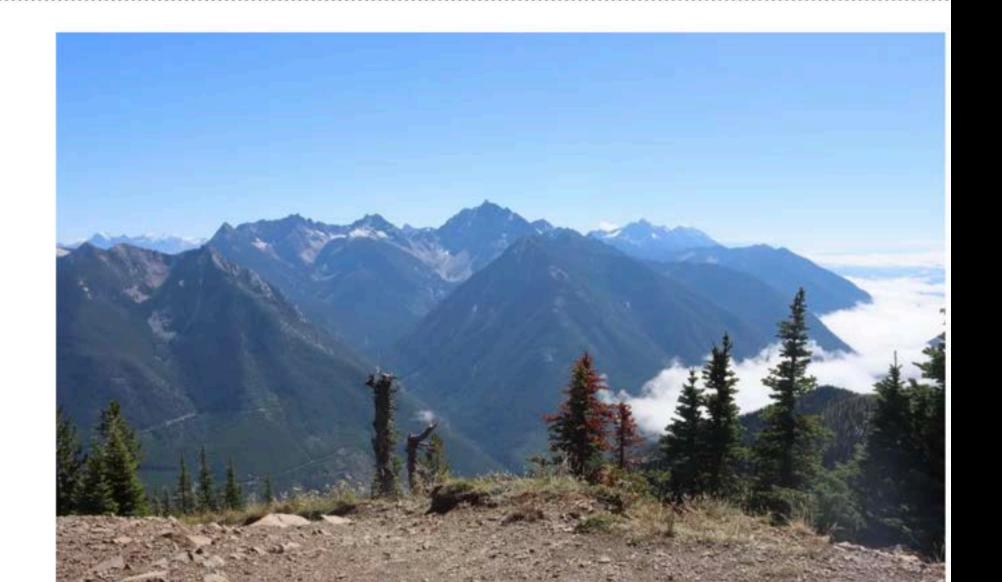
### 10 Best Hikes Near Cranbrook You Need to Check Out

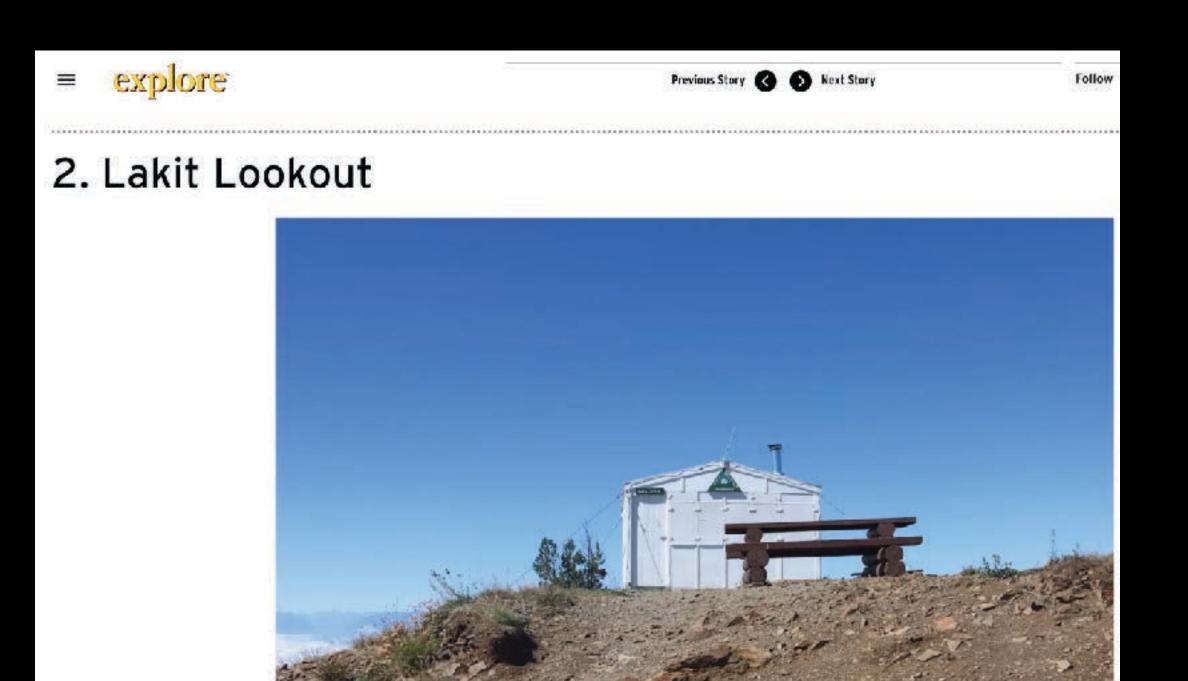


Available on select sailings between Metro Vancouver and Vancouver Island.

BOOK NOW

**≈**BCFerries





Cranbrook Teurism

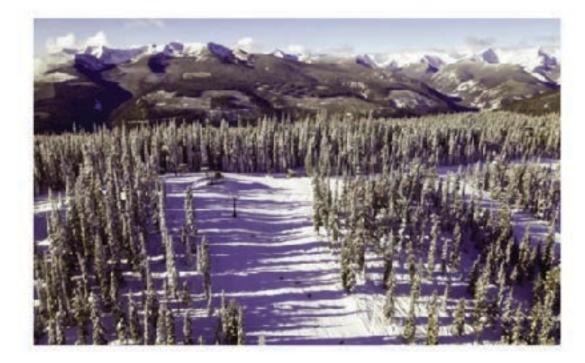
Distancer 3.3 kilometres
Elevation Gain: 366 metres
Time: 2 hours

The steep climb to the Lakit Lookout is more than worth the effort for the incredible views. Be prepared with a four-wheel drive vehicle as the Forest Service Road is bumpy, but once you lead to be a steep climb to the Lakit Lookout is more than worth the effort for the incredible views. Be prepared with a four-wheel drive vehicle as the Forest Service Road is bumpy, but once you lead to be a steep climb to the Lakit Lookout is more than worth the effort for the incredible views. Be prepared with a four-wheel drive vehicle as the Forest Service Road is bumpy, but once you lead to be a steep climb to the Lakit Lookout is more than worth the effort for the incredible views.

### MARKETING-MEDIA RELATIONS

### Craving the Mountains but not the Crowds? Visit the Kootenay Rockies!

by Jennifer Merrick



hat do you picture when you think of the Canadian Rackies? Most of us conjure up the iconic images of Banff and Lake Louise with their turquoise glacial lakes and snow-covered jagged peaks. Sturning to be sure. Over 4.5 million people from all over the world visit these national parks every year to morvel and vacation in their beauty. But the glorious mountain scenery is not confined by the borders of our parks.

Drive from Banff and head down Highway 93. In less than an hour, you'll find yourself in the East Kootenay region of south-eastern British Columbia surrounded by mountains, the Rocky Mountains to the east and the Purcell Mountains to the west. In this aloine wonderland, there are natural hat springs, ski resorts, hiking/biking trails and friendly communities. What you won't see are millions of tourists.

Our family had the pleasure of visiting the towns of Cranbrook and Kimberley on our winter holidays. When we arrived at the



World Traveler Spring 2025

Kimberley Alpine Resort to do some much anticipated skiing, we were flabbergasted. Why weren't there more cars in the parking lot? Where were the lineups at the lift? It was especially hard to comprehend because of what the resort affered. We're talking about 1, 800 acres of terrain, a 2,464 ft vertical, an award-wirning ski school, 80 trails and the fine white powder snow this region is

On the slapes, surrounded by snow-covered evergreens and mourtain vistas, there were times we had this magic all to purselves. In the village, there were accommodations, restaurants and snack bars to enjoy an apres-ski drink or meal. The vibe was family-friendly, and everyone was welcoming.

"It's the kind of place you have to go out of your way to find," said our valunteer ski guide. "But people love it when they do."

An axid lifetime skier from Calgary, he now winters in Kimberley. He told me the black diamond runs here were on per with any



he's done in the region and that the snow is more consistent.

What does he like the most? "The people," he answered without hesitation. As he showed me the easiest way to get down the mountain, he talked about his beloved mountain community. By the time we were finished, I was ready to move here myself.

We only had a few days, unfortunately, but we made the most of them on the slopes and ...!!

### Après Ski Breweries

Cranbrook was a local favorite with awardwinning craft brews made on the premises and original dishes that showcased the flavors of the region. It was here in its convival atmosphere that we enjoyed the tastiest meal of our trip. Another Cranbrook browery won the medal for the most fun. Encore Brewery not any had crisp beer with quirky and elliterate lebels like Liftoff Lager, a ludicrously luscious lunar lager, but it was also a bowling alley. We had a blast competing with each other for top scores and the last piece of delicious pizza.

### Heavenly Hiking

Next to the Kimberly Alpine Ski Resort is the Trickle Creek Golf Course, where multi-use trails are maintained during the winter morths.

To my delight, the paths led to lookouts with panaramic views of the misty mountains and through stands of evergreens with their boughs adorned with snow. As I walked, a sense of peace fell over me. The tranquility was no doubt tacilitated by the fact that in two hours of hiking, I saw only two other people.

A mountain paradise without the crowds. I'll be back.

