



MANUFACTURING & TECHNOLOGY SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

The Manufacturing and Technology Sector Initiative (MATS) is a two-year **Columbia Basin Trust** initiative supporting economic diversification and development in the Columbia Basin, with a focus on the manufacturing and technology sectors. Delivered in partnership by **Kootenay Association for Science and Technology (KAST)** and **Kootenay Rockies Innovation Council (KRIC)**, MATS focuses on the development, retention and expansion of Basin manufacturing and technology businesses. MATS activities include: conferences, workshops and networking events; business retention and expansion (BRE): a business survey aimed at shedding light on current sector strategies for the retention and expansion of Basin Businesses; virtual incubator where businesses can find mentors and track their progress through business development in an online setting; and peer mentoring groups designed to help entrepreneurs address the issues and barriers they experience in building their businesses. The RDI is supporting this initiative through the provision of ongoing research support, including BRE specific training and research support.
