

Annual Report

2008-2009 Fiscal Year



Growing communities one idea at a time.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



On behalf of the Board of Directors for North Central Community Futures Development Corporation Inc., operating as Community Futures North Central Development I am pleased to provide the Annual Report for 2008 – 2009.

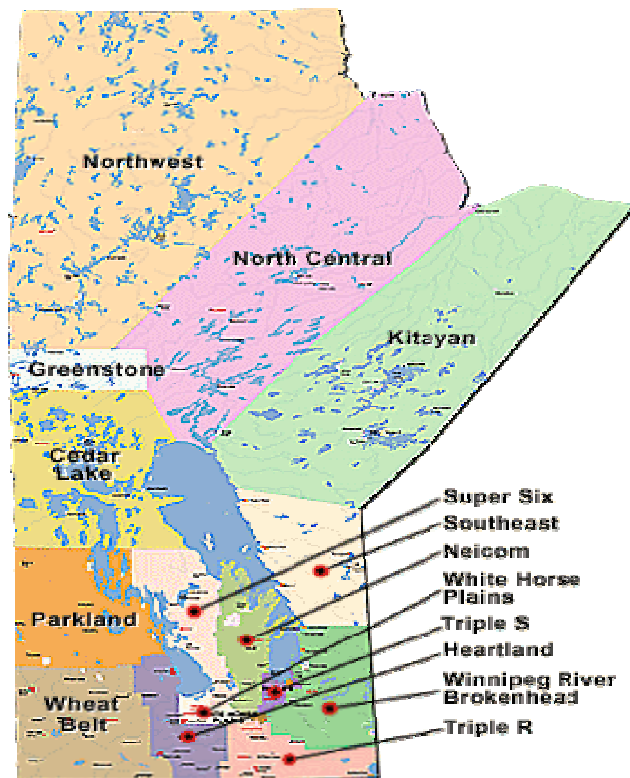
Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glen Flett". The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Glen Flett
Chairperson**

WHAT IS COMMUNITY FUTURES?

Community Futures Development Corporations help people develop the knowledge, experience, and attitudes that enable them to pursue their entrepreneurial goals. There are 90 CFDC'S across Western Canada actively working to mobilize their communities to achieve stronger, more sustainable futures. Community Futures North Central Development is one of the 16 CFDC's currently serving in Manitoba, and one of 5 in the north.



OUR MISSION

The North Central Community Futures Development Corporation Inc., will endeavor to bring together to support, develop and promote communities, individuals, organizations, businesses and other appropriate stakeholders within the North Central region, to encourage self-reliance and viability of the social and economic quality of life.

CORPORATE

2008 – 2009 Board of Directors

Directors:	Roxanne Chan	Churchill
	Darlene Beck	Cross Lake Community Council
	Ryan Castel	Cross Lake First Nation
	Shirley Neepin	Fox Lake First Nation
	Albert McTavish	Gillam
	Jim Chornoby	Ilford
	Vacant	Nelson House Community Council
	Marcel Moody	Nelson House First Nation
	Glen Flett	Norway House Community Council
	Wayne Anderson	Norway House Cree Nation
	Angeline Flett	Pikwitonei
	Norman Flett	Split Lake Cree Nation
	Frank Dorian*	Thicket Portage
	Judy Kolada	Thompson
	Frances McIvor	Wabowden
	Philip Morris	War Lake First Nation
	Sam Saunders	York Landing
Alternates:	John Lundie	Fox Lake First Nation
	Debbie Finucane	Gillam
	Shirley Linklater	Nelson House First Nation
	Bill Cordell	Pikwitonei
	Keith Burak	Split Lake Cree Nation
	Marcel Brightnose*	Thicket Portage
	William Brightnose	Thicket Portage
	Brian Wilson	Thompson
	Reg Meade	Wabowden
	Roy Ouskun	War Lake First Nation
	Darryl Wastesicoot	York Landing

Executive:	Chairperson:	Glen Flett
	Vice Chair:	Judy Kolada
	Treasurer:	Frances McIvor
	Secretary:	Wayne Anderson

Volunteers:	Gary Ceppetelli	Thompson
	Roxie Binns	Thompson
	SMD	Thompson
	Noelle Halcrow	Cross Lake

