Performance Results for 2025-26 Community Futures East Interlake Inc.

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	**2025-26**
Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation	
1. Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)	**11**
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	**4**
Rural access to business development services	
3. Total number of business training session participants	**337**
4. Total number of business advisory services	**271**
Rural access to capital and leveraged capital	
5. Dollar value of loans	**$256,000**
6. Total number of loans	**3**
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending[1]	**10**

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

Build Interlake Growth Program (BIG) The program's focus is on projects that create employment or the attraction of new residents to the East Interlake region. Total grant funded approved this this year was $20,000. The program is in its eighteenth year.

The following projects approved for funding in 2025-2026:

- Arborg - Restoration of Heritage hall, Church and Train Rail Cars - $5,000
- Municipality of Bifrost-Riverton – Security Cameras, Lighting and Kitchen Washroom Accessibility Upgrades - $5,000
- Grosse Isle – Farmers Market Signage and Brochures - $5,000
- Fraserwood - Accessible Washrooms - $5,000

Next grant project intake date will be December 15th, 2026.

[1] Estimated at the time of lending

Marketing/Training Support Program for Business– The program offers entrepreneurs up to **$1,000** in eligible marketing and training assistance. During the reporting period, **seven businesses** were approved under the program, with a combined total of **$5,656** disbursed.

CFEI AGM/40th Event – The CFEI Annual General Meeting, combined with the program's 40th anniversary celebration, took place on June 19, 2025. The event honored the contributions of former directors and showcased the program's longstanding successes.

A new logo was also created to celebrate the 40 years:

Bord Governance Training: Delivered training to three community groups in 2025/206.

Grant & Fundraising Workshop: Delivered two sessions to over 100 people.

Come to Market Pilot Project: The Winnipeg Beach Farmer's Market was selected to participate in a pilot project in Manitoba and Saskatchewan that provides financial support to the market and creates opportunities for new businesses to test their products. Several entrepreneurs were able to showcase their offerings and work on increasing their sales. One participant shared: "The Come to Market Program offered me space to promote my products at a bigger event, without me having to worry about the costs. As a small business starting out, that made a world of difference."

Junior Achievement: Delivered three modules to 219 youth in our region.

Additional Statistics:

- Though CFEI Community Development BIG grant, over $68,415 was leveraged this year
- 131 clients severed, of which 37 identified as female, 11 indigenous, 14 youth and 22 entrepreneurs with disabilities
- $145,000 was leveraged through lending services