



Annual Report 2016-2017

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Message from the Chairperson and General Manager

Community Futures has been working with communities in our region for 30 years. Communities continue to face challenges and opportunities with the economy and job market. We continue to strengthen partnerships and collaborate with key organizations to provide economic and business support within our region.

It is through our relationship with our partners that we have been able to reach out in the past couple of months as we now assist our communities with Wildfire Recovery. We all recognize it will take time to recuperate and plan for the future. The landscape is not the same. Fortunately, we are resilient and recognize it is going to take a lot of determination and supporting each other.

Our organization has been advocating to all levels of government, reminding them they have a responsibility to the communities of rural BC.

We are committed to providing our core services of business counselling, financing and education. We can be flexible and tailor the needs of entrepreneurs.

We wish our community members all the very best.....our organization is not going anywhere... We will be here as we move forward.

Sincerely,

Andrew May, Chairperson



Debra Arnott, General Manager



2017 – 2018 Strategic Priorities

The Board of Directors and Staff complete an operation plan every year. The team sets priorities for the coming year as well as long term strategies.

Short-Term Strategies: (up to 2 years)

- ✿ Maintain travel for General Manager and Business Development Officer
- ✿ Enhance partnership with Canadian Youth Business Foundation
- ✿ Maintain partnership with Venture Connect providing support and counseling
- ✿ Take lead of Business Walks
- ✿ Succession plan for the General Manager

Long-Term Strategies:

- ✿ Continue to provide regular community visits by General Manager and Business Development Officer
- ✿ Support businesses that address productivity issues, adopting innovative technologies processes and practices.
- ✿ Assist businesses to enter global markets
- ✿ Support the promotion of skills training opportunities
- ✿ Support business and initiatives that can bring new technologies to Canadian and global markets
- ✿ Support participation of Indigenous peoples in economic development
- ✿ Support businesses to take advantage of federal procurement opportunities
- ✿ Work on package for Manager Succession planning

2016 – 2017 Strategic Priorities

Short-Term Strategies: (up to 2 years)

- ✿ Recruiting and training new volunteers to replace the board members that resigned
- ✿ Maintain travel for the General Manager and Staff
- ✿ Enhance partnerships
- ✿ Lend more dollars in the region/province
- ✿ Work with the CFBC and the provincial marketing campaign

Long-Term Strategies:

- ✿ Continue to provide regular community visits by General Manager and staff
- ✿ Raise the profile of Community Futures as leaders in business development
- ✿ Provide capacity to youth-entrepreneurial skills and small business as an option-job creation youth to start a business
- ✿ Prepare business owners for succession planning
- ✿ Raise awareness of Community Futures and Community Economic Development

Accomplishments: 2016-2017

- ✦ Strong Partnership with Venture Connect
- ✦ Partnership with Canadian Youth Business Foundation
- ✦ General Manager was appointed to another 2 year term of the Provincial Rural Advisory Council that was initiated by the Premier of BC
- ✦ Provided 17+ entrepreneurs with Financing in our Region
- ✦ Lent out over \$500,000 dollars into the communities
- ✦ Partnership with Literacy Program (Decoda)
- ✦ Presentations were made to local Governments in our Region
- ✦ Hired a Business Development Officer
- ✦ Developed and distributed a Mosaic Map for Ashcroft
- ✦ Partnered with BC Ministry of Agriculture to deliver Agri-food Business planning workshop
- ✦ Partnered with Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) to deliver a grant writing workshop
- ✦ Met with Minister Oakes of Small Business to discuss the region and possible partnerships with Government

Mission Statement

“To plan and initiate development of our area through the promotion and facilitation of cooperative activities dedicated to the social, environmental and economic well-being of our citizens and communities.”



General Manager, Debra Arnott had the opportunity to meet with Minister Coralee Oakes and MLA Jackie Tegart to discuss the many opportunities in rural BC

About Community Futures

What is the origin of Community Futures?

Employment and Immigration Canada (now named Human Resources and Skills Development Canada), starting in 1986, was responsible for establishing 90 Community Futures organizations throughout rural Western Canada <http://communityfuturespanwest.ca>

In 1995, responsibility for Community Futures was transferred to Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD) who continues to have contribution agreements with Community Future: <http://www.wd-deo.gc.ca>

Community Futures Sun Country

Community Futures Sun Country began operations in 1988 as an independent, non-profit corporation.

We are:

- ✦ Locally autonomous not-for-profit organization
- ✦ We are a national organization <http://www.communityfutures.ca/>
- ✦ Governed by a volunteer Board of Directors <http://www.cfsun.ca/our-board>
- ✦ Community-driven
- ✦ Committed to local and regional economic development in all industry sectors
- ✦ Partnership oriented
- ✦ Apolitical

Community Futures Sun Country receives funding support from Western Economic Diversification (WD) to assist in delivering programs. The organization is **NOT** a government department or agency, although it often delivers services for all levels of government. The organization collaborates with government, corporate and community partners in order to deliver programs locally. Some of these programs include:

- ✦ Business Financing Programs
- ✦ OneStop Business Registration
- ✦ Business Resource Library
- ✦ Business Counselling
- ✦ Community Economic Development
- ✦ Small Business Training



Western Economic
Diversification Canada

Diversification de l'économie
de l'Ouest Canada

Doing business in BC

Starting, Expanding, or Moving
a Business?



