

Performance Results for 2020-21

Community Futures – Howe Sound

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 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>3</b>
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	<b>1</b>
<b><i>Rural access to business development services</i></b>	
3. Total number of business training session participants	<b>0</b>
4. Total number of business advisory services	<b>387</b>
<b><i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i></b>	
5. Dollar value of loans	<b>\$1,863,950</b>
6. Total number of loans	<b>54</b>
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending <sup>1</sup>	<b>94</b>
<p>Amidst of a sea of uncertainty, trepidation, anxiety, loss, misery and so many other emotions, our community and our organization came together over the past year to tackle Covid-19 as best as we possibly could and often despite immeasurable difficulty.</p> <p>Ours is a business normally dominated by financial figures, the interpretation of lending data and untold ratios, projections and business plans of all shapes and sizes. But over the past year we focused much more on patience, kindness, empathy, understanding and compassion. And people.</p> <p>The end result of our collective efforts is that we delivered unheard of quantities of hope and faith in entrepreneurs up and down our region. To clients old and new, we were there for them like never before. Many needed money, many more needed a trusted ear to listen to their pain and to help navigate a solution despite the numerous and significant setbacks that surrounded them. And of course, there were significant numbers of people who needed both money and an ear. And time. Time was the one thing many of our clients needed more than anything and with that in mind we gave them just that.</p> <p>We were the first CF office to stop payments and we were the first CF office to do so by turning off the interest calculator too. Payments were suspended for nine months and in that time no interest was accrued either. This decision cost our organization a lot of money. Money we can never get back. But it was the right thing to do, and we would do it again in a heartbeat.</p> <p>And so, a year that began with the bleakest and most frightening of horizons wrapped up twelve months later smothered in genuine hope. It was our finest hour. Our community of entrepreneurs was beyond grateful and we were more than happy to help each of these small businesses persevere. The resolve they demonstrated was genuine and inspiring. In a world of numbers, data and near non-stop financial calculations, we were reminded as an organization that ours isn't so much a financial business, but a people business.</p> <p>We are grateful for the numerous lessons Covid 19 has taught us. We look forward to absorbing and incorporating these lessons into the important work that lies before us in the years ahead. But most of all we are grateful for the numerous and incredible people in our community we are privileged to serve.</p>	

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

Performance Results for 2013-14 Insert Name of CF Here