

Kootenai County Historic Preservation Commission (KCHPC)

## 2017-2018 School Year Student Essay Contest

### TOPIC: Kootenai County in 1910

**Overview:** Imagine it is 1910 and you are a Kootenai County Commissioner. You have just received a letter from a Mr. Smith. He's a prosperous lumber mill owner whose family and business are located near a large city in Minnesota. His letter states he is thinking about moving his business and family (his spouse, their 14-year-old daughter and their 16-year-old son) to Kootenai County. Mr. Smith asks the following questions in his letter: **(1)** Have the recent boundary changes made Kootenai County bigger or smaller? **(2)** Have the recent boundary changes made the county's population bigger or smaller? **(3)** What cities are in the county and what is the population of each? **(4)** What industries in the county employ the most workers? **(5)** What utilities are available to businesses and residents? **(6)** What modes of transportation are available for transporting goods and people within and outside the county? **(7)** What medical facilities are available for treating severe injuries/illnesses? **(8)** What schools are available for the children and where are they located? **(9)** What does one do for recreation and entertainment in Kootenai County?

**Goal:** Your goal is to convince Mr. Smith to move his business and family to Kootenai County. Your essay must be in the form of a letter back to Mr. Smith. You may choose to write your letter giving him factual answers to as many of his questions as possible or you may choose to write your letter giving him a more detailed, extensive answer to only one of his questions.

**Participation:** All public, private and home-school students residing in Kootenai County and enrolled in grade levels 6-8 (Middle School Level) and 9-12 (High School Level) may participate.

**FIND COMPLETE RULES/GUIDELINES ON COUNTY WEBSITE AT [WWW.KCGOV.US](http://WWW.KCGOV.US).**

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**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ESSAYS: FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2017**

#### CASH PRIZES

**Middle and High School Level First Place - \$200 each**

**Middle and High School Level Second Place - \$100 each**

**Middle and High School Level Third Place - \$50 each**

**SPECIAL NOTE TO TEACHERS:** The KCHPC asks all History, Social Sciences/Studies, English and Language Arts teachers to encourage their students to participate in this contest either independently (for extra credit) or as a class writing assignment. We truly need your support!