Location & Service Area

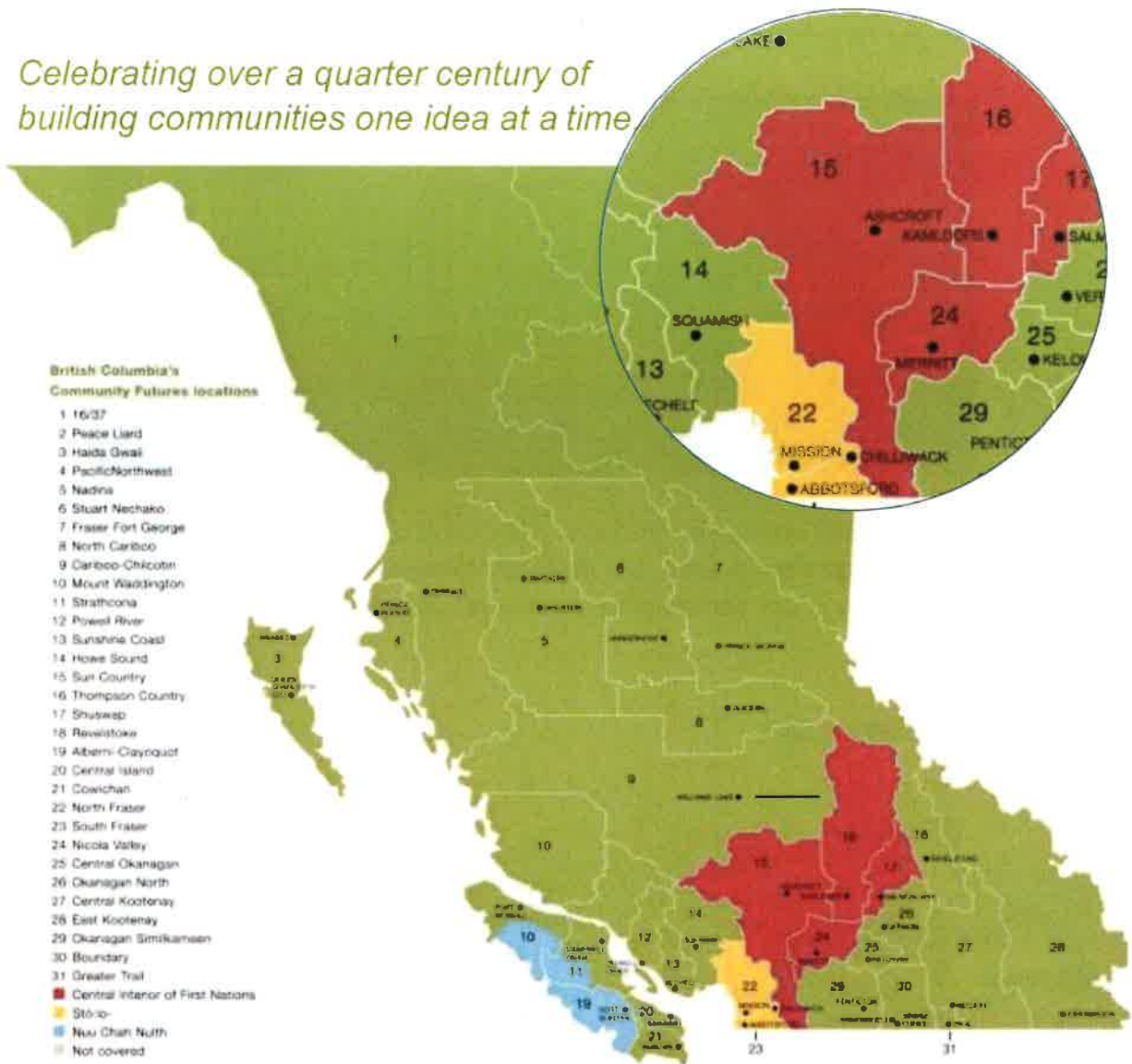


Community Futures Sun country is located in Ashcroft at 203 Railway Avenue. To accommodate our large service area, the General Manager and staff are available to meet our clients in any of our communities at their request.



Community Futures Sun Country services a large geographical area that stretches from 70 Mile House in the north to Hope in the south and from Logan Lake in the east to Gold Bridge in the west. The service area covers approximately 35,000 square kilometres and the region's population is approximately 23,000 people.

Celebrating over a quarter century of building communities one idea at a time



Staff from left to right:
 Tracy Kubik (Business Development Officer), Courtney Dash (Accounting Assistant), Linsie Lachapelle (Office Administrator) and in front Debra Arnott (General Manager)

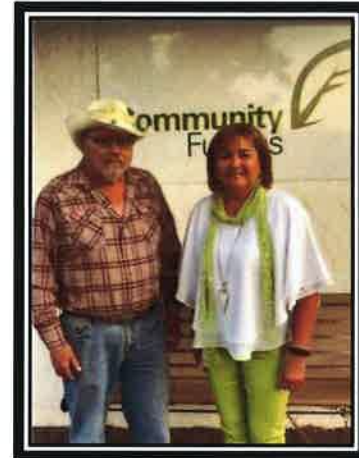
Board of Directors

Community Futures Sun Country is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors who are dedicated to community economic development in the region.

Community Futures Sun Country held their Annual General Meeting June 29, 2017.

Committees:

- ✦ Finance
- ✦ Loan
- ✦ Personnel
- ✦ Policy and Development
- ✦ Community Economic Development



Left to right: **Andrew May (Chairperson),
Debra Arnott (General Manager)**

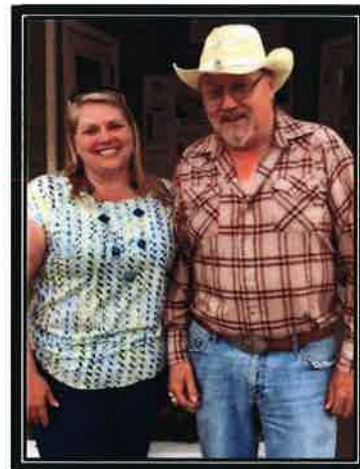
The Volunteer Directors:

The elected officials are:

Chairperson
Andrew May

Vice Chairperson
Dona Radomsky

Secretary/ Treasurer
Karma Kubbernus



Left to Right: **Karma Kubbernus (Secretary/ Treasurer),
Andrew May (Chairperson)**



Director, Victor Smith



Director, Andy May



Director, Karma Kubbermus

**Board Members participated in
the Community Futures
Leadership Training**

**Board Members continue to
embrace lifelong learning and
participate in Board
Development Workshops**

Volunteer of the Year Award 2017

Community Futures Sun Country has recognized Clinton's resident and Board Member, Mr. Andrew May as its 2017 Volunteer of the Year.

Andrew is very engaged in his community of Clinton and Region who currently sits on the South Cariboo Museum Society and is an Executive member of the Clinton and District Economic Development Society. Andrew advocates Small Business in his community and the region.



In memory of...



Sandra Gaspard
1973 - 2017

This year we said goodbye to one of our past board members, Sandra Gaspard.

Sandra was a very hardworking, dedicated person with a passion for rural development. She had been enrolled with Okanagan College studying to become a Community Economic Development Officer after her experience on the Community Futures Board of Directors.

Losing Sandra was a devastating loss to Community Futures and our region. She will be forever missed.

