

Performance Results for 2020-21 Nicola Valley

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>2020-21</b>
<b><i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i></b>	
1. Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)	<b>36</b>
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	<b>4</b>
<b><i>Rural access to business development services</i></b>	
3. Total number of business training session participants	<b>300</b>
4. Total number of business advisory services	<b>65</b>
<b><i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i></b>	
5. Dollar value of loans	<b>314,800.</b>
6. Total number of loans	<b>5</b>
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending <sup>1</sup>	<b>8.5</b>
Provide additional information (e.g. Success stories, Links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc...)	
<p>During the 2020-21 fiscal year, CFNV's ability to engage with the community was compromised significantly by COVID-19 – despite this, the office achieved several big milestones and successes. From disbursing thirty four RRRF loans, three hundred thousand dollars in regular loan funding, and delivering dozens of free online education resources and seminars to developing an award winning and nationally recognized CFNV partnership with the Nicola Valley Farmer's Market and organizing new programs like the Downtown Revitalization Blade Sign Program that has changed the face of downtown business (literally!), Community Futures Nicola Valley has remained diligently serving their community during the pandemic.</p> <p>CFNV's commitment to community didn't stop at the office, however; through in-kind contributions of assistance, office space, bookkeeping and admin services and more, CFNV supported a large-scale resurgence of the Merritt Chamber of Commerce, giving them the tools needed to access critical grant funding and programs. Once a wholly volunteer organization, the Chamber now maintains a staff roster, has the funding needed to put on events and programs and partner with the Nicola Valley Institute of Technology to provide support and opportunities for this acclaimed aboriginally focused education institution.</p>	

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