WWW.SKIKIMBERLEY.COM





NEWS GEAR HOW TO TRAILS BIKERS FOR

### MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

### Destination: Freeride Fat Biking in BC's Kootenays

Agron Theisen - Apr 11, 2024





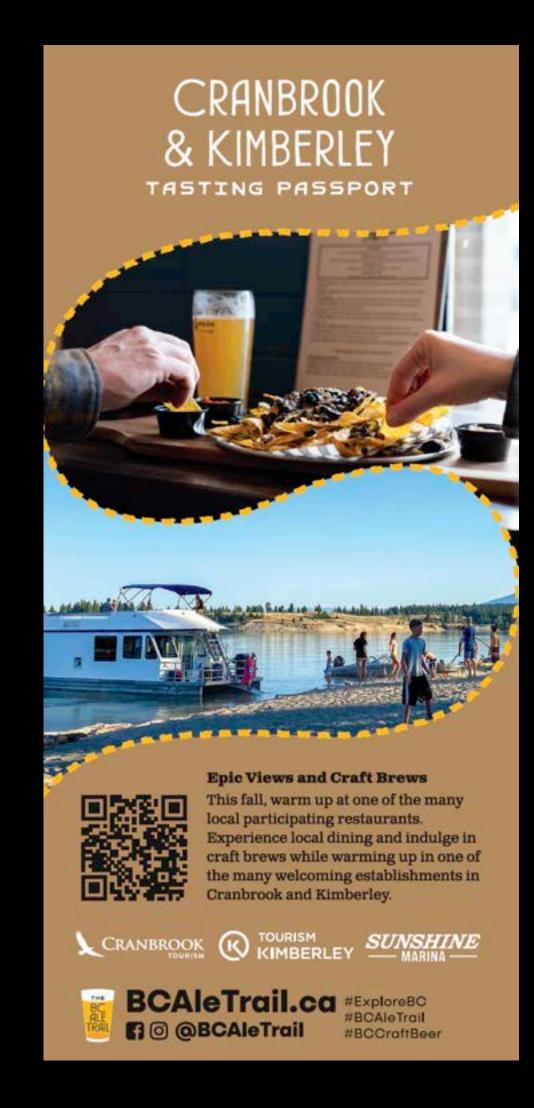


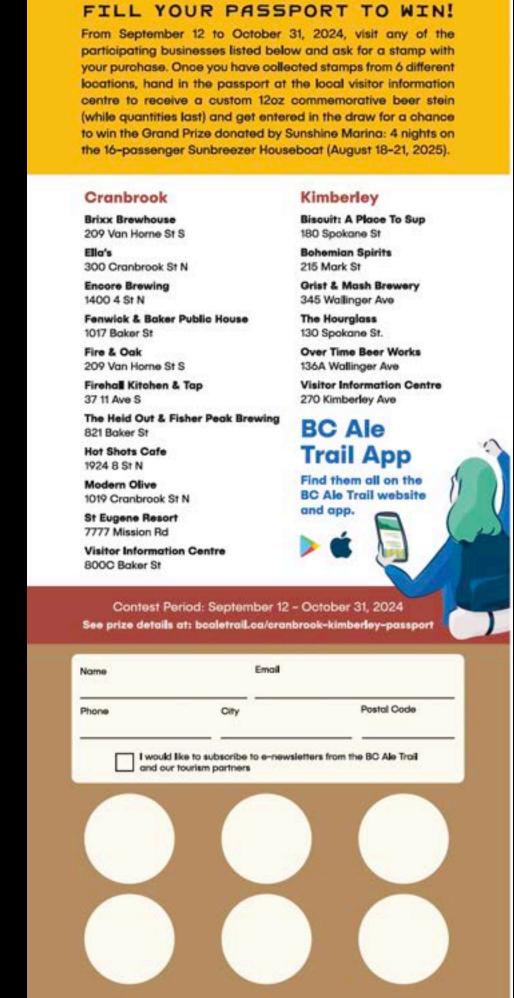
the winter and be a better rider in the summer says Kristy Jahn-Smith.

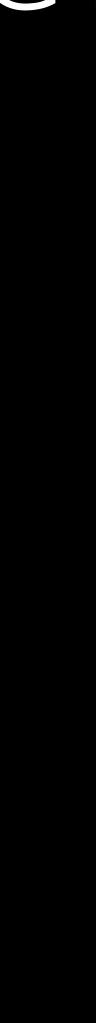
The fjord-like lake valleys and lofty peaks of the Kootenay Rockies of southeast British Columbia helped midwife freeride mountain biking in the '90s, immortalized in fat-tire film classics like *Kranked*. Today, riders in the Kootenays are taking wide-

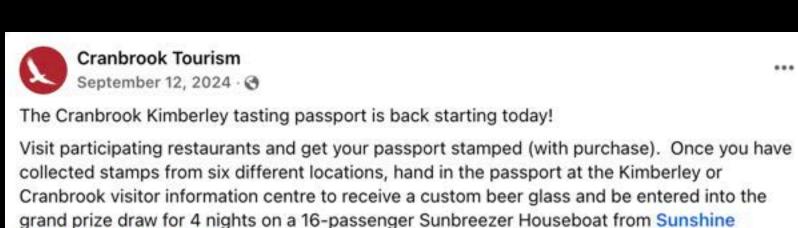
But a bigger challenge to might be the spandex-wrapped stigma attached to fat biking.

"I think the biggest problem with fat biking is a PR problem: it's not known to be cool," says Kristy Jahn-Smith, Executive Director of Tourism Cranbrook and a board member of Wildhorse Cycling Club, Cranbrook's IMBA-affiliated trails organization. "It's always kind of the ugly stepchild to mountain biking."