Sun Country Communities

Board of Directors

Committees
Personnel
Policy & Development
Finance
Loan
Community Economic Development

General Manager
Debra Arnott

Accounting Clerk
(Contracted)

Business Development Officer
Tracy Kubik

Office Administrator
Linsie Lachapelle

Accounting Assistant
Courtney Dash

Community Futures Board Members

Andrew May, Resident of Clinton

Chairperson

Andrew May is a resident of Clinton and an active member in the community. He currently is on the Board of the South Cariboo Museum Society and is an Executive Member of the Clinton and District Economic Development Society. He has served on boards of several community groups, including Economic Development and Historical Societies in the Okanagan and South Cariboo. Andrew has been an instructor at Okanagan College, Owner/Operator of an auto repair shop and Founder/President of Procurement and Inventory Management Consultancy.



Dona Radomsky, Resident of Logan Lake

Vice-Chairperson

Dona became a resident of Logan Lake in 2003 as the community's Pharmacist - Manager. She was instrumental in the formation of the Logan Lake Business Association and took the lead as chairperson in 2004. Dona is very involved in her community.

Karma Kubbernus, Resident of Cache Creek

Honorary Secretary/ Treasurer

Karma is a resident of Cache Creek and Branch Manager of the local Credit Union. Karma is the President of the local Rotary Club and has been a representative at the National Young Leaders Conference. Karma seeks to have meaningful impacts in her community by way of professionalism, volunteer activities and working with charitable organizations. She likes to work in an environment that encourages leadership and lifelong learning.



Willow Anderson, Resident of Ashcroft

Director

Willow was raised in the region and works in the retail sector. She is presently co-managing the local building center. She is very involved with youth groups which support her focus regarding family. Willow has a keen interest working with the local businesses and understands the importance of providing entrepreneurs support and has been involved with the Chamber of Commerce.



Margaret Hohner, Resident of Lillooet

Director

Margaret has more than twenty years of Coordination experience in post-secondary education, including twelve years in TV Broadcasting. Margaret is an active community member in Lillooet responsible for providing leadership to various public stakeholders. "I strive to support a collaborative and cooperative environment."

Victor Smith, Resident of Hope

Director

Victor Smith is a long term and active resident of Hope. His background is in the Mining and Construction Industry. He supports and encourages entrepreneurship, recognizing how instrumental businesses are in rural communities. The list of organizations Victor has participated in is endless. Victor was recently awarded the Provincial Champion for Volunteer of the year. His tireless dedication to his community is inspiring to those around him.





Welcome back Scott!

Scott had previously been a board member with Community Futures 2007 – 2016, Scott re-applied to join the board again in April 2017, bringing his experience, skills and mentorship back to the organization.

Scott Medlock is a resident of Hope. Scott had been the Chairperson of Community Futures for 4 years. He is involved in the Hope Lions Club, Hope and District Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of the volunteer fire department and is involved in the Brigade Day Committee. Scott is currently a Councilor for the District of Hope.



From left to right; Director Medlock, Linsie Lachapelle, Director Hohner, Director Radomsky, Courtney Dash, Director Kubbernus, Debra Arnott, Tracy Kubik & Director Smith



From left to right; Paul Wiest (Facilitator), Debra Arnott (General Manager) and Director Smith

**Community Futures Strategic
Planning Session
January 2017**

Community Futures Staff Members

Debra Arnott
General Manager

Debra is responsible for the overall operations of the Corporation, including negotiating programs for the area. She has a passion and years of experience in community economic development, and works diligently to try and ensure that programs remain in the rural communities that are serviced by Community Futures. Deb has been with the organization since February 1992. She is a certified Aboriginal Economic Developer and was appointed to the Provincial Rural Advisory Council in January 2015.



Tracy Kubik
Business Development Officer

Tracy is responsible for the planning, marketing and coordination of the lending program; the research and identification of community needs; and the training, counseling and monitoring of clients. She also provides support and recommendations to the loans committee.

Linsie Lachapelle
Office Administrator

Linsie is the Office Administrator. She assists the General Manager with administrative support for the Loans program and Projects. The technical support for all software and computers; she also provides support and mentorship to the Community Futures office.





Courtney Dash
Accounting Assistant

Courtney is the Accounting Assistant for Community Futures. She provides secretarial, administrative and reception support to the Community Futures office. She assists the General Manager with Accounting. Courtney also provides research, support and information services to existing and future clients.



Community Futures partnered with Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) to have a Grant Writing Workshop delivered in Clinton



Small Business Month

Community Futures sponsored local artists Marina Papais and Daniel Colette, to re-create a glass mosaic designed after local Artist Pauline Ogilvie's "Phoenix Rising" Dedication to "Small Business Month"

Minister of Small Business Coralee Oakes, MLA Jackie Tegart, Community Futures Chairperson Victor Smith and artist Pauline Ogilvie, were at the unveiling on Oct 29th, 2016 Hundreds of hours of volunteer time was dedicated to this amazing glass mosaic



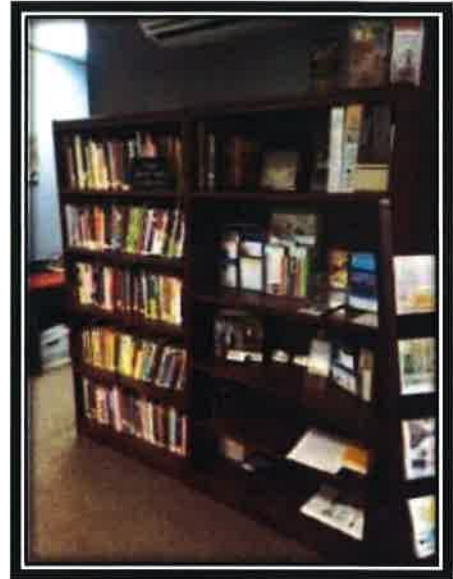
Community Futures Program & Service Delivery

General Services

Business Resource Library

The office has hundreds of books available to assist clients in nearly every aspect of business. Everyone is welcome to browse the library and borrow a book or two at no cost. Arrangements can be made to have books delivered to communities within our service area. Please visit our website for the list at

