

## Performance Results for 2017-18 Community Futures Central Alberta

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*.

<b>Community Futures Performance Results</b>	<b>Results as of 2017-18</b>
<b><i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i></b>	
1. Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)	<b>94</b>
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	<b>11</b>
<b><i>Rural access to business development services</i></b>	
3. Total number of business training session participants	<b>915</b>
4. Total number of business advisory services	<b>192</b>
<b><i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i></b>	
5. Dollar value of loans	<b>\$605,650</b>
6. Total number of loans	<b>7</b>
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending <sup>1</sup>	<b>30</b>
Provide additional information (e.g. Success stories, Links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc...)	
<p>As the Alberta economy continues to slowly recover our lending activity has coincided with the slow recovery. Lending activity was much lower than anticipated at the beginning of the year. We provided funding to Entrepreneurs in communities across our region including Olds, Didsbury, Red Deer and Carstairs. For the year ending March 31, 2018. Community Futures Board of Directors funded loan requests in excess of \$600,000. This funding assisted in creating and maintaining a total of 30 full &amp; part-time positions in the region.</p> <p>The EDP Program and the new Elevate Program saw an influx of clients inquiring about the Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program this fiscal year. We had a total of 10 clients with disabilities or health conditions access EDP funding dollars to cover small business training and/or coaching to help them start their business. We also had four clients work through and complete the Elevate program. The program supports non-EI eligible entrepreneurs with disabilities who may need extra supports, such as living expenses, in addition to training that will help them achieve success business.</p> <p>Training continues to be large part of the services we offer to our clients. In addition to our full suite of bookkeeping training from Basic to Advanced Quickbooks we added Quickbooks Online to our program in 2018. QuickBooks training is delivered by private sector partner Debbie Romkes of Aggregate Financial</p>	

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<sup>1</sup> Estimated at the time of lending

Performance Results for 2013-14 Insert Name of CF Here

Solutions. Our Training Center has allowed our office to continue meeting our training requirements as a part of our funding agreement with Western Economic Diversification. We delivered a total 31 training sessions in 2017-2018. Through training and advisory services we had face to face contact with over 412 clients reviewing various aspects of starting or running a business. This is consistent with previous years. Our Business Analysts provided great service to our clients providing advisory services to 192 clients throughout the year, down about 6% from previous years.

We continue to support development of Youth Entrepreneurs in our region through the Alberta Youth Entrepreneurship Camp. This camp assists in developing the entrepreneurial spirit of youth aged 13-15. Other projects supporting Youth Entrepreneurship included joint sponsorship of a Start-up Entrepreneur Award in partnership with Visual Resolve Graphics and Collins Barrow at the Success 4 Business Expo. We participated in the Chinook Challenge Business Plan Competition for the second year in a row with 11 Entrepreneurs from Central Alberta. Our Youth Loan Program provided \$240,650 in funding to support young entrepreneurs, in establishing and growing their businesses.

We maintained visibility throughout the region participating in Red Deer & District Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours, Success 4 Business Expo and provided organizational assistance and sponsorship of the upcoming Power UP Small Business conference in Olds. We were the main sponsor/contributor to Small Business week publication in the Red Deer Advocate. Our Business Analyst Kelsey Krieger assisted Junior Achievement delivering the Economics for Success program. Other events attended included the Career and Entrepreneur Expo at RDC.

We continue to look for opportunities to increase our revenue from non-government sources. The revenue from other sources exceeded \$71,430 in 2018 and contributes to the financial stability of our organization.