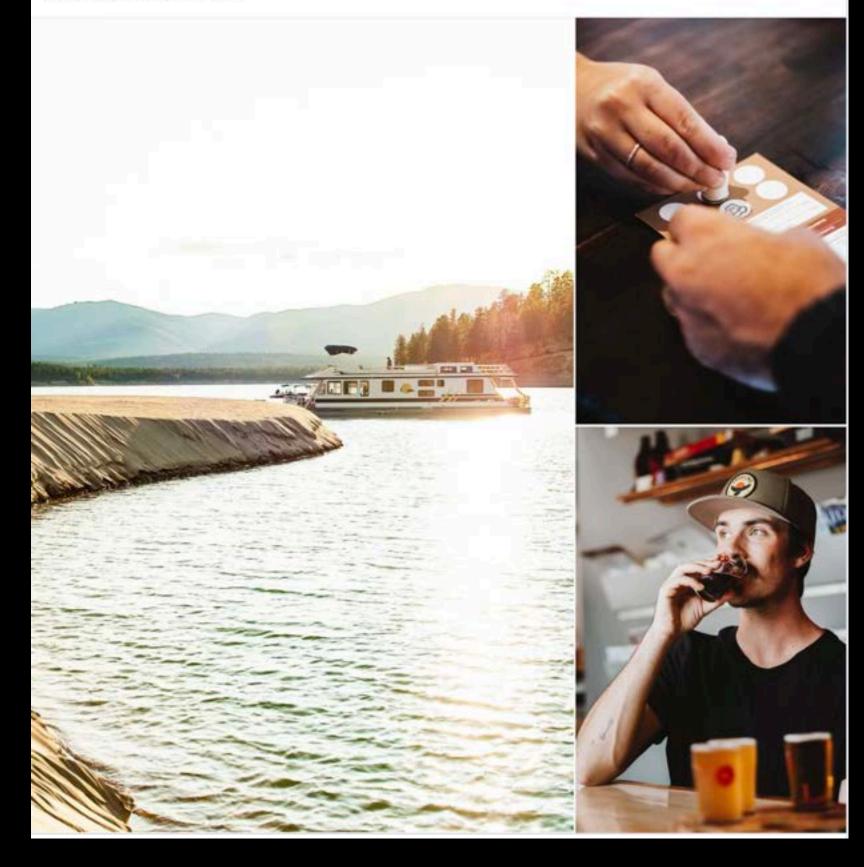




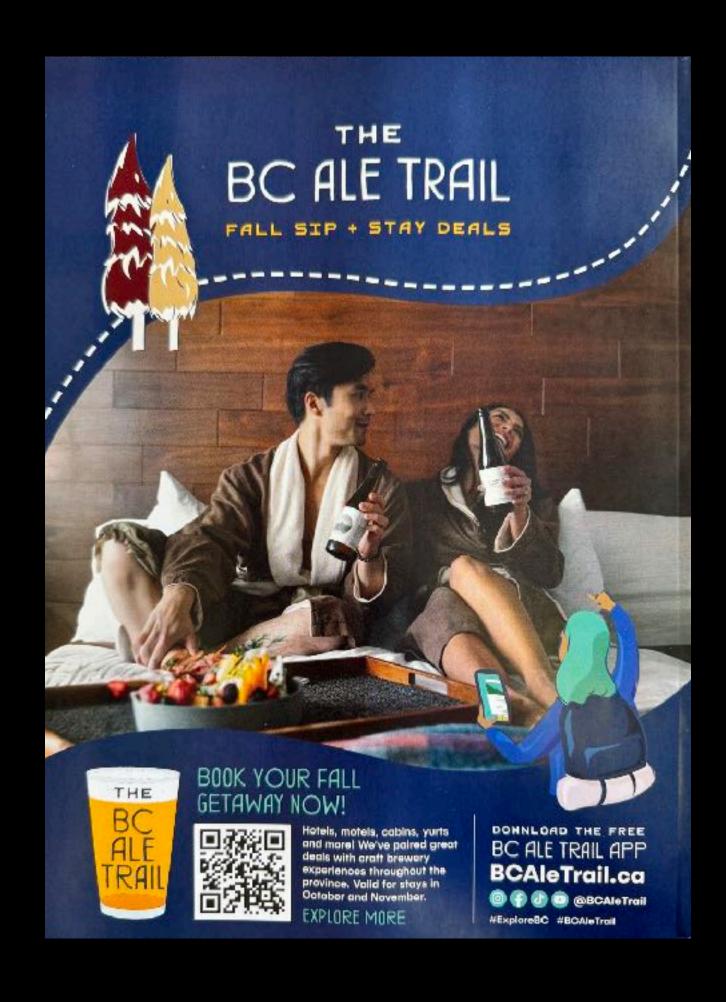


Learn more:... See more

Houseboats & Marina



SIP AND STAY PACKAGES







### Go on a Tasting Ale-Venture at the Cranbrook Beer Festival in Cranbrook, BC This Weekend

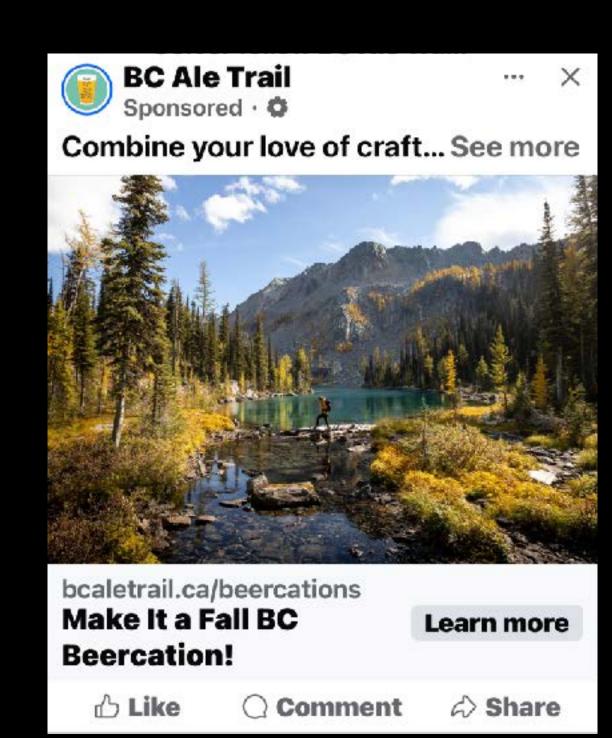
Cranbrook is just a three-and-a-half-hour drive on Route 95 from Spokane, making it ideal for an impromptu weekend escape. Looking for a getaway this weekend? Head north for the <u>Cranbrook Beer Fest this Saturday</u>, September 14! Cranbrook is home to two local craft breweries, each with its unique offerings. The Heid Out restaurant is home to Fisher Peak Brewing, while Encore Brewing features a craft brewery, bowling alley, arcade, and tasting room with a full kitchen. Or plan a trip around the <u>Cranbrook + Kimberley Tasting Passport</u> from September 13 to October 31.

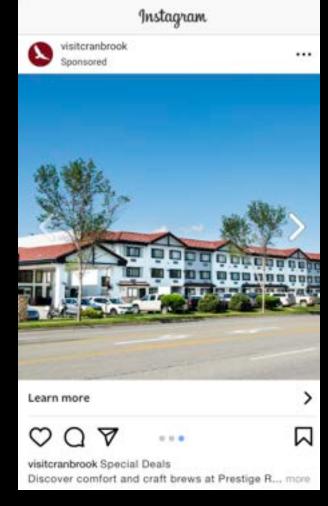
Pair your stay with a craft beer experience by booking a <u>Sip + Stay package</u> Cranbrook has somewhere special for you to rest your head, from upscale resorts to historic hotels to family-run bed and breakfasts and everything in between. Plus, thanks to the favorable exchange rate, American travelers can enjoy a 25% to 35% discount on their trip!

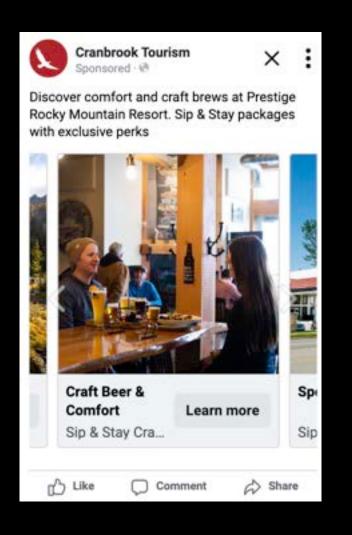




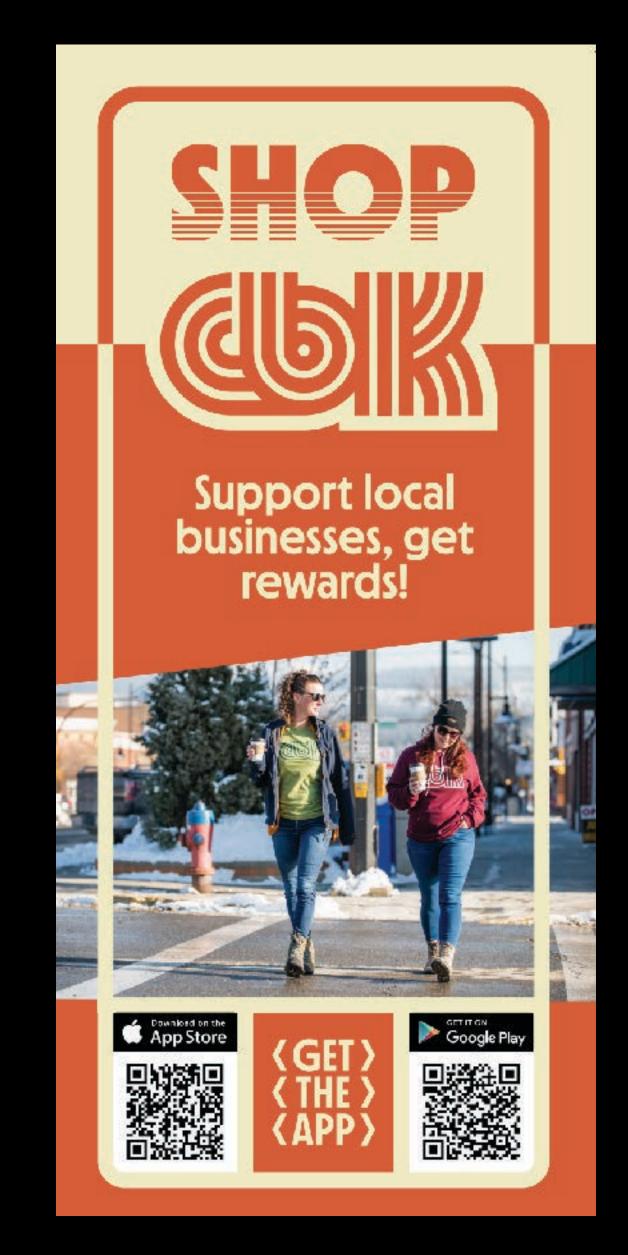
With the Rocky Mountains and Purcell Ranges at Cranbrook's doorstep, it's the perfect spot to explore the spectacular local trails on a fall hike or mountain bike ride. The low-elevation trails around Cranbrook are ideal for fall rides on world-class singletrack, all just minutes from the city. The highe peaks around town offer incredible fall color displays on hikes from mild to wild. Plan your trip or read more about fall travel to Cranbrook in our latest article about this awesome area.