<http://www.cfsun.ca/business-resource-library>



E-Books

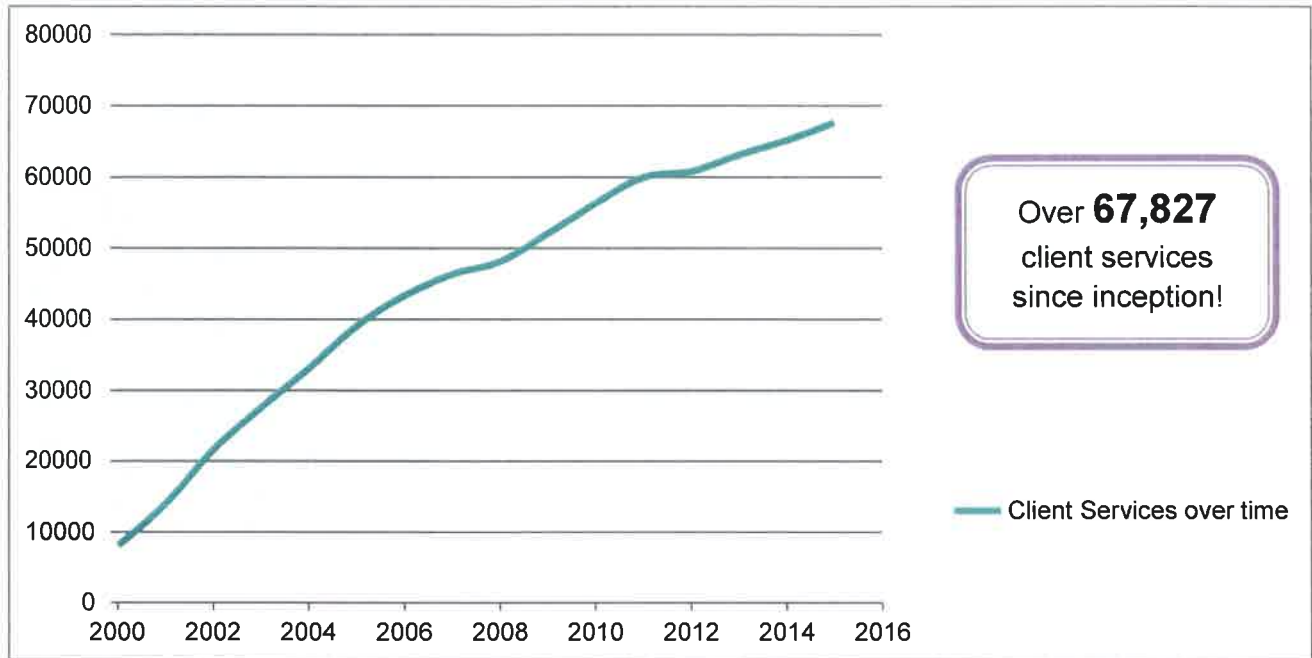
Community Futures has several e-books available, published by Blue Beetle Books.

- Marketing
- Business Strategies
- Customer Service
- Leadership
- Human Resources
- Crowd Funding
- Social Enterprise
- Sales
- Social Media for Small Business
- Winning Government Business
- Succession Planning
- Starting a Business

To access them, please visit our website <http://www.cfsun.ca/ebooks>

Business Counselling Sessions

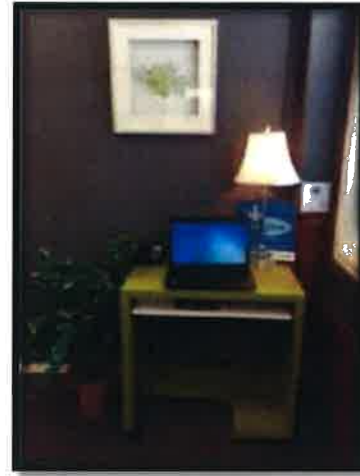
One-on-one business counselling is available to anyone who is interested. This service is **CONFIDENTIAL** and **FREE** of charge.



General Manager, Debra Arnott, Director Smith and Director May met with Minister Coralee Oaks and MLA Jackie Tegart

Public Computer Access

There is a computer in the reception area. Computer use is available to clients and to the general public free of charge to assist with business research and business plan development.



OneStop Business Registry

This service allows clients to complete and submit registrations quickly and efficiently with provincial, federal and municipal departments. Some examples include GST, Corporate Registry and WorkSafe BC to name a few <http://www.bcbusinessregistry.ca/>

Doing business in BC

Starting, Expanding, or Moving
a Business?



Small Business BC Seminars

Community Futures has also partnered with Small Business BC to deliver training sessions. Our board room facilities are available for anyone who has registered for these seminars and needs access to the internet to participate in them. You can register on the homepage of our website www.cfsun.ca



Marketing Initiatives

Community Futures Sun Country engages in a number of marketing initiatives to ensure that programs are both visible and accessible throughout the service area. This year, the following marketing initiatives were carried out:

The Leading Edge E-Magazine

- ✦ Electronic monthly E-Magazines
- ✦ Features business articles and tips for Entrepreneurs
- ✦ Distributed through email, Facebook and website to approximately 900 businesses and individuals

Trade Shows

- ✦ Community Futures Sun Country attends local trade shows
- ✦ Debra Arnott attended the Gold Country Tourism Symposium in Merritt B.C.



- ✦ BDO, Tracy Kubik attended the Kumsheen Secondary School Career Fair in Lytton

Media Contacts

- ✦ Press releases are sent to regional media announcing events and programs offered through the Community Futures Sun Country office
- ✦ Radio ads are played on our local radio station.

