

Performance Results for 2015-16 Community Futures Peace Liard

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	2015-16 Results
<i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i>	
1. Number of local and regionally-based community strategic plan(s) developed and/or updated during the year:	1
2. Total number of community based projects ("new" and "on-going"):	55
<i>Rural access to business development services</i>	
3. Number of businesses created/ maintained/ expanded through business services	51
4. Number of business training session participants	268
5. Number of business advisory services	556
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>	
6. Dollar value of loans	\$851,415
7. Number of loans	16
Provide additional Information (e.g. Success stories, Links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc...)	
Tumbler Ridge Business Support Program - CFPL & Ministry of Jobs Tourism, Innovation & Training	
<p>The primary goal of this initiative was to assist businesses who were interviewed in the business walk program in the prior year as well as engage other businesses to identify training needs and business support through one on one coaching, workshops, and extensive interviews. Businesses were identified through the information that was provided from the Chamber of Commerce and the District of Tumbler Ridge. Businesses included were home based, commercial, heavy industrial, and retail. The goal was to touch base with each business personally and conduct the business retention and expansion survey.</p>	
<u>Successful Outcomes</u>	
Self-Employment	
➤ 6 people interested in the Self Employment Program, thru work BC	
One on One Business Coaching	
➤ 10 people received one on one business plan consulting	
Training thru Work BC	
➤ 2 person pursuing training thru Work BC (that we know of)	
Succession Planning	
➤ 1 business receiving consulting & coaching thru Venture Connect to assist in selling their business and succession planning.	
Webinar Training	
➤ 1 TR business delivered a successful webinar to five locations in BC thru CFDCPL Adobe Connect license. We assisted this business in putting on a webinar and did the marketing for it. The webinar presenting her on-line business coaching was	

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held March 16th through a Lunch and Learn session. CF will continue to work with this client on follow up from the webinar.

Participation

- A core group of 15 people consistently attended all workshops.

Two New Businesses – Business Incubator

- Two entrepreneurs are setting up a new business in Tumbler Ridge catering to the tourists looking at outdoor recreation. We have been working with them in developing their business plan. They are working with the Geopark Manager to collaborate with activities that are happening in the Global Geopark.

Job Creation Program

- The Tumbler Ridge Global Geopark Society is working on a Job Creation Program that would include business incubation.

Selling Product On Line

- Two businesses are now selling their product on-line.

Updating Websites and Using Social Media

- Several businesses from the workshop are now updating their websites and using social media as an effective tool to get their services and product out.

Co-Leasing

- Three businesses are looking at co-leasing in order to bring their business to a storefront in the downtown core.

Local Business Exposure

- Exposure for local businesses to teach business marketing, as well as learn public speaking and selling themselves through the process.
- Facilitators were all local businesses from Tumbler Ridge including, Steve Tory, Dino Tech, Trent Ernst, Tumbler Ridge Newspaper, Jodie Mitchell, Filiprint Inc., Roxanne Braun, Above Tumbler Ridge, Roxanne Guilik, Tumbler Ridge River Adventures, Mila Lansdowne, Dream Builder Coach and Sue Kenny & Bonnie McLean, Community Futures.

Support Local Business

- Lunch was provided by Action Play Restaurant. A new business with a very dynamic staff. They attended the workshops and have implemented some of the things they have learned through the workshops.

Chamber of Commerce Exposure to Business

- Venue was the new Visitor Info Center operated by the Tumbler Ridge Chamber of Commerce. This is a new facility to Tumbler Ridge residents so it helped bring people to the new facility. The COC just hired a new Chamber manager so we worked closely with Jerrilyn Schembri to get the word out to businesses as well as getting the Chamber of Commerce more exposure. Community Futures worked with Chamber of Commerce and businesses and other community partners two days a week in Tumbler Ridge and ongoing communication through email and telephone.

Hired Local

- A local business DinoTech owned by Steve Tory was hired for the project to assist with marketing and room set up. Steve would prepare all the flyers right from design to photocopying to bringing them to the post office to be stuffed in mail boxes. Steve billed CF for his time and cost. This was a very effective way to stay engaged with the community on a day to day basis. Steve also assisted in all the tech requirements for speakers, web cams, power points, internet etc. This was a fairly new role for Steve and we feel that we have grown his business through this Lunch and Learn experience. He now is comfortable to give workshops and has made a deeper connection in the community.

Business Contact List

- A contact list has been developed of local businesses and potential business owners.

Nine very successful workshops were delivered through a Lunch & Learn model.