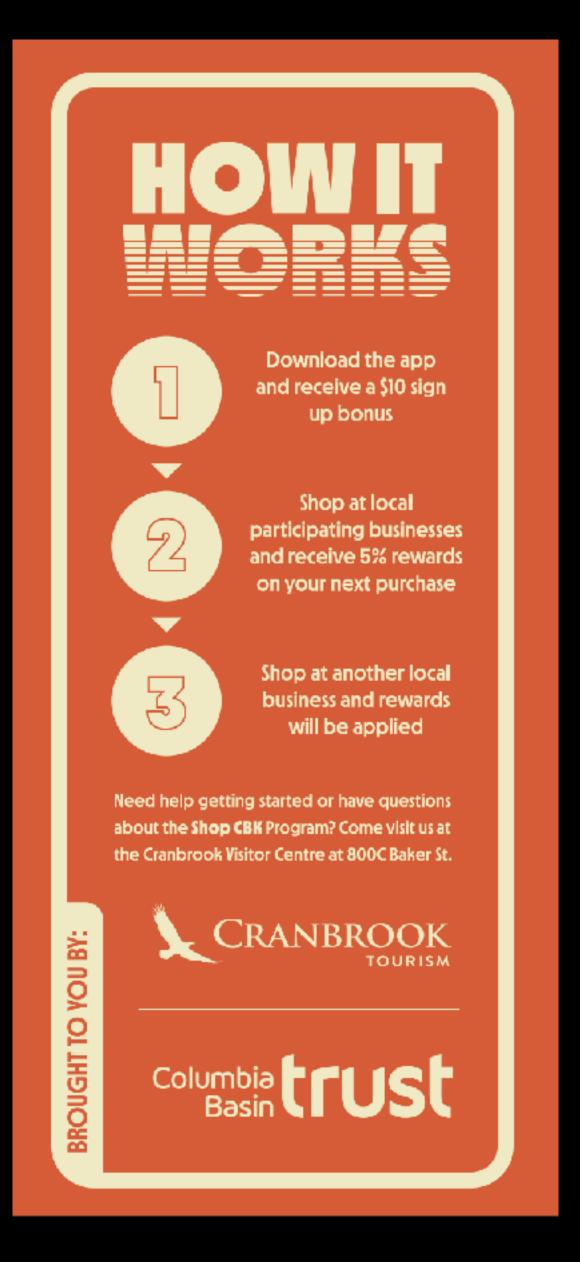




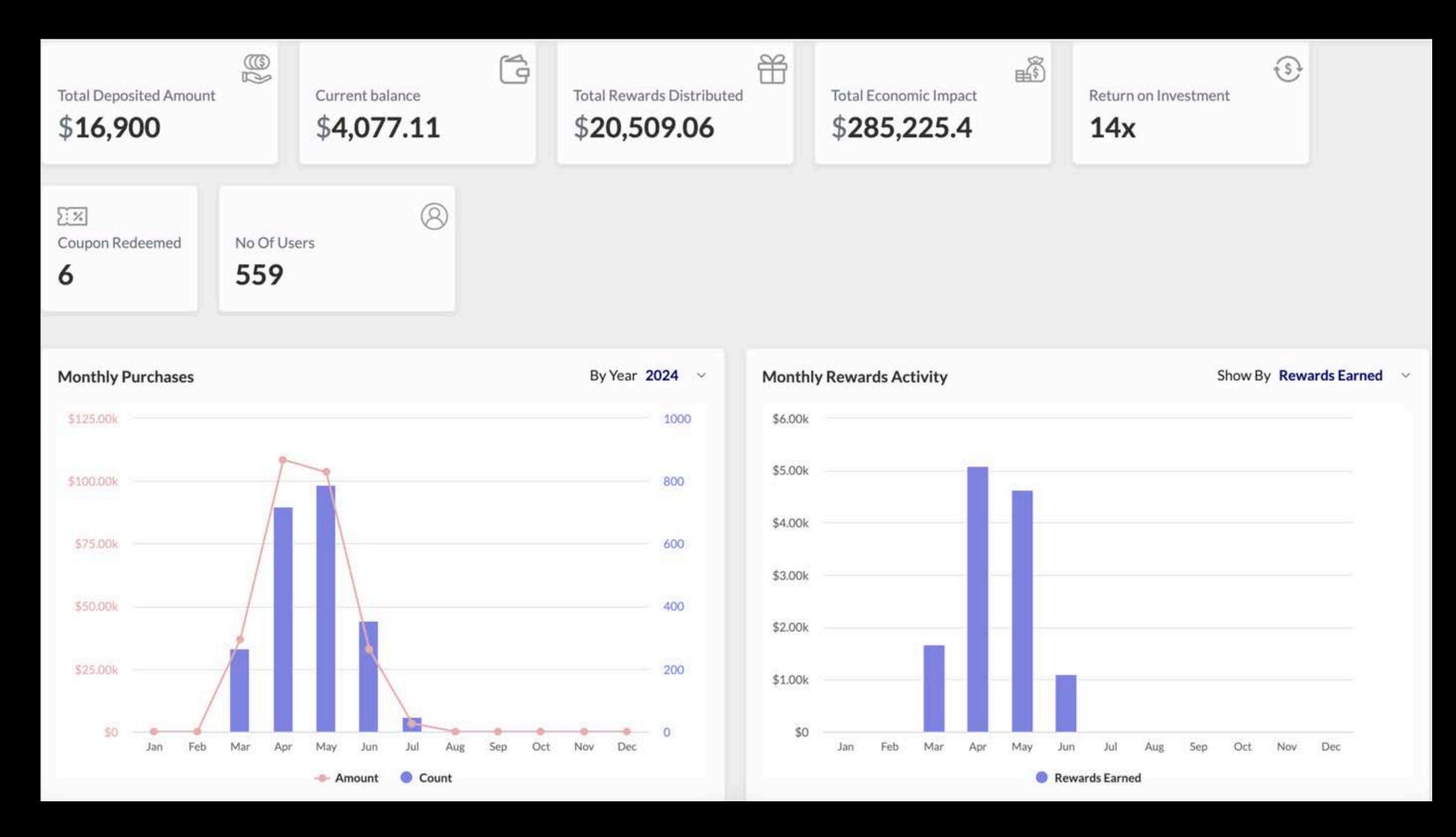


SHOP CBK

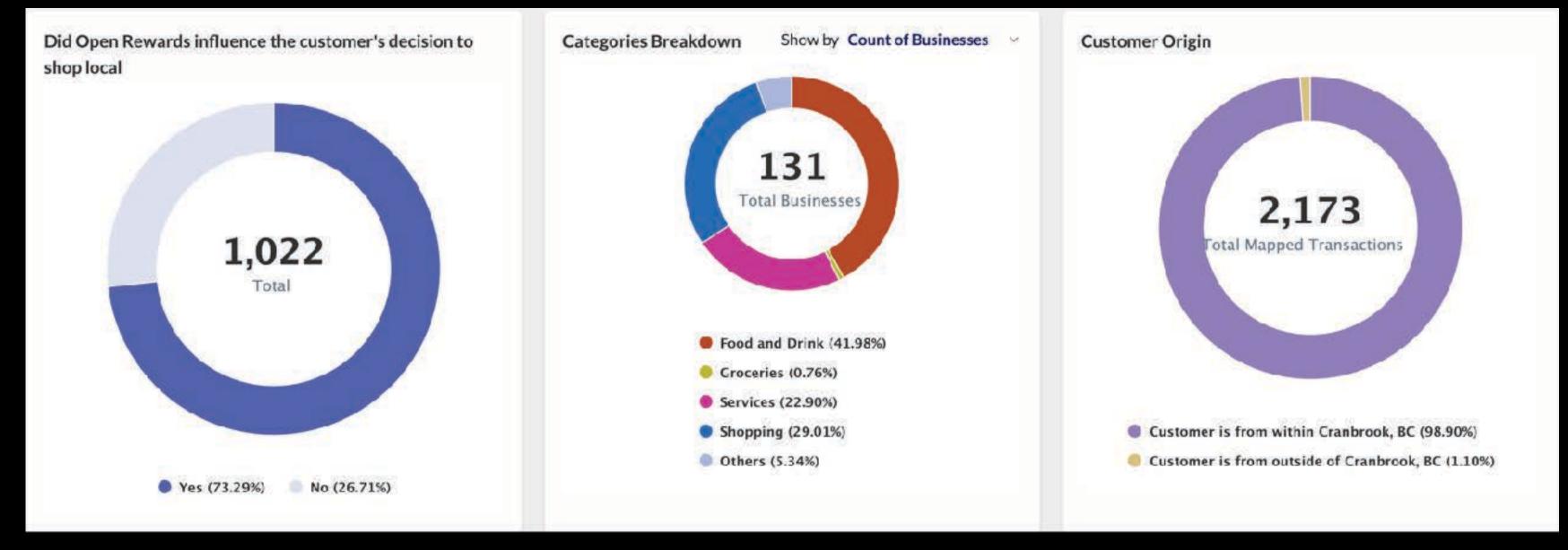


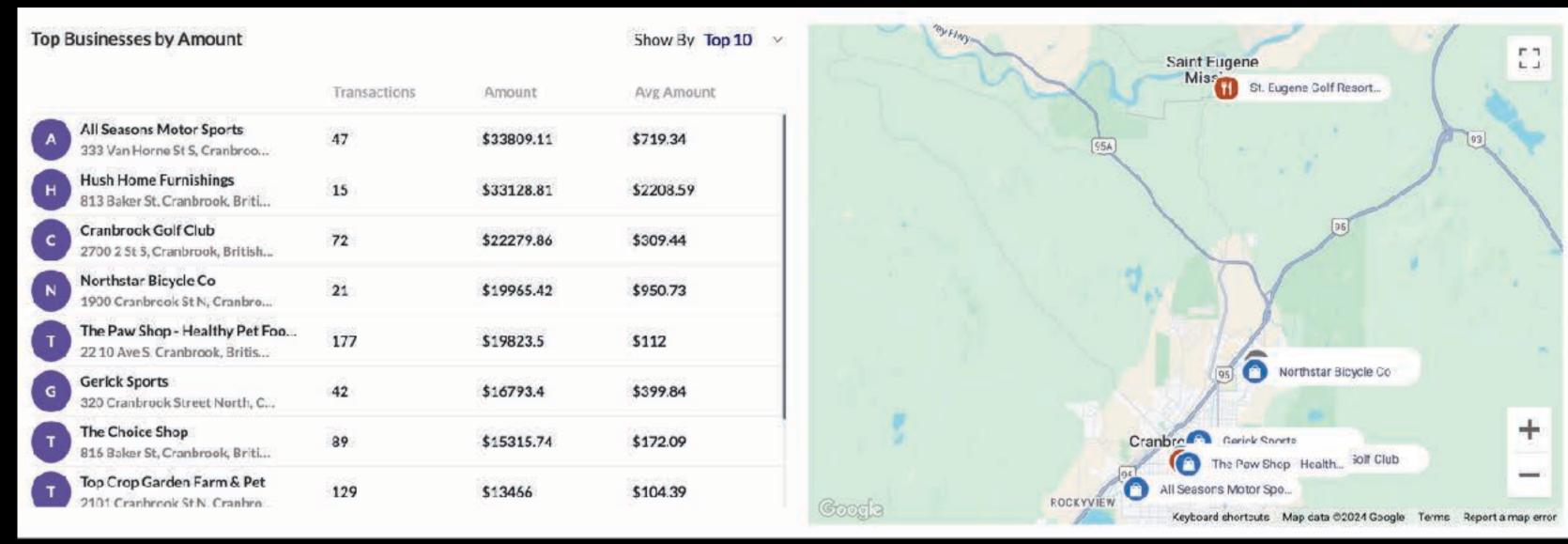


SHOP CBK

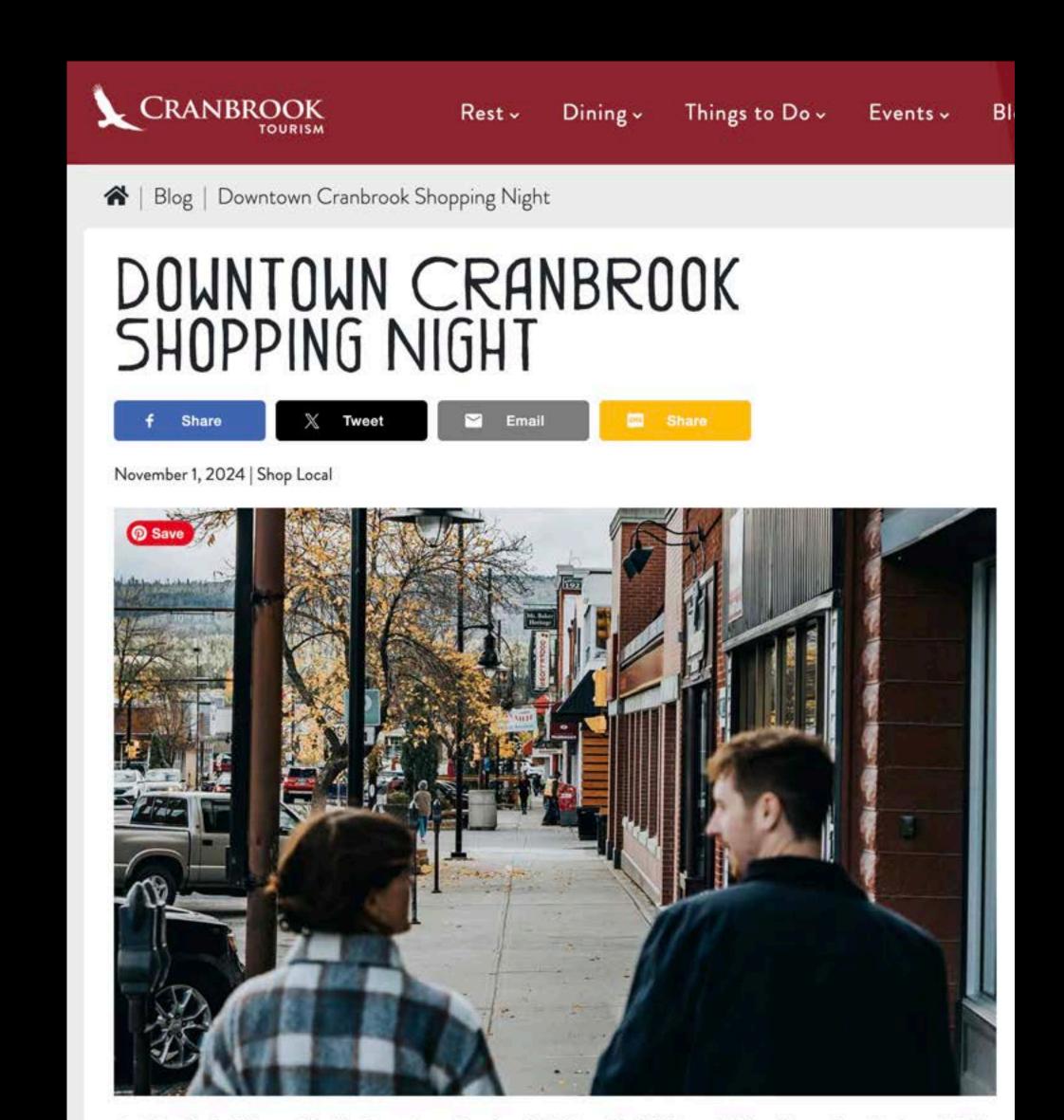


SHOP CBK





CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENT





WHERE'S ED SCAVENGER HUNT









### WHERE IS ED? THE SCAVENGER







August 1, 2024 |

The first-ever "Where is Ed?" Scavenger Hunt runs from August 1 to September 2, bringing together Cranbrook Tourism and Cranbrook Arts to celebrate creativity and community spirit. We've hidden 14 unique pieces of art around Cranbrook and the surrounding area, and it's up to you to find them. Whether you're a local or just visiting, this is your chance to explore Cranbrook in a whole new way.

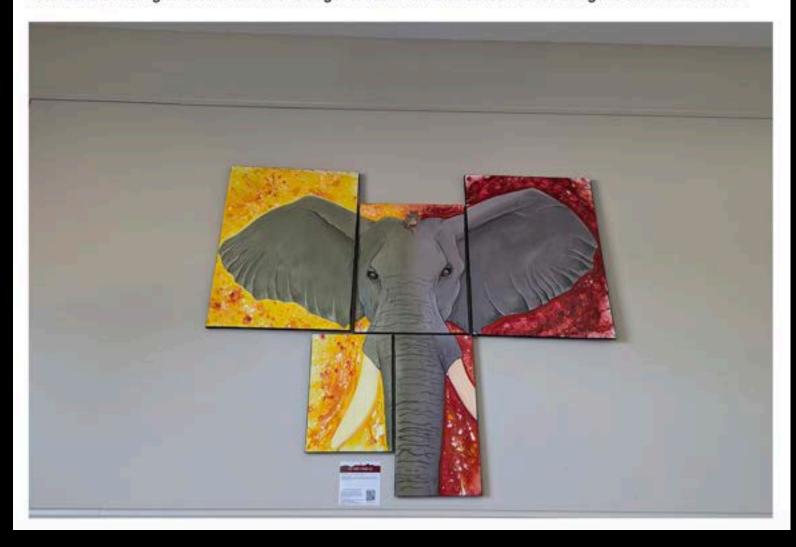