*Has since left the Board of Directors of CFNCD



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CORPORATE

2008 – 2009 Staff

General Manager: Tim Johnston

Administrative Officer: Tamy Burton

Administrative Assistant: Tara Ellingson

Development Officers:
Liz Sousa
Charlene Grant
Leslie Tucker*
Leann Brown
Tanya Noseworthy*
Michelle Pruder
Nomi Khan
Kiran Roy
Angelica Matiassek

Aboriginal Business Canada: Peter Rosenfeld
Alan Brackman*

Corporate Office: 3 Station Road
Thompson, Manitoba R8N 1P1
Phone: (204) 677-1490
Fax: (204) 778-5672
Toll Free: 1-888-847-7878

ncd@northcentraldevelopment.ca
www.northcentraldevelopment.ca

*Has since left the Employ of CFNCD

VISION STATEMENT

The North Central region of the future will have undergone unique changes to convert opportunities based throughout the region, including human resources, cultural diversity, and natural, environmental and historical significance into very positive and successful local production and regional use. This will have also produced a healthy, competitive and self-sufficient economy with an improved infrastructure, a common access to all current technology as well as a more balanced trade to the “South”.

On the human side, the North Central region will have increased awareness and understanding of the cultural diversity, produce an enhanced co-ordination, co-operation and communication, and a common trust among all political organizations within the region, and will have provided the regions youth with education and entrepreneurial spirit.

STRATEGIC GOALS

Administration

- To ensure the organization (board and staff) operates in an efficient manner

Community Development

- To build strong economic foundations within each of the communities in the north central region.

Business Development

- To enable residents and communities in the north central region to create wealth.



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VISIBILITY, PROMOTION & MARKETING

Video Conferencing

In partnership with Canada/Manitoba Business Service Centre (C/MBSC), CFNCD hosted 54 video conference seminars with a total of 98 participants.

Newsletter

CFNCD produces a quarterly newsletter to promote the programs, services and up-and-coming events in the North Central region.

Media Exposure

Press releases in local media in this fiscal year included:

- Bayline Rail ‘*Communities Meet to Discuss Troubled Rail Line*’ (January 2009)
- Snowmobile Friendly Thompson Project (February 2009)

Advertisements

CFNCD advertises programs and services on a regular basis in local media. This fiscal year, CFNCD produced several advertisements including:

- Bookkeeping Course
- Childcare Program
- Community Visits
- Entrepreneurs with Disabilities
- Job Postings
- Loan Programs
- SEA Program
- Settlement Services Program
- Small Business Tax Workshop
- Small Business Week
- Tourism Ads

Bankers Luncheon

New in 2008-2009, CFNCD introduced the first annual Bankers Luncheon. This successful event provided an opportunity for CFNCD to share information on lending programs available and promote partnerships between lending agencies and financial institutions.

Community Visits

Each year, staff travel to communities in the North Central Region to attend trade shows, career fairs and offer training in areas of community and business development. Trade Shows and Career Fairs were held in Norway House, Gillam/Fox Lake, Wabowden, Thompson and Nelson House. Workshops were held in Wabowden, training took place in Cross Lake and Norway House; and community promotional visits to Thicket Portage and Churchill.

Website

CFNCD maintains a website offering information about programming, services and upcoming events. Public documents, reports, brochures and newsletters can be downloaded from the site.

The CFNCD website was first developed in 1998, it was overhauled in 2003 to fit within the dyna biz website templates and community portal - www.thompson.ca. CFNCD has plans in the 2009/2010 year to revamp the website, making it more accessible and in the future see an increase in online traffic. Funding has been secured from Community Futures Manitoba (CFM) in order to contract a web designer and plain language consultant.

- www.northcentraldevelopment.ca

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Community Development Committee

Community Futures North Central Development provides support and assistance for community initiatives that enhance quality of life and viability of North Central communities.

The Community Development Committee meets on the third Tuesday of each month. The Committee met 9 times since the last AGM.

Children & Youth

TUAS Family Childcare Project: In September 2008, the Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy (TUAS) approached CFNCD to develop a feasibility study and business plan to create 12 new Family Childcare Homes that would provide spaces to 50 children in Thompson. A Project Coordinator was hired in January 2009 to coordinate the program and work with individuals on licensing and training.

