

Performance Results for 2023-24 Shuswap

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)	10
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	3
<i>Rural access to business development services</i>	
3. Total number of business training session participants	376
4. Total number of business advisory services	140
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>	
5. Dollar value of loans	\$1,143,400
6. Total number of loans	15
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹	15
Provide additional Information (e.g. Success stories, Links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc...)	
<p>We continue to work collaboratively with our regional partners to leverage economic development programs and resources for the benefit of businesses throughout the Shuswap. We have strong and valued relations with other ED agencies within our service area and we share best practice resources throughout our CFBC network. All our staff attended the CFBC Cyber Conference in Kelowna in February 2024, and we continue to improve our knowledge, awareness, and diligence to best serve our clientele every day.</p> <p>Our office jointly organized and hosted the annual Shuswap Business Forum on November 1st, 2023. This was a sold-out event of 170 attendees. The theme and focus of the Forum were “Grow Your Business Now” highlighting speakers who spoke to trends and outlooks going forward including embracing AI and digital technology in the workplace.</p> <p>Unforeseen challenges arrived on our doorstep in mid-August when wildfires swept through areas of the Shuswap, particularly impacting the North Shuswap region. Many homes, businesses and structures were destroyed. Those that weren’t destroyed were impacted by smoke, evacuations, and business interruptions.</p> <p>A group of local business support services, including CF Shuswap, quickly joined forces to develop the “Shuswap Economic Recovery Taskforce” with the purpose of providing a unified suite of support services to businesses that had been affected by the wildfires. As well, our office received approval from CFBC to have the support of the Disaster Recovery & Economic Adjustment Initiative (DREAI). Collectively, these services have been valuable to the entire region’s economy, recovery, and resiliency. We have also been holding workshops to inform and educate businesses on the steps they should take to prepare for any future business interruption.</p>	

¹ Estimated at the time of lending

Performance Results for 2013-14 Shuswap

We continue to meet quarterly with other CF offices within the Thompson Okanagan region to share ideas, concerns, opportunities, and best practices. These collaborations have been very helpful and appreciated by our office. We have a strong and supportive board of directors who take an active interest in all aspects of our organization.

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