As you embark on this art-filled adventure, keep an eye out for the hidden pieces and use the hints provided below to track them down. When you find a piece, scan the QR code on the card and take a selfie with the artwork to enter the prize draw. You can enter once per piece, giving you up to 14 chances to win one of three prizes:

- 1. A CBK sweater donated by Cranbrook Tourism
- 2. A \$20 gift card to Max's Place with a bag of Kicking Horse Coffee donated by Max's Place
- 3. Bowling for four donated by Encore Brewing Co.

Grab your friends, family, or go solo and start your search for "Ed." It's a perfect way to enjoy the outdoors, explore new places, discover local art, and have a blast while doing it. Get ready to explore, snap selfies, and win some great prizes along the way.

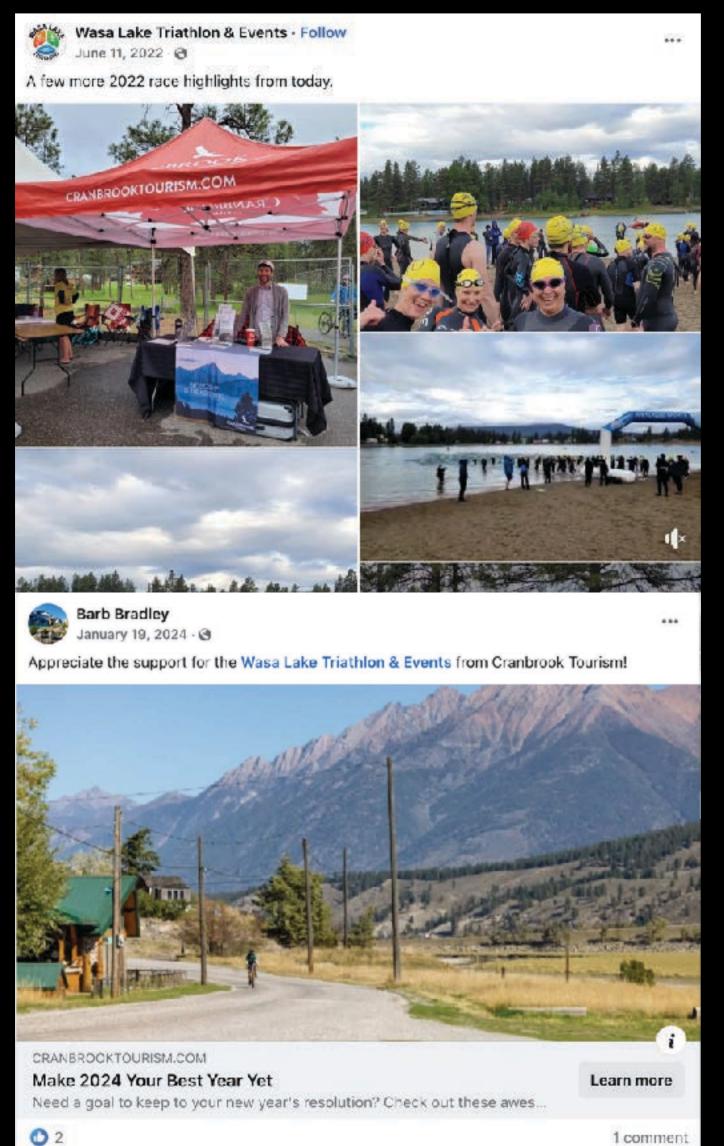
### Ed #1

This Ed is traveling to Cranbrook and is eager to learn more about all the fun things to do in Cranbrook.



