

Performance Results for 2023-24 CF Okanagan Similkameen

Community Futures (CF) is a program that supports community economic development and builds the capacity of communities to realize their full sustainable potential. The purpose of the CF Program is to help communities develop and implement *local solutions to local problems*.

Community Futures Performance Results	2023-24
<i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i>	
1. Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)	20
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	0
<i>Rural access to business development services</i>	
3. Total number of business training session participants	2,518
4. Total number of business advisory services	618
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>	
5. Dollar value of loans	\$1,758,016
6. Total number of loans	26
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹	47.5
Summary of 2023-24 Community Futures Main Projects, Activities, Accomplishments, and Outcomes	
<p>Loan Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loan Disbursements: 26 Loans totaling \$1.758 were disbursed to businesses in our region. • Loans helped to create or support 47.5 jobs in our region. • \$5,657,449 of our funds are invested into 100 local businesses (March 31, 2024). <p>Training and Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,518 attendance-days of training delivered² • Conducted various 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 Extended 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)

- Hold \$400,000 in project funds & \$400,000 commitment
- Worked throughout the year to find a suitable location
- Supported local agriculture business with a \$4MM IAF Grant to build a distribution facility.
- Renegotiated terms to extend funding and project into 2024-25.

CF Disaster Recovery Economic Adjustment Initiative

- Branded as MyCommunityFutures – offering business support in hard hit area’s from the 2021 Atmospheric River event.
- Provides coaching, workshops & funding for business specific training
- Also provided access to professionals (Legal, Tax, etc.) to support business recovery.
- Details of our regions business participation in MyCF:

Business Sign-ups	180
Online Workshops	310
Business Specific Training Businesses	81
Approved Funding for Training	\$143K
Peer mentoring	4
Consultants & Professional (insurance, accounting, legal etc.)	48 (197 hours)

Community Walk-In Clinic Partnership:

- Partnered with Community Foundation & Division of Family practice to open a Walk-in Clinic at Apple plaza.
- In the first few months, 2,697 patients served at the Community Walk-In Clinic
- Other projects underway to increase the number of community-run clinics in our region.

Okanagan College Transportation Study:

- Supported & provided seed funding for a comprehensive study of student transportation needs. ETSI-BC provided a further \$25K

Sponsorships:

- Penticton & Wine Country Chamber of Commerce Excellence Awards
- Ntamtqen School (Lower Similkameen Indian Band)
- Okanagan College Scholarships & Bursaries (Business & Health Care)

Other:

- Participated in Job Fair
- Delivered employer training session prior to Job fair
- AI Presentation developed and delivered to Non-Profit group & Penticton Women in Business
- Participated in Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness Roundtables.
- Attended EDABC Conference with ~260 attendees.
- Participated in CF Provincial Conference and CF Pan West Conference.