

Performance Results for 2016-17 Community Futures Lloydminster and Region

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	Results as of 2016-17
<i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i>	
1. Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)	33
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	375
4. Total number of business advisory services	219
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>	
5. Dollar value of loans	\$632,700
6. Total number of loans	14
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹	27
Provide additional Information (e.g. Success stories, Links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc...)	
<p>One of the larger and lengthier projects continuing to be worked on is NAFMA. (Northeast Alberta Food Marketers Association) This is project that was conceived in 2004 to look at ways to enhance and support the Ag Industry in our region. In October of 2010 the NAFMA Society was formed. The Brand was registered in December of 2011. The project involves 6 northeast Alberta Community Futures offices, the local REDA (HUB), CDEA (Conseil de développement économique de l'Alberta) and Portage College. The original \$60,000 of funding to begin exploring the concept was pulled together through the 6 Community Futures offices. As the project started to take shape the Community Futures offices were able to secure \$900,000 in funding through RDI (Rural Diversification Initiative) to ensure momentum wasn't lost in moving from concept to reality. The concept of a Food Sciences Centre was moving forward with the Federal Government contributing \$2,200,000, the Provincial Government contributing \$1,000,000, and Portage College contributing \$1,000,000. As building moved ahead it appeared there would still be a small shortfall to complete the project so the Provincial Government came back to the table with an additional \$1,500,000. The Food Sciences Centre is up and running in St Paul, housed in a Portage Collage building and open to all. In addition to Culinary Arts Training and processing and packing facilities the centre houses a Business Incubator.</p> <p>Next steps: The 6 Community Futures offices came together once again, making available \$75,000 to implement Phase 1 of three phases identified. Phase 1 being to catalogue all Farmer's Markets in the region, identify and contact as many growers and producers as could be found (over 200 contacted) other than cattle or grain farmers. Map the Farmer's Markets and each of the growers/producers.</p> <p>Phase 2: Update the website to include all of the mapping and information obtained to date. Create an Ag Investment Toolkit and ensure it was readily available to all through the website.</p> <p>Phases 1 and 2 have been completed and Phase 3 will move ahead shortly.</p> <p>This project is a true showcase of what can be accomplished when all partners are willing to contribute and keep their focus on the same end goal.</p>	

¹ Estimated at the time of lending