Childcare Governance Paper: CFNCD was approached by the Childcare Coalition of Manitoba under the direction of Susan Prentice, PhD at the University of Manitoba to create a discussion/concept paper to find innovative ways to improve the existing governance model.

Skateboard Park: CFNCD continues to work closely with the City of Thompson and the Thompson Skatepark committee providing administrative support such as grant report writing. The Skatepark is now under construction and a grand opening is planned for Canada Day 2009.

Transportation

Rail Service Delivery: CFNCD provides administrative support to a working group struck to research alternative transportation to the communities in the north which depend on the rail line. The working group consists of CFNCD, Intergovernmental Affairs, Aboriginal Northern Affairs, Thompson Unlimited and the Bayline Regional Roundtable.

Tourism

Spirit Way: CFNCD completed a four-year coordination role for Spirit Way Inc., last fiscal year. The Spirit Way walkway, under development for the past 4 years, currently has 16 Points of Interest. Spirit Way is an award winning walking and biking path in Thompson. The Spirit Way Points of Interest feature historical, cultural, geological, industrial, artistic, and scenic perspectives. CFNCD continues to provide support by way of administration, meeting location and photocopying.

Tourism North: In partnership with the 5 other northern Manitoba Community Futures, Norman Regional Development Corporation, Thompson Unlimited and the Town of The Pas, a regional tourism committee was struck in 1999 to deliver a marketing plan in the north. In 2008-09 Tourism North completed an ad campaign, regional tourism guide and a snowmobile pilot project. Also, in partnership with Travel Manitoba, CFNCD coordinated trips for the north featured in the “Celebrate Manitoba” campaign; a province wide campaign to win trips throughout Manitoba.

Special Populations

Entrepreneurs with Disabilities: This program is funded by Community Futures Manitoba. This year an intensive marketing campaign for the Entrepreneurs with Disabilities loan fund was completed. Marketing included a new brochure for CFNCD, a series of print ads, radio spots, community channel advertising and a series of posters combined with a number of meetings with lenders, councils and the target population. A complete overhaul of the CFNCD website is planned for the 2009/2010 year.

Settlement Services: In partnership with the City of Thompson, Manitoba Competitiveness Training and Trades (MCTT), Thompson Immigrant Women’s Association, Burntwood Regional Health Authority (BRHA), Vale Inco, Ma-Mow-We-Tak Friendship Centre and the Multi Cultural Centre, CFNCD houses and supports a Newcomer Settlement Services Coordinator. Funding for the project comes from the Manitoba Immigration Integration Program.

Northern Commuter Option: CFNCD has been contracted by M.O. Harvey & Associates to research the feasibility of a commuter program. The program would provide travel to Thompson, for residents from the communities of Nelson House and Split Lake for training and employment in the service industry as well as the trades sector.

Vision Quest: CFNCD attended the 12th annual Vision Quest Conference in Winnipeg from May 13-15, 2008. CFNCD plays a role in the coordination of the conference as a member of the Conference Planning Committee and has volunteered during the event. Vision Quest is a non-profit charitable organization formed through partnerships with six Community Futures Development Corporations to promote Aboriginal business and community economic development. In 2008 the show was an undeniable success with over 700 individuals attending. In the past 12 years, 7,000 people have attended the event.



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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