Community Visits

- ✦ Presentations were made regarding services provided in the region to Local Government
- ✦ General Manager did presentations to Local Government to discuss the McAbee Fossil Business Plan
- ✦ The General Manager and Business Development Officer visit the communities on a regular basis, meeting with individuals face to face. Communities are advised through a newsletter/ flyer distributed via our email database, Facebook and Twitter, we currently reach approximately 596 businesses and individuals



**Business Development Officer,
Tracy Kubik attended the Lytton
Chamber of Commerce AGM**

Website

- ✦ Community Futures Sun Country's website www.cfsun.ca is maintained on a regular basis to provide key up to date information and resources to the organization's clients, members and partners

Print Ads

- ✦ ½ page spread in the Ashcroft Connector Directory
- ✦ 1 page spread in the Logan Lake Program and Resource Guide
- ✦ Back page spread in the Clinton Lariat
- ✦ 1 page insert in the Clinton Lariat
- ✦ 1 page insert in the Valley Brew
- ✦ Venture Connect business buyers guide (digital Copy) – Quarterly Publication
<http://www.ventureconnect.ca/business-listings/business-buyers-guide/#>
- ✦ Lillooet Chamber ad - monthly
- ✦ Back page spread in the Lillooet News
- ✦ Back page spread in the Hope Standard
- ✦ Half page article on the front page of the Hope Standard
- ✦ Mail drop to all the communities we serve
- ✦ Back page spread in the Ashcroft Journal

Facebook

You can find us at www.facebook.com/cfsuncountry



Twitter

You can find us at www.twitter.com/cfsuncountry



Workshops

- Small Business BC <http://smallbusinessbc.ca/>
- Agri-Food business planning course



BC Ministry of Agriculture held the Agri-Food Business Planning Workshop in Cache Creek, hosted by Community Futures

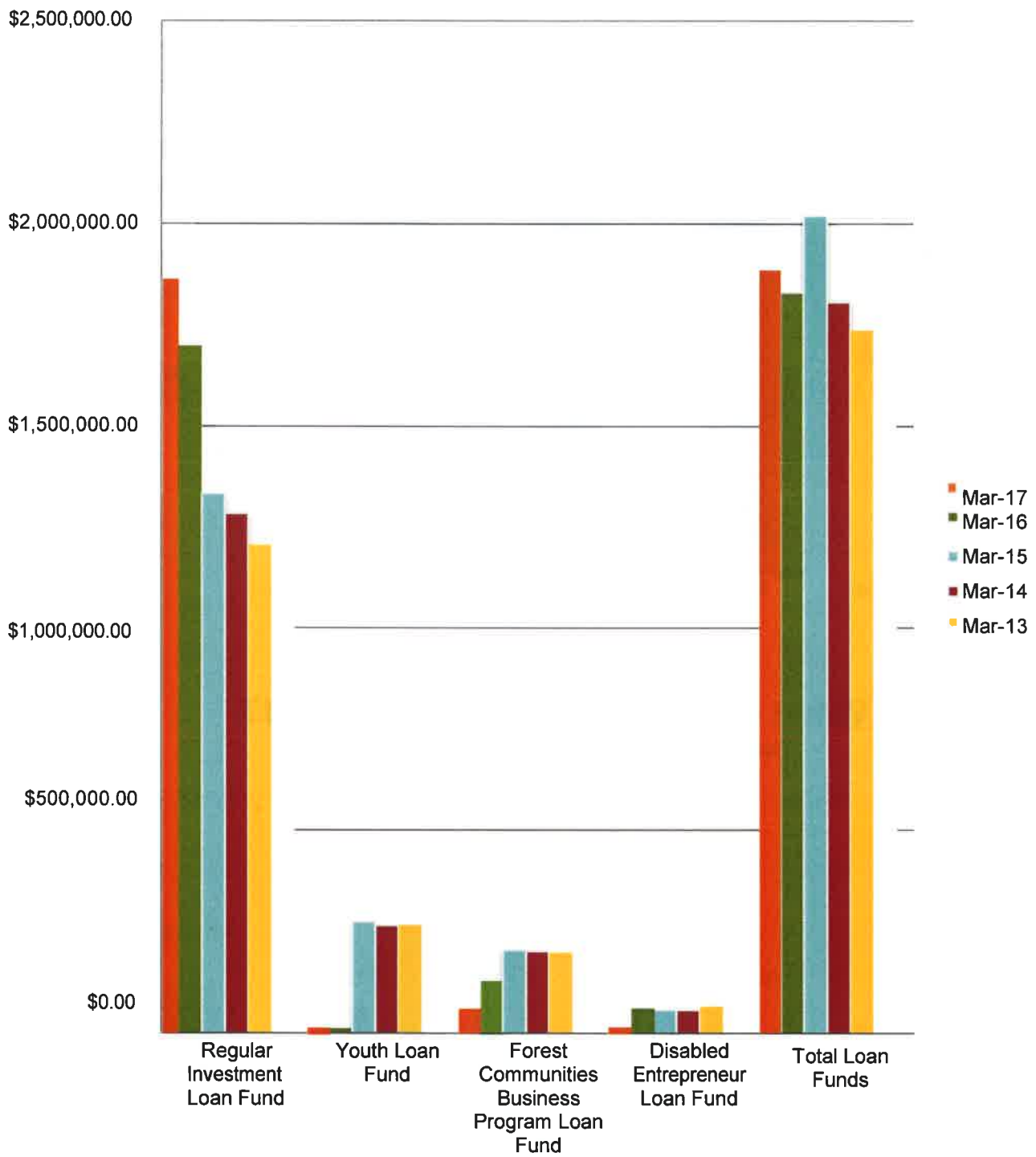
Attendants testimonials:

- ~ *Very useful topic and engaging presenters.*
- ~ *Great Presenters!*
- ~ *Speakers are very informative, they know this area very well!*
- ~ *This was so, so informative. Thank you very much!*
- ~ *Great course and presentation, so much info, gives me a great starting point.*

