

Performance Results for 2020-21 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	2020-21
<i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i>	
1. Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)	40
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	4
<i>Rural access to business development services</i>	
3. Total number of business training session participants	110
4. Total number of business advisory services	1,109
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>	
5. Dollar value of loans	\$4,424,353.61 with RRRF* \$225,653.61 without RRRF*
6. Total number of loans	140 with RRRF* 5 without RRRF*
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹	154 with RRRF* 11 without RRRF*
*Regional Relief & Recovery Fund	
Provide additional Information (e.g. Success stories, Links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc...)	
<p>Our office delivered the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund to assist business impacted by COVID 19, just over 4.8 million was lent from our office through this program.</p> <p>Our office had the highest usage of the \$750 Covid Support Program for Entrepreneurs with Disabilities and also utilized the Indigenous Covid Support Program, that provided marketing services for businesses. Because of these programs, we launched are own \$750 support program to assist other entrepreneurs. A total of 68 businesses in our region benefited from the \$750 COVID support programs enabling them to market their businesses online or</p>	

¹ Estimated at the time of lending

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increase their marketing efforts. The success of the program was two-fold, as businesses in our region received supports they might not have been able to access and the service providers were able to expand their businesses and in some cases hire new employees to meet the increased demand.

CFEI hosted 3 Pan West Board modules virtually, that both our board and outside non-profit community agencies attended in January/February – overall, we had 55 people take the board modules.

CFEI organization also partnered with the local chambers early on to deliver training/information sessions to businesses in the region on topics that were needed during the early days of COVID19.

CFEI is involved in a very existing project through the Rural Opportunities Fund – Build a Better Business, that will create 9 entrepreneurship training modules that will cover the basics of starting and running a business. Through this project we are working closely with many organizations such as CDEM, Louis Riel and CEDF and other CF partners. The project is entering its second year, and once completed in 2021/2022 we will have resources and tools for CF and our partners to deliver much needed entrepreneurship training to clients.

This year we saw a record number of clients access our services – 385 clients. We provided 1109 advisory services in our region to these clients. Our regular loan program provided 5 loans, of which 4 were to women entrepreneurs and the other to an indigenous entrepreneur. On international women's day, our board approved two loans to 2 women entrepreneurs in the region.

Though COVID 19 our organization had to continually pivot like so many other organizations. We had policy changes that sometimes needed to be implemented immediately, working from home challenges and numerous changes to the way we deliver services. We have adopted many new tools such as Zoom, Microsoft TEAMS, and set up more secure systems through VPN.

We continued to deliver our community development programming that including the delivery of the Building Interlake Growth program that provided 4 grants in the amount of \$14,000 to various community groups in the region.

We also provide a grant of \$16,389 through the Building Interlake Growth Regionally that provided funds to update a training centre for the region that will train nurses.

CFEI provided planning services to the Interlake Community Foundation, Argyle Heritage Rails & Trails and Town of Teulon. CFEI also continued work with regional CAO meetings virtually, these meetings allow CAOs in the region to get information on topics of value to them and network with others in the region. The meetings have as now grown to include CAOs from across the Interlake region.