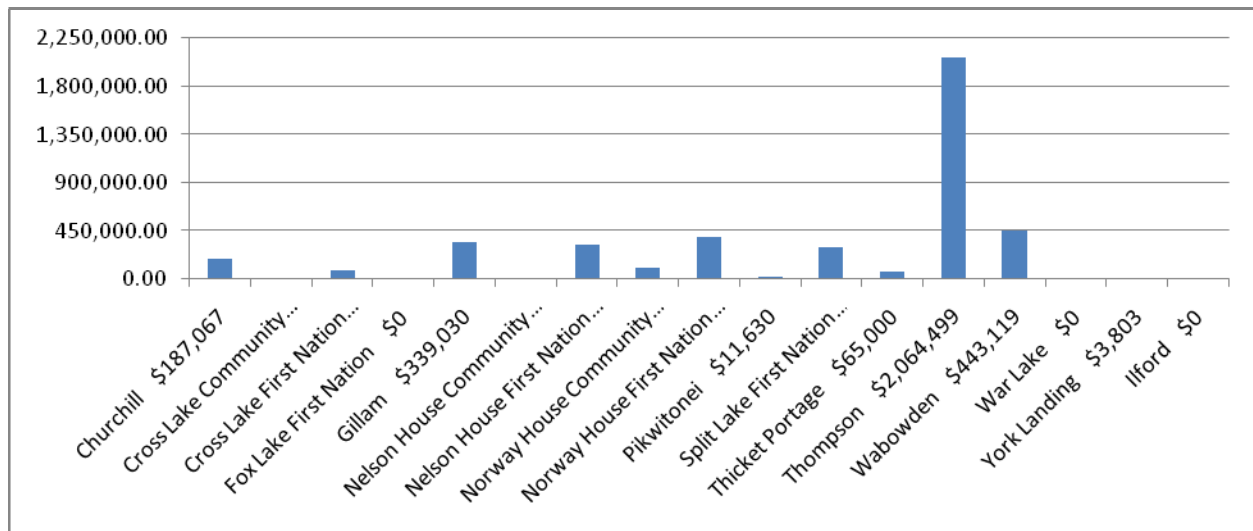
Business Development Committee

The Corporation acts as an alternative lender and manages investment funds that are used to provide business loans to help finance business purchases, start-up and expansions. The Business Development Committee (BDC) reviews each application and awards or declines loans. The Business Development Committee generally meets on the first Tuesday of each month to review new loan applications and administer existing loans of the Corporation. The committee has met 6 times since the last AGM.

Loan Portfolio

The Corporation manages a one million dollar business loan portfolio and an additional \$40,000 from Business Development Bank of Canada to administer the Peer Credit Program.

CFNCD's investment funds are revolving, with repayments on loans being reinvested to provide the availability of loan funds for entrepreneurs to start business. In 2008-2009, 9 loans were settled providing deposits of \$112,223.76 and an additional \$1,467,531.00 was leveraged through other financial institutions and owner's equity.



Investment Fund Portfolio, by community



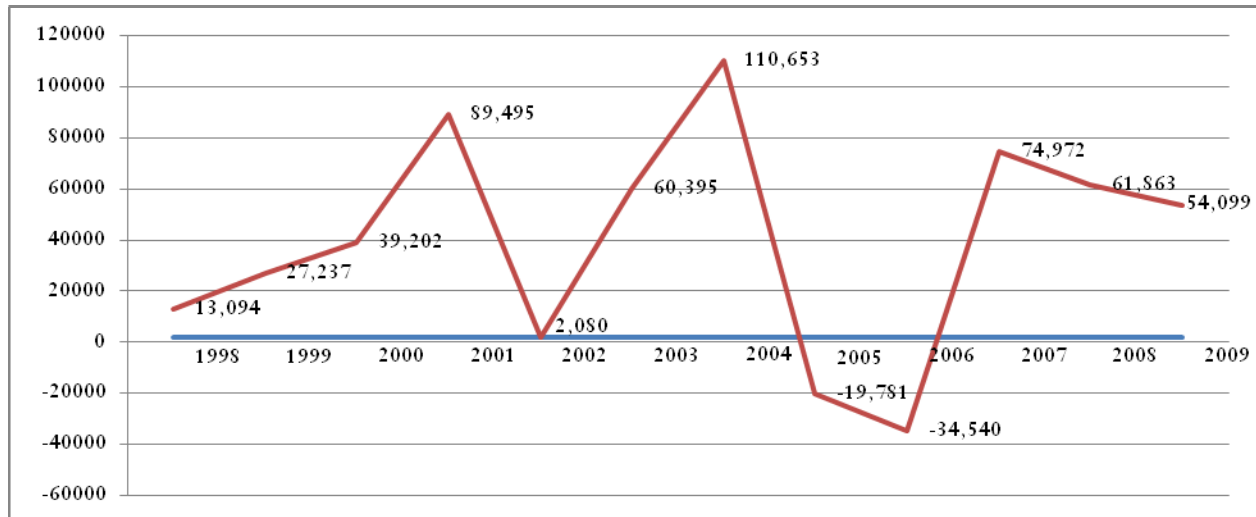
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Loan Portfolio History

Since inception in 1997, CFNCD has approved 211 loans valued at \$4,285,775.41.