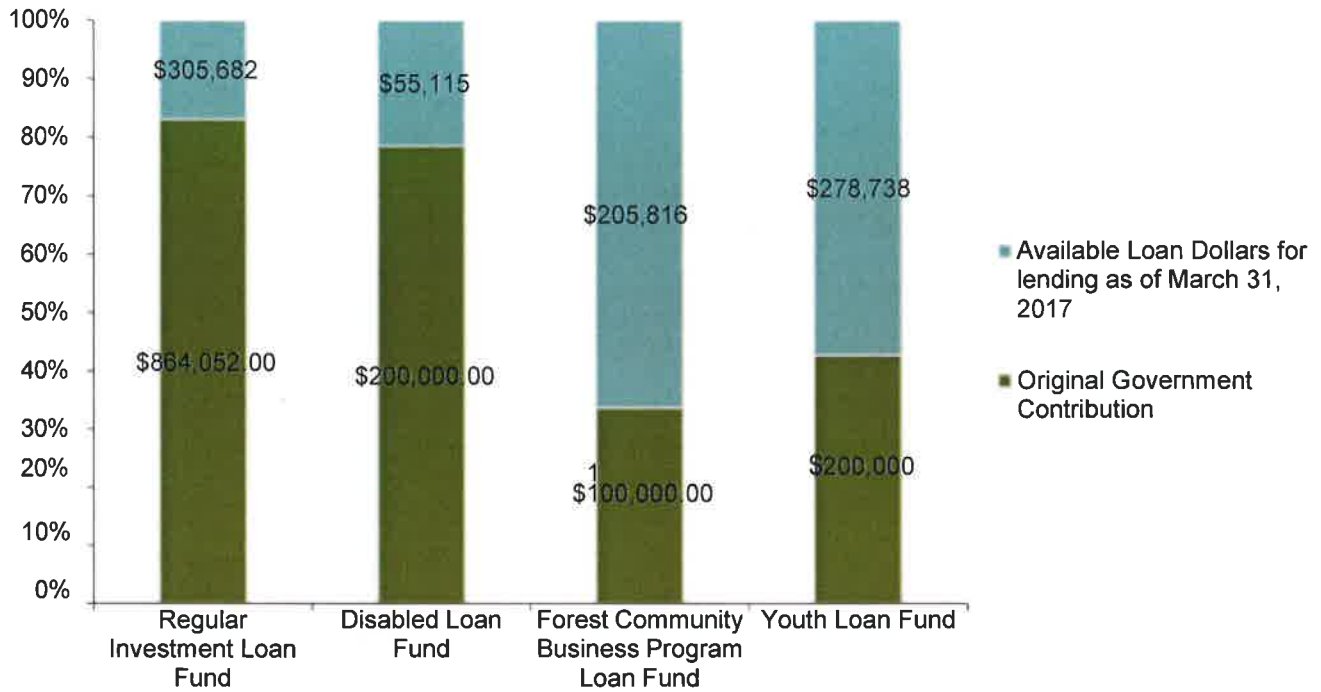
Loans Program

Community Futures Sun Country is *growing communities one idea at a time*. It provides secured, repayable loans to start up or expand businesses within its region. The organization has direct access to a number of diverse loan funds.