### MARKETING- EVENT SPONSORSHIPS



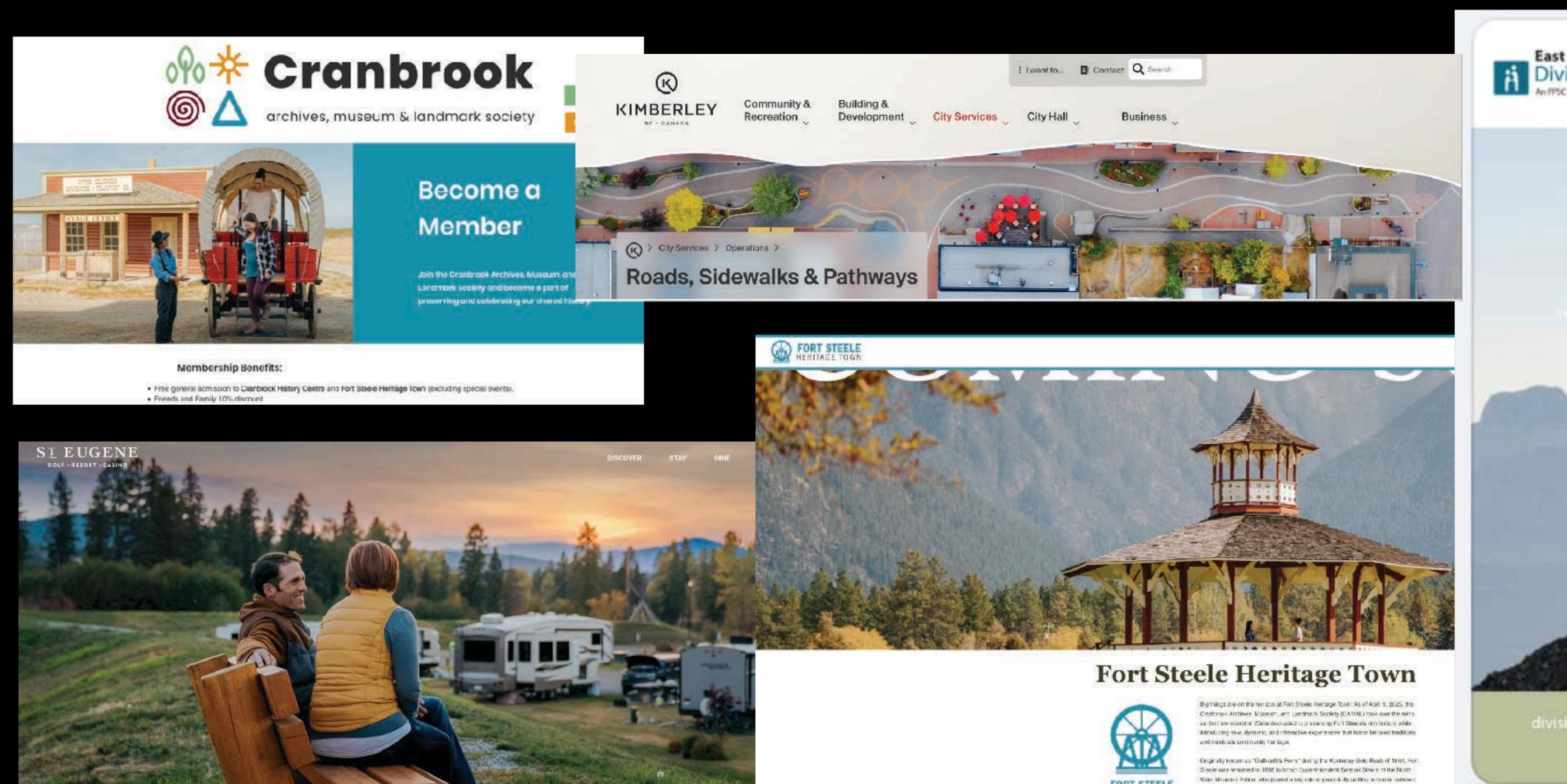








### MARKETING-ROCKIES EXPLORING

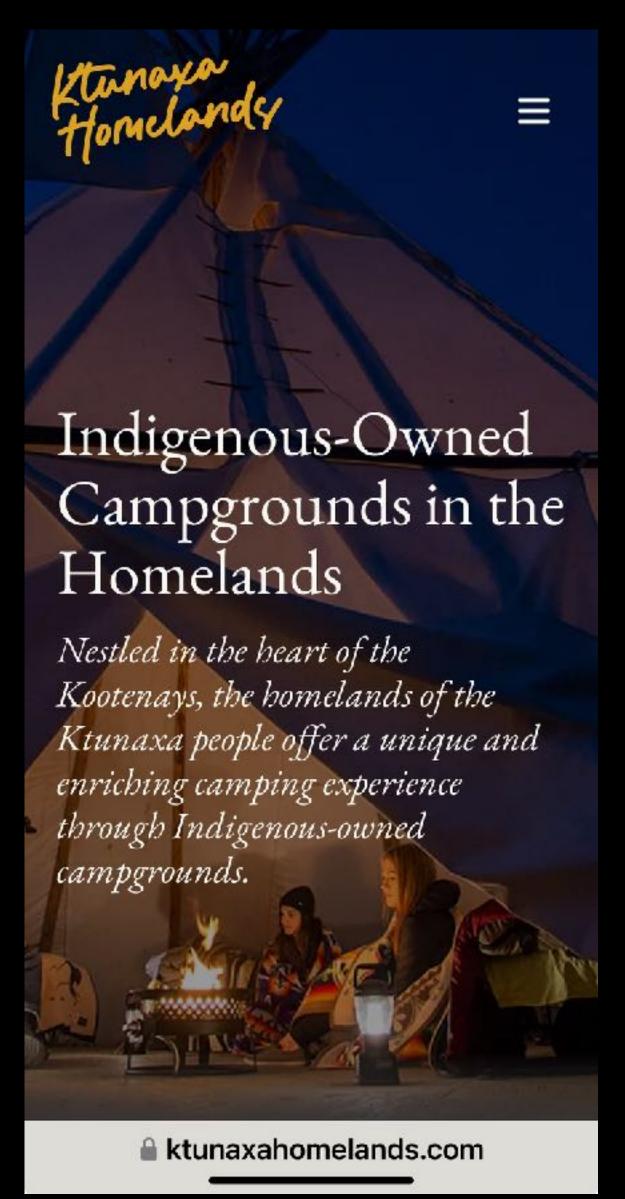


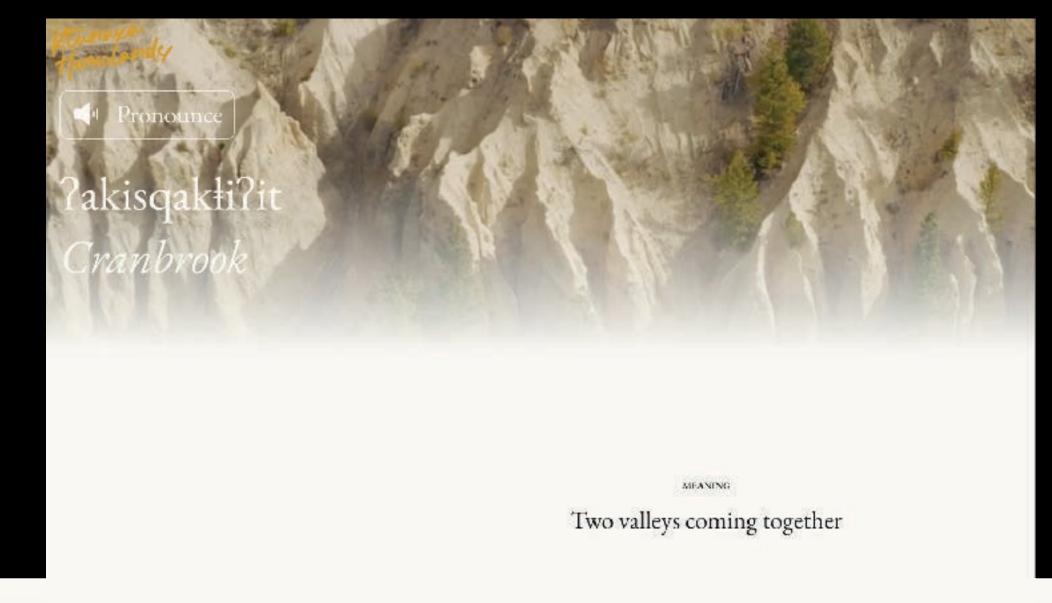


write seziers and the Kfunaxa people. The town thrived in the 1690s, fueled by not material place wereas, but its pro-perty to bed when the MC Southern Kalkers.

bypassed tiln favor of hearby Cranbrook.

