Community Futures Okanagan Similkameen

Performance Results for 2024-25

Community Futures (CF) is a national program that fosters entrepreneurship and community economic development in rural Canada. There are 34 CF offices in British Columbia, mandated to deliver a variety of services ranging from strategic economic planning, technical and advisory services to businesses, loans to small and medium-sized businesses, self-employment assistance programs, and services targeted to youth and entrepreneurs with disabilities. CF offices are non-profit corporations run by salaried staff and guided by volunteer boards of directors.

Community Futures Performance Results	2024-25
Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation	
Number of community-based projects	8
2. Number of local and regionally based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	1
Rural access to business development services	
Number of business training session participants	1,426
4. Number of business advisory services	522
Rural access to capital and leveraged capital	
5. Value of loans	\$1,190,013
6. Number of loans	11
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹	57

Provide additional Information (e.g. success stories, links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc.)

Loan Activities:

- Total Loan Production: \$1.759MM committed & \$1.665MM disbursed
- "Investment Fund" Loans 11 loans totaling \$1.190MM to businesses in our region (net of other partnership funds, syndications & readvances).
- Loans helped to create or support 57 jobs in our region.

Training and Development:

- 1,426 attendance-days of training delivered²
- 522 Business Advisory Sessions
- Training sessions including Business Model Canvas, Business Plan Development, Bookkeeping 101, Build your Website in a day, Social Media, SEO, and Marketing in Digital Age.
- Contract to deliver Self-Employment training for WorkBC runs to March 2027

¹ Estimated at the time of lending

² (1 person for 2 days of training = 2 person-days of training)

Project highlights

Okanagan Innovation Food Hub (OIFH)

- Obtained \$50K implementation grant from ETSI-BC
- Hired FT Project Manager
- Community & User engagements updated, business plan updated
- Facility designed (Architectural, production zones etc.)
- Renegotiated terms to extend funding and project into 2026-27.
- Building permits passed 2nd reading, now at ALC (under review)

Community Walk-In Clinic Partnership:

- Partnered with Community Foundation & Division of Family practice to open a Walk-in Clinic at3115 Skaha Lake Rd.
- \$2MM renovation project is well-underway (opening July 1, 2025)
- \$1.8MM funds raised from the community
- 4 new doctors attracted to practice team-based care at the new facility
- 3,000 patients will be attached from the waitlist
- Walk-in availability will double from current levels

Sponsorships: \$99K

- Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce Excellence Awards
- South Okanagan Healthcare Society (\$150K total with our Subsidiary's contribution)
- 2025 International Adventure Race in Penticton (\$2.5MM Economic Benefit projected)
- 2025 National Convention Junior Chamber International
- Okanagan College Scholarships & Bursaries (Business & Heath Care)
- SS Sicamous restoration project
- Similkameen Country Changemakers series
- Okanagan Manufacturers Alliance (Contingent on other funding)

Other:

- Participated in CF Provincial Conference and CF Pan West Conference.
- Planning underway to acquire location & open a 2nd community owned medical clinic. (Summerland)