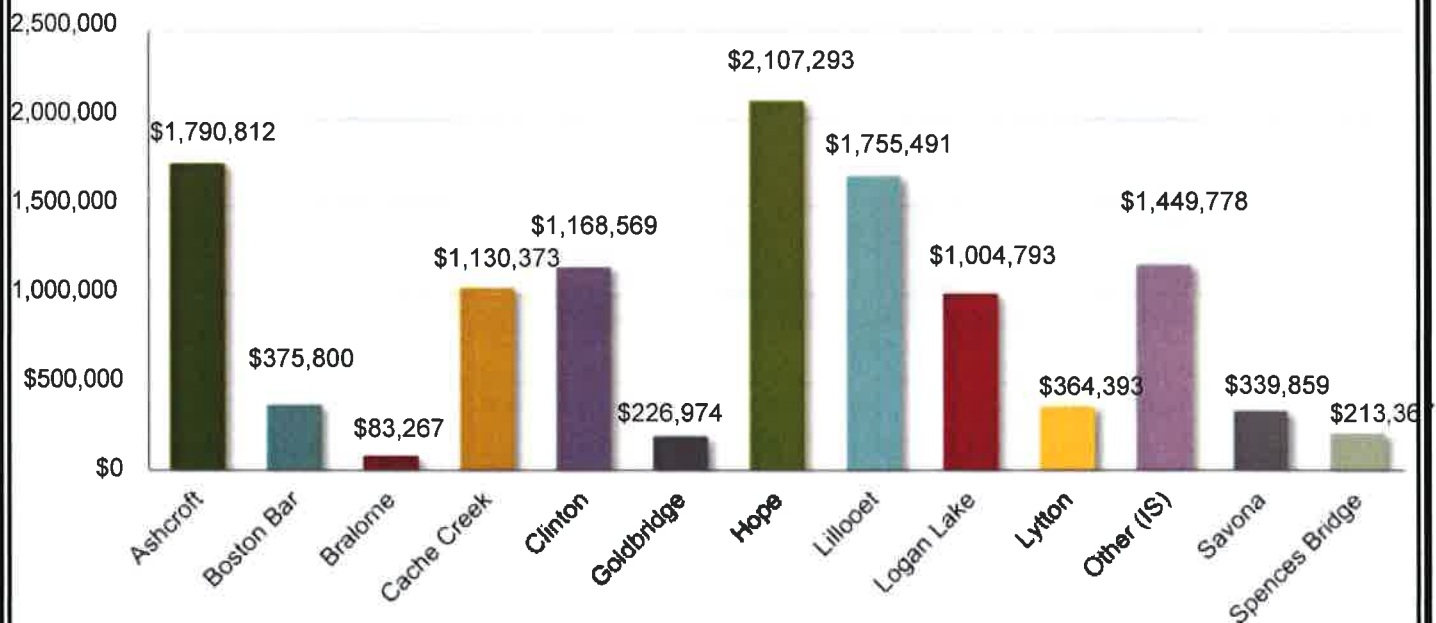
Loan Fund Assets as of March 31, 2017



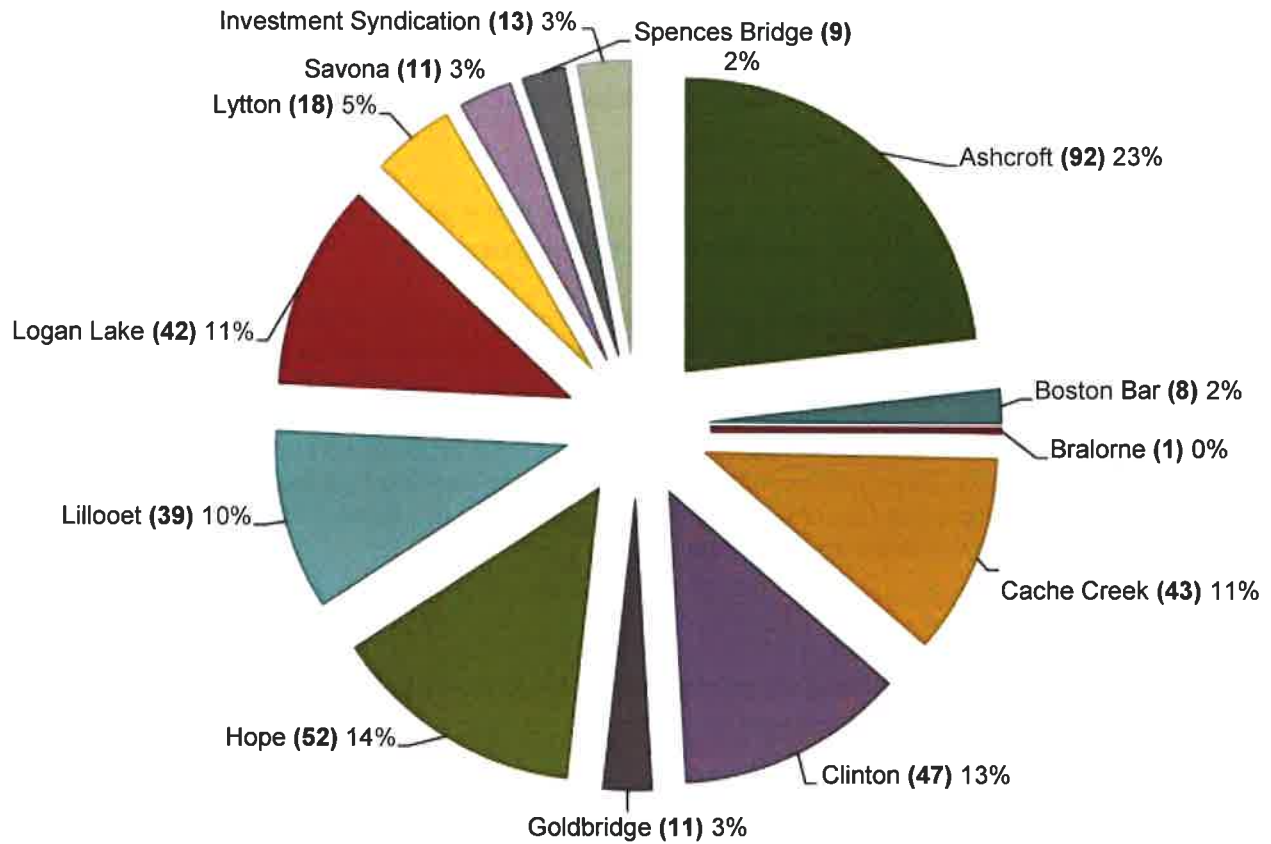
Available Loan Dollars (\$) at March 31, 2017



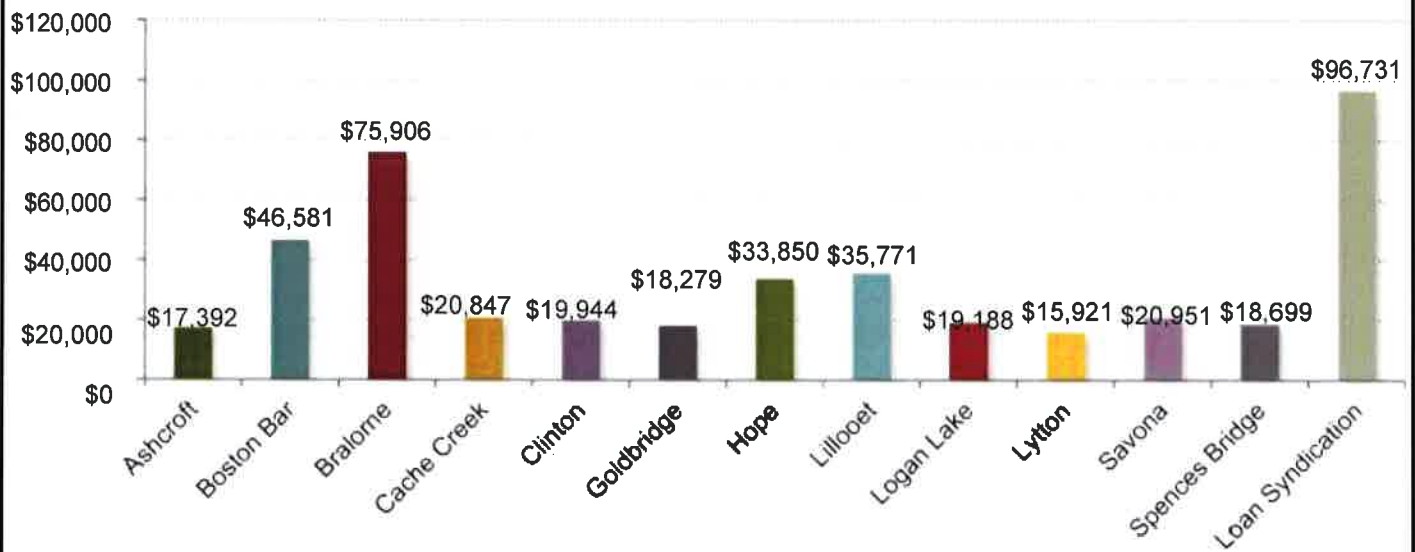
Value of Loans (\$) at March 31, 2017 (total value since inception \$12,010,772)



Number of Loans (389 since inception)



Average Loan Amount Per Community (\$25,635 for all loans)



Our Loan Products

Flexible, affordable Community Futures loan products are specifically designed to help entrepreneurs grow their businesses. Each one is tailored to meet a particular business need – and loan decisions are made locally and quickly.

Opportunity Loan » Fast access to capital – so you can make a decision to change, taking advantage of opportunities when they happen



In business, there are times when you just need a bit of cash to be able to react to a great opportunity. And during an economic downturn, the businesses that survive are often the ones that continue to pursue opportunities and keep moving forward.

If you see an opportunity that could help your established business, come see us at Community Futures. We've just launched an exciting new line-up of loan products — including Opportunity Loan — especially for the quick-thinking entrepreneur ready to seize an opportunity.

TechBlazer Loan » Financing for key investments in technology – to help stay competitive in our world of change.



During these tough economic times, investing in innovation can be more important than ever for businesses wanting to stay competitive and cater to a shrinking clientele. Developing new products and markets, value-adding, or training staff to use new techniques or equipment could give you the edge you need to survive.

If you're ready to take that extra step, come see us at Community Futures. We've just launched an exciting new line-up of loan products — including TechBlazer — especially for the innovative entrepreneur wanting to stay competitive.

GlobalReach Loan » Access to funds to reach into new markets – nowadays, every business has the potential to go global.