Business Development staff continued to work on delinquency and on the recovery of bad debt this past year. Total amount recovered was \$4,159.00. Unfortunately, loan loss for the fiscal year was \$17,532.00, resulting in a net loan loss of \$13,373.00.

Note that the net income (loss) for the Investment Funds, (as per Kendall, Pandya Chartered Accountants) for the last 12 years is as follows:



1998:	\$ 13,094.00	2003:	\$ 60,395.00	2008:	\$ 61,863.00
1999:	\$ 27,237.00	2004:	\$ 110,653.00	2009:	\$ 54,099.00
2000:	\$ (39,202.00)	2005:	\$ (19,781.00)		
2001:	\$ (89,495.00)	2006:	\$ (34,540)		
2002:	\$ (2,080.00)	2007:	\$ 74,972		

Self Employment Assistance Program

The Self Employment Assistance (SEA) Program is designed to assist unemployed Manitobans create jobs for themselves by starting their own business. In 2008-09, 6 clients were accepted into the SEA Program and successfully launched their businesses; 4 additional completed the orientation. SEA Program presentations were held in Churchill, Cross Lake, Leaf Rapids, Lynn Lake, Nelson House, Norway House, Oxford House, Split Lake, St. Theresa Point, Thicket Portage, Thompson and Wabowden.

Peer Credit Program & Business Development Bank of Canada

The Peer Credit Program increases financial skills and knowledge to the members in their communities. To date, 64 loans have been approved and 1 group remains active.

Canadian Youth Business Foundation (CYBF)

CFNCD partnered with the Canadian Youth Business Foundation to provide start-up and business resources, mentoring and financing to youth between the ages of 18-34 years.

Aboriginal Business Canada

October 2008 marked the beginning of the ninth year that Community Futures North Central Development (CFNCD) has delivered the Aboriginal Business Canada program for northern Manitoba. A Business Support Officer position was introduced this past year, and has worked closely with the External Delivery Officer to promote both Aboriginal Business Canada and CFNCD loan programs within the region.

The past year has been extremely successful in that more than \$3 Million worth of projects have been approved for the region. Two major projects completed this year, were contributions to Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation to enable them to invest in the Wuskwatim Generating Station; and to the War Lake First Nation Community Store.

Aboriginal Business Canada initiated a new program in 2008/09 '*Major Resource Economic Development Program*', which is intended to assist First Nations and Aboriginal Communities with accessing opportunities arising from ownership of and/or partnerships in large scale resource development projects.

The integration of the ABC program with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) was completed in Fall 2008, and contractual arrangements between CFNCD and ABC are now through INAC.



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AUDITORS REPORT

KENDALL & PANDYA

Chartered Accountants

300-31 Main St., P.O. Box 175, Flin Flon, MB R8A 1M7 (204) 687-8211 Fax 687-2957
118 Cree Road, Thompson, MB R8N 0C1 (204) 778-7312 Fax 778-7919

Partners.... David Kendall, FCA *
Manisha Pandya, CA *

* Operating as professional corporations

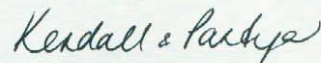
AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH AGREEMENT

We have audited the North Central Community Futures Development Corporation's compliance as at March 31, 2009 with the criteria established in the Contribution Agreement between Western Economic Diversification and the CDFC dated July 31, 2001 and the interpretation of the Agreement as set out in Note 1 attached. Compliance with the criteria established by the provisions of the agreement is the responsibility of the Board of Directors of the CDFC. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the CFDC complied with the criteria established by the provisions of the agreement referred to above. Such an audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting compliance, evaluating the overall compliance with the agreement, and where applicable, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management.

In our opinion, the CDFC is in compliance, in all material respects, with the criteria established by the Contribution Agreement.

Thompson, Manitoba
May 26, 2009



Chartered Accountants