### MARKETING-KTUNAXA HOMELANDS







Connecting to the Land through an Indigenous View



Preserving Indigenous Knowledge Through Art



Revitalizing Indigenous Languages: A Path of Resilience and Pride

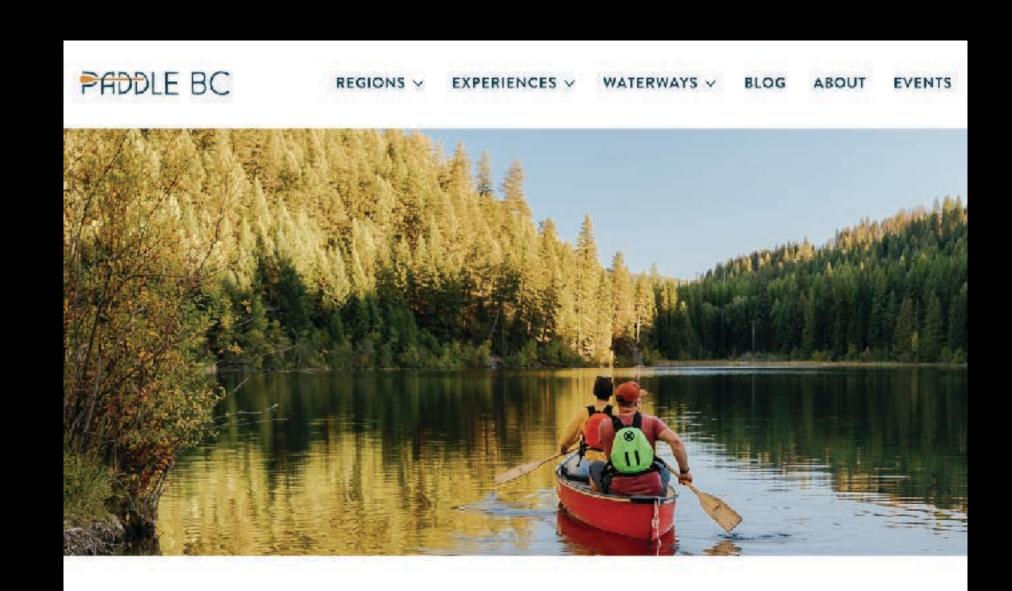


Ktunaxa Language Revitalization Influencers



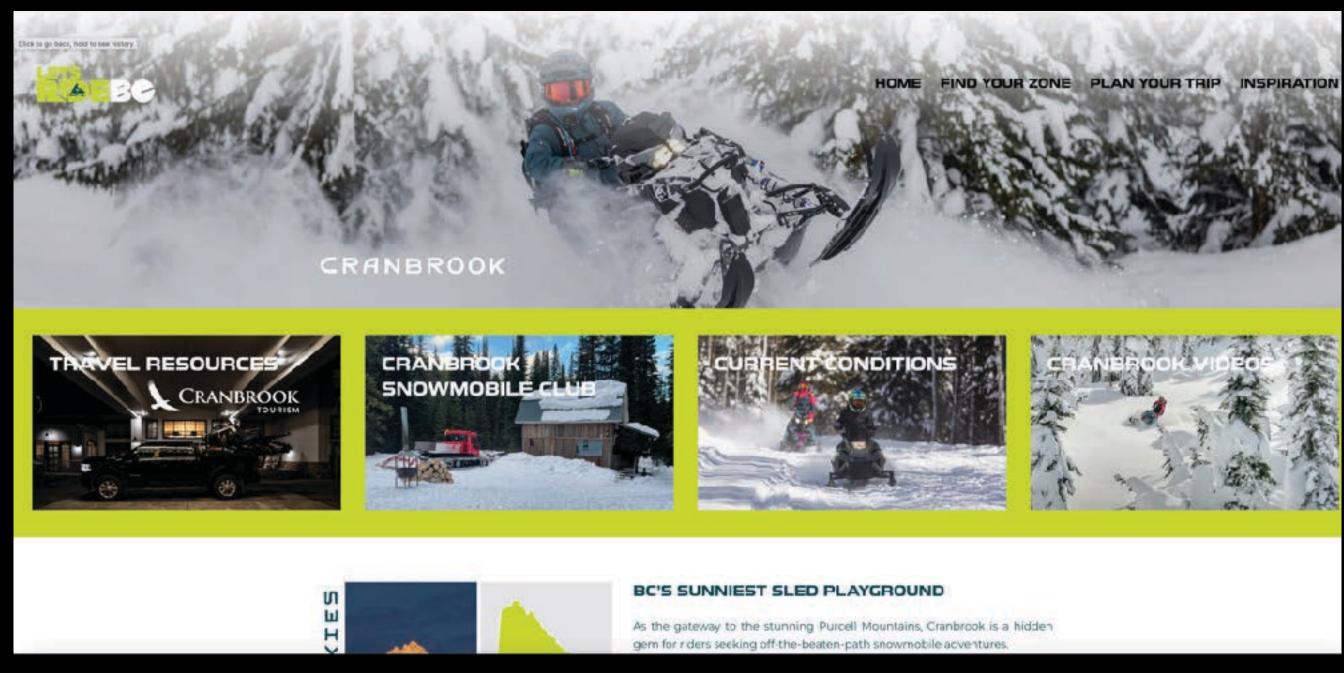
Experience Events in the Ktunaxa Homelands

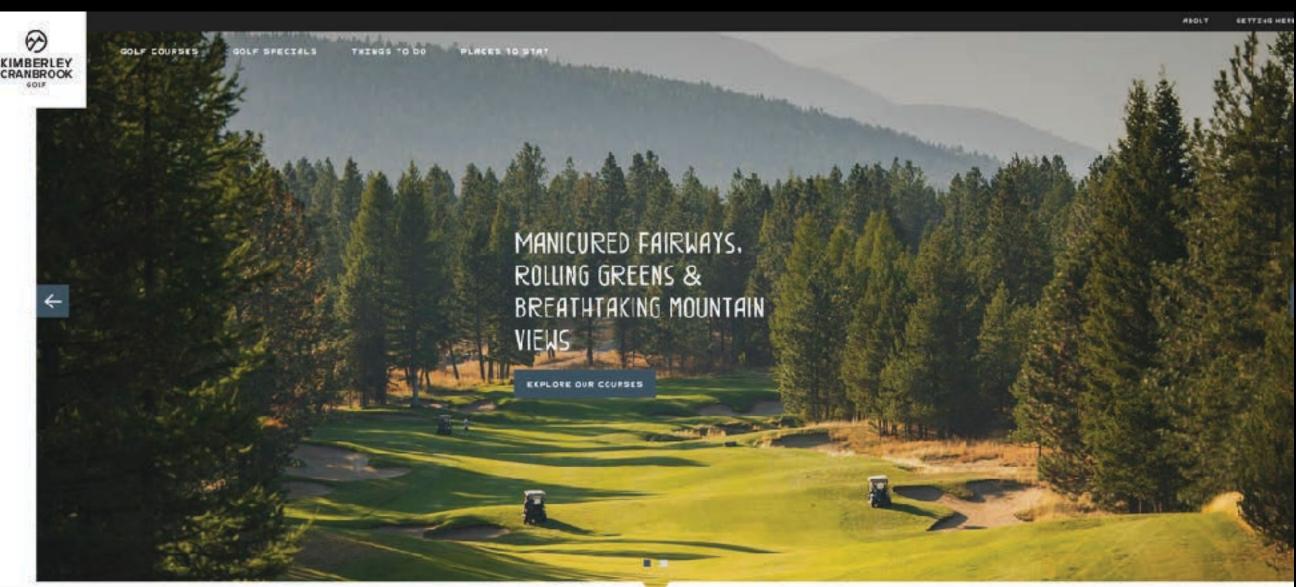
### MARKETING-COOPERATIVES



### Kootenay Paddling Paradise: Lakes, Rivers & Mountain Views

Cranbrook, nestled in the heart of the Kootenays, offers a paddler's paradise for every skill level. Glide across the crystal-clear waters of peaceful lakes like St. Mary's or Peckham's, surrounded by breathtaking mountain scenery. For the adventurous, the Bull River beckons with exhilarating whitewater rapids, perfect for honing your paddling skills. Whether you seek a serene escape or a thrilling





### VISITOR CENTRES

- New popup visitor centre/bike in 2024
- Rainbow Registered accreditation

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Visitors to VIC	3,618	3,873	5,671	7,372	7,253
Mobile (NEW)	_		3,802	5,071	4,310



# MOBILE VISITOR SERVICES





## MOBILE VISITOR SERVICES





# VISITOR CENTRE INDIGENOUS LEARNING GRANT





# VISITOR CENTRE INDIGENOUS LEARNING GRANT





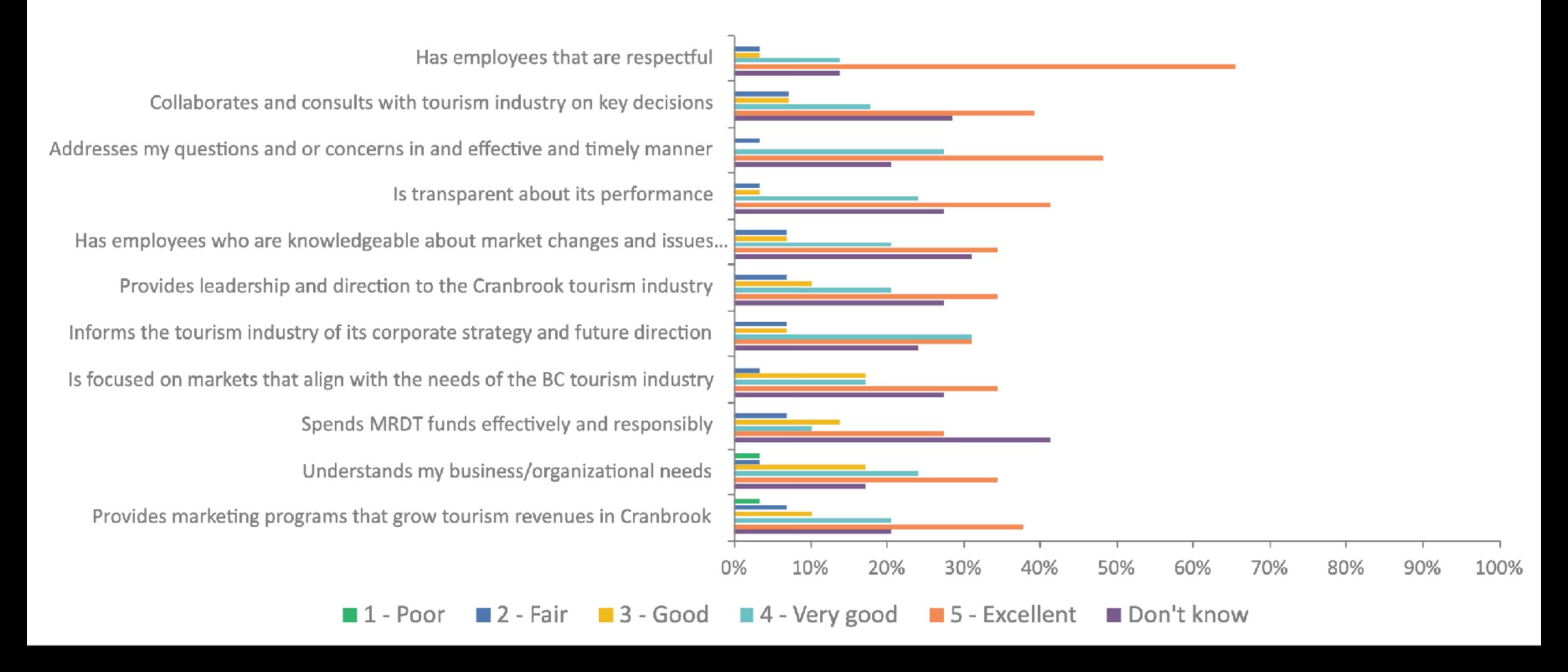
### TRAINING

- Event Sponsorship Workshop
- Board Governance
- FireCircle Experience
   Development

