

Performance Results for 2021-22 Community Futures 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		2021-22
<i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i>		
1. Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)		25
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated		1
<i>Rural access to business development services</i>		
3. Total number of business training session participants		2,206
4. Total number of business advisory services		550
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>		
5. Dollar value of loans		1,270,094
6. Total number of loans		33
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹		61
Number of clients served	607	
# Persons with disabilities served	117	
Number of Indigenous clients served	19	
Number of Social Enterprise clients served	6	
Number of Female clients served	204	
Number of Youth clients served (ages 29 years or younger)	20	
<p>In 2021-2022, our Community Futures completed our COVID RRRF business financial support that saw a total of 96 businesses assisted with \$4,425,929 in loans, supporting 312 jobs. During the year, 33 new loans in our region were approved and funded for \$1,270,094. We disbursed another \$82,500 to participate in a CF loan in our neighbouring region of Grand Forks. At the end of 2022, our loan portfolio consisted of \$11.2MM of assets under management, with 193 loans outstanding. A complimentary service was developed for our start-up loan clients, where our Accounting Manager will help advise, set-up and tutor on frequent bookkeeping transactions & routines.</p> <p>Our training department was very successful in the 21-22 year, generating more operational support than anticipated thru new fee-for service training developed for other organizations. This was a positive outcome of the pandemic made possible by the widespread adoption of videoconferencing. Together, our contracts to deliver self employment services and delivery of training as a service to our region and other organizations generated \$163K in</p>		

¹ Estimated at the time of lending

Performance Results for 2013-14 Insert Name of CF Here

income. Overall, we delivered 2,206 seats of training, and 550 business advisory services. We also expanded our training offering, with our Accounting Manager now providing bookkeeping set-up and mentoring services to new loan clients.

We expanded our reach and staff in 2021-22 thru successful grant applications to The Economic Trust of the Southern Interior. We hired a full-time Food Processing Business Advisor and a part-time Business Advisor who worked exclusively in our region where there is a population of under 15,000, the Business Advisor was tasked with focusing on supporting Princeton and the Similkameen, to help adjust from the flood event of November 2021.

In response to the November catastrophic flooding in Princeton & the Similkameen, we partnered with Princeton's Economic Development Department, the Economic Development Association of BC, and the Provincial reps for Forest Lands, Natural resources and development. CF deployed 3 staff for 3 days of business walks, information gathering, and community consultation.

During the year, we also advanced two primary community economic development initiatives, the South Okanagan Food Hub and advancing new Primary Care facilities in partnership with the Division of Family Practice. Other projects of note included grant writing support to organizations securing more than \$50K in investments to local organizations. We provided financial support in developing our local film industry included bringing in a Casting Director from Vancouver to help develop local talent for productions – a partnership with the Tempest Theatre Society and the Okanagan Film Commission. As a result of that one program, 11 locals were cast on TV series and film, including 3 indigenous women that are youths - for the CBC Series "Bones of Crows". Our involvement in attracting entrepreneur Immigration under the Provincial Nominee Program resulted on one new offer of immigration. Over the year, we provided substantial leadership support for several local area Chambers of Commerce, we helped with the Wildfire (Taking Care Of Business) program delivery.

Other items of note:

New band agricultural plan, \$65K grant applied for - pending.

131 Disabled Entrepreneur trainings delivered.

16 rural farmers trained in Food Safe.

Outreach to over 80 local food processors

\$50,000 Grant from Regional Government for Okanagan Innovation Food Hub (OIFH)

New 3-way MOU with District of Summerland, Developer & CFOS