

Performance Results for 2020-21 Community Futures 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	2020-21
<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	2
<i>Rural access to business development services</i>	
3. Total number of business training session participants	553
4. Total number of business advisory services	96
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>	
5. Dollar value of loans	\$1,761,688
6. Total number of loans	37
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹	167
Provide additional information (e.g. Success stories, Links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc...)	
<p>The year started just as the COVID-19 pandemic was spreading throughout the world and all levels of government were reacting to counteract its threat to our livelihoods. Like most other agencies, Community Futures Shuswap followed the guidelines that were required to protect our staff and clients and to make the necessary changes to enable us to continue providing our business services.</p> <p>Community Futures Shuswap quickly joined other local business support organizations (Tsuts’weye Women’s Entrepreneur Network, Shuswap Economic Development and Salmon Arm Economic Development Society) to establish a “Shuswap Business Support Hub” whose purpose was to connect with and assist all businesses in the Shuswap who were affected by COVID-19. We provided what services we could and directed the client to other government resources that were being offered on an ongoing basis. The Hub proved to be an essential service that was a “one-stop” call centre for business support.</p> <p>In spite of the major disruption to our business at the beginning of the year, we were successful in pivoting our business operations to work safely within a COVID world and we were successful in achieving our original performance targets, particularly with our total value of loans and business development services offered.</p> <p>Through the course of the year, three rounds of COVID-19 Regional Relief & Recovery Funds (RRRF) were made available throughout the CF network. By year end, we had approved 34 loans in the amount of \$861,807. We</p>	

¹ Estimated at the time of lending

Performance Results for 2013-14 Insert Name of CF Here

anticipate that more RRRF loan funds will be made available soon by the federal government to continue to support business recovery and resiliency.

We are very proud of the funded programs that are under our management, such as the Tsuts'weye Women's Entrepreneur and Innovation Network, Secwepemc Lakes Training & Employment Initiative and the Indigenous Tourism Development Project. Each project has adapted to the needs of the clients/communities they serve and have found ways to stay connected when there was not always a clear path to do so. We acknowledge the great work of each project team to stay relevant through COVID and to achieve the successes they have.

The challenges we faced this past year were primarily caused by the disruption of COVID and the time taken to adjust to the new reality we faced. Connecting with others and adjusting to virtual meetings was not always a smooth transition for some of our partners and clients. Some of the Indigenous communities faced pandemic outbreaks and were compelled to cease their contact with others for weeks at a time. We supported each other the best we could and found strength in that support.

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