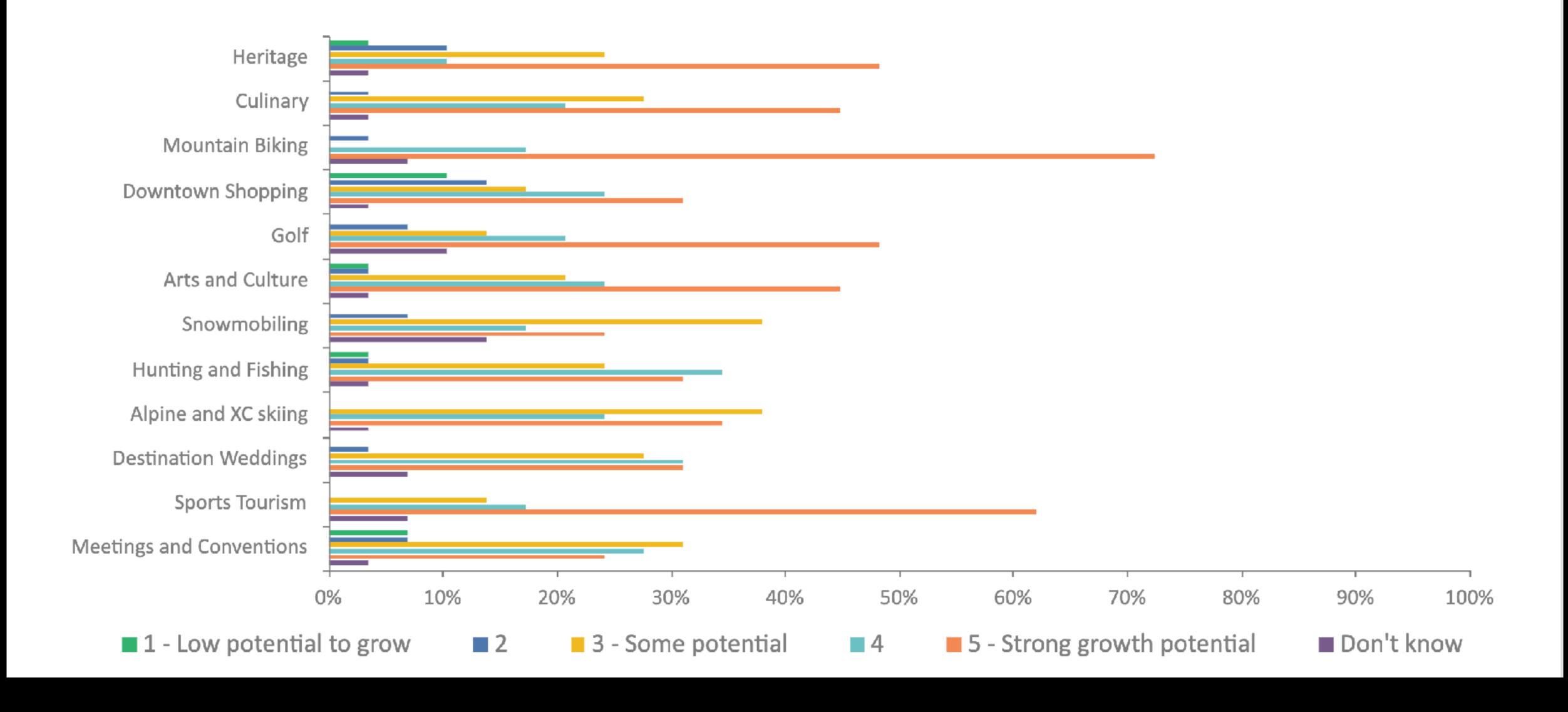




Q4: Cranbrook Tourism strives to collaborate and be an inclusive industry-driven organization. How do you rate Cranbrook Tourism's performance on the following ways of conducting business? Please rate on a scale where 1 - Poor and 5 - Excellent.



Q8: How much potential to grow do you think each of the following tourism products and/or experiences have in CranbrookPlease rate each of the following on a scale of 1-5, where 1 - Low potential and 5 - Strong growth potential.



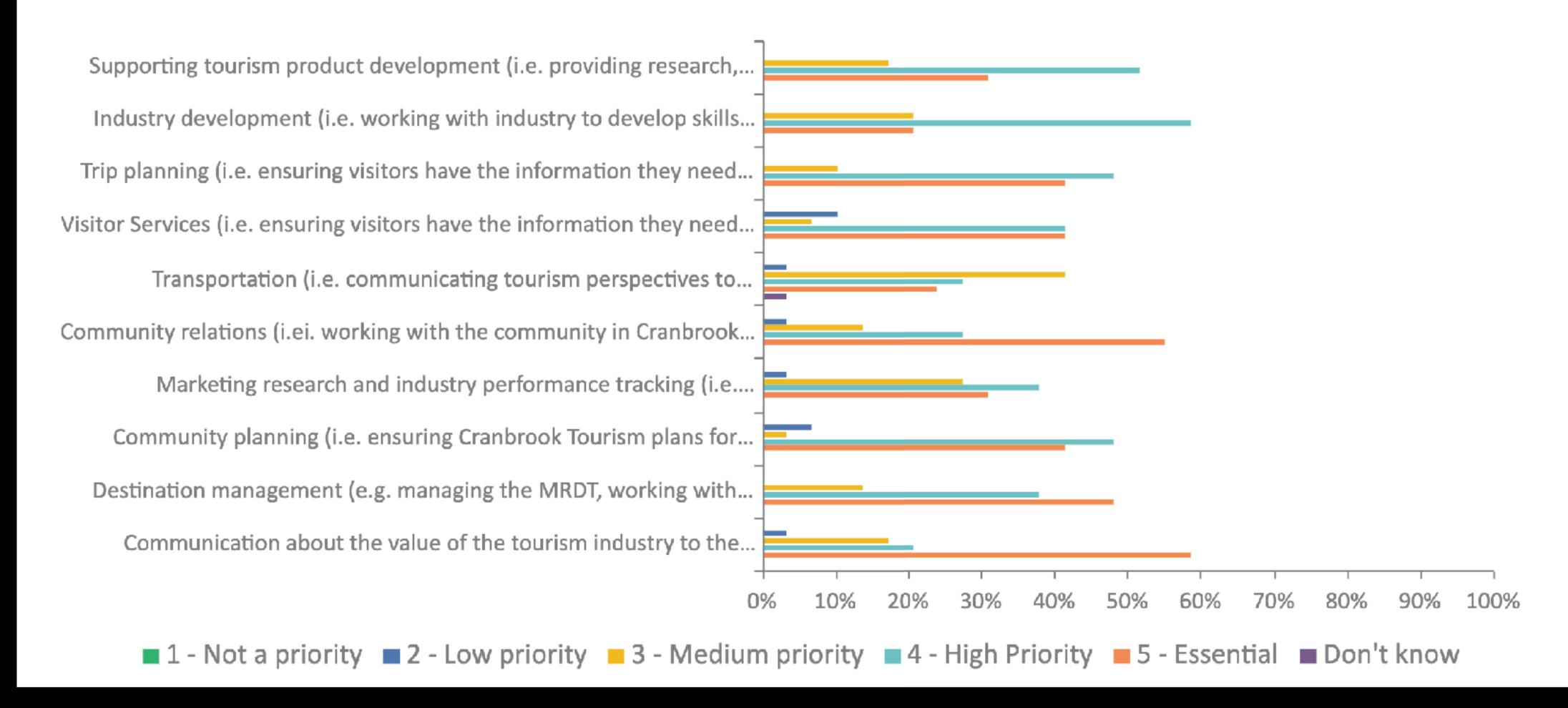
# Q9 Thinking about the future of tourism in Cranbrook. In your opinion, what are the top three barriers to the growth of the tourism industry in Cranbrook?

	2.
Infrastructure	
more out of town things to do a	nd less in town activities
What is Cranbrook best known	for as a tourist destination?! I don't even know?
Need more transit options	
Convention centre facility	
Local perception	
no core downtown to stroll with	interests
A noticeable percentage of the	local residents who would prefer that things stay the same. They simply aren't interested in economic growth.
Heavy Fire Seasons	
Ugly Highway	
Spectrum of Attractions	
stupid Covid rules	
finding funding for events	
More restaurants open on off ti	mes ie stat holidays
low variety of vacation package	es
Support and participation from i	najor industry - Example RCR
many cool places not on strip -	people miss them
Budget constraints	
Lack of community understand	ing/ awareness
Rental/Purchasing costs	

# Q9 Thinking about the future of tourism in Cranbrook. In your opinion, what are the top three barriers to the growth of the tourism industry in Cranbrook?

	3.
Physical appearance of the	he city of Cranbrook
older popultion people are	e less likely to respond to online advertsiing etc
Focus more on getting to	urists to come here and improving tourists experiences in Cranbrook.
need more hotel rooms	
Strengthening partnership	ps with the city of Cranbrook and The Chamber of Commerece
Visitor perception - not jus	st a pit stop
no convention centre	
Black swan events like C	ovid for example.
Poor City Upkeep	
Lack of tourism amenities	
Climate Crisis	
pricing and availability for	venues
Many activities are weath	ner dependant ie snow/smoke impacts
cost of marketing	
surrounded by tourist tow	vns
Consolidated vision amor	ngst stakeholders
The current city administr	ration, lack of forward thinking/growth mindset

Q11: Destination marketing organizations take on a wide range of activities outside of marketing and promotion to help grow tourism in communities. As described earlier, this survey will be used to assist in Cranbrook Tourism's planning. In your opinion, how much of a priority should Cranbrook Tourism place on each of the following program areas? Please rate each of the following program areas on a scale of 1-5 where 1 = Not a priority and 5 = Essential.



### TOURISM MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

- Invest in arrivals and gateways
- Resource and support a Ktunaxa cultural initiative
- Create a Cranbrook vibe downtown
- Invest in Trails and Connections
- Share the stories Interpretive and way finding signage
- Pursue sport events and festivals Invest in parks and venues
- Explore new iconic attractions



# A PERMANENT HOME FOR CRANBROOK TOURISM