An economic downturn can mean opportunity for those who are focused, persistent and creative. Maybe your competition is pulling back, making more space for you and creating the perfect opening for expansion into new markets.

If you need to grow, come see us at Community Futures. We've just launched an exciting new line-up of loan products — including GlobalReach — especially for the forward-thinking entrepreneur looking for new places to grow.

BizBuyout Loan » Financing to buy an established business – sometimes, buying a successful business is the best way to go.

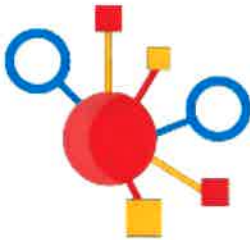


Great little businesses can be great little investments.

And in times like these, with unemployment rates climbing, buying an established business can make a lot of sense. If you have the dedication, commitment and creativity to be your own boss, self-employment could be exactly what you're looking for.

If you're interested in buying a successful business, come see us at Community Futures. We've just launched an exciting new line-up of loan products — including BizBuyout — especially for the entrepreneur who sees opportunity waiting.

FranchiseRoute » Funding to franchise your business – we can help with financing and professional franchising advice.



If you've got the right kind of business, franchising is a proven way to achieve success. And in uncertain economic times, it can make sense to get support from an established corporation.

If you're thinking of franchising your business, come see us at Community Futures. We've just launched an exciting new line-up of loans products – including FranchiseRoute – especially for entrepreneurs wanting to explore growth options.

NewBiz Loan » Funds for starting up a new business – if you've got what it takes to be an entrepreneur, we can help you get up and running.



You'd be amazed how many successful businesses were started during a recession. If you plan carefully and work hard, this could be the perfect time to launch your dream. Supplies may be cheaper, good people more available and customers could be looking for change.

If you've got a dream, come see us at Community Futures. We've just launched an exciting new line-up of loan products — including NewBiz — especially for the start-up entrepreneur with a great idea and the drive to make it reality.

NextGen Loan » Financing for young people who want to be entrepreneurs – we're here to see that you get your first chance to try.



If you think you have what it takes, maybe you can channel your ideas, energy and drive into becoming your own boss. An economic downturn is the perfect environment for fresh thinking, out-of-the-box solutions – and youthful perspectives.

If you're a young person with a business idea, come see us at Community Futures. We've just launched an exciting new line-up of loan products — including NextGen — especially for the young entrepreneur who wants a chance to make a start.

BizAble Loan » For people with disabilities – because entrepreneurship can be the best way to get back into the workforce.



If you're a person with a disability, self-employment can be a great option.

In good times or bad, it can offer people with disabilities the opportunity to create a work situation adapted to their particular needs. If you've got the right commitment and attitude, starting a business could be the perfect way to get into the workforce.

If you're a person with a disability with a great business idea come see us at Community Futures.

4H Loan » For current 4H members



Community Futures Sun Country introduced a loan program specifically designed for 4H members. It allows the youth to borrow funds for purchase of a 4H project with a low interest rate and customized repayment terms. We could not be happier to support such a great organization; one that teaches youth about respect, hard work and caring for others.

Community Futures Leaders in Community Economic Development

Community Economic Development

Community Futures Sun Country is committed to *Community Economic Development (CED)* in the region. Presentations are made to village councils, chambers of commerce, community organizations and interested groups on a regular basis in order to establish, foster and maintain community partnerships with other agencies, stakeholders and service providers within the region. Community Futures Sun Country is also a member of the Chamber of Commerce's in the region.

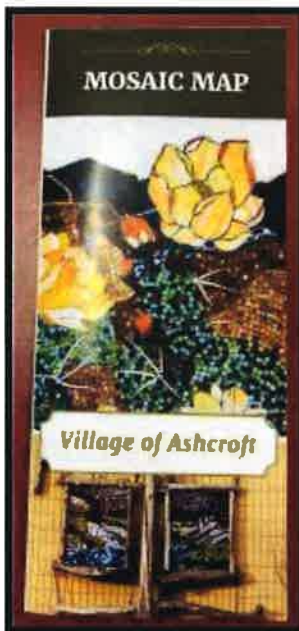
Community Futures Sun Country also assists organizations with accessing funding from a variety of sources. Over the past year, Community Futures has been successful in acquiring and/or leveraging CED program funding in the Sun Country region.



General Manager, Debra Arnott and General Manager, Geri Collins of Central Interior First Nations attended BC's Premier Christy Clark's announcement of the Rural Economic Development Strategy in Merritt



Ashcroft Mosaic Map



Community Futures with the help of local artists designed and created an Ashcroft Mosaic Map.

A number of community members have been involved in bringing this initiative to life, and, since its inception, many more mosaic displays have been completed. We will continue to update the map to reflect new additions.



General Manager, Debra Arnott presented the Ashcroft Mosaic Map at the Village of Ashcroft Council Meeting



Community Futures received the Communities in Bloom "Best Bloomin' Business" Award!



CED Projects

Rural Advisory Council

Debra Arnott, General Manager was one of 14 individuals to be appointed to the Rural Advisory Council for the Province. The mandate of the council is to provide input to government policy decisions to best support thriving rural communities, while keeping in mind government's need to control spending and ensure an overall balanced budget for the Province.

The initial focus for the council will be to provide advice on rural economic development, including rural access to capital and business development support for rural entrepreneurs and businesses. The council will also advise on rural community capacity building, including the Rural Dividend Program.



Rural Advisory Council Members

Debra is now serving her second two year term on the Rural Advisory Board. [Rural Advisory Council website](#)

Venture Connect

Over the next few years nearly 25% of all BC Businesses will end up on the market for sale. The current population growth and demographics will no longer support the number of businesses that will be for sale. This shortage is expected to last for a couple of decades and will put many rural communities at risk.

Communities Futures has partnered with Venture Connect to assist business owners to prepare for successful sale and continuity of business in their communities. This partnership will improve communications and create new linkages to potential buyers in groups most likely to buy B.C. businesses, including immigrants, young people and vacationers aged 50 and over. This program has created an electronic publication that highlight businesses for sale in B.C. matching sellers to buyers.

Generally it can take 1-3 years to complete a good exit and 83% of small business owners don't plan their exit until they are ready to leave. To help entrepreneurs become aware of these succession planning workshops that are offered throughout our region, visit The Venture Connect Website <http://www.ventureconnect.ca> these seminars provided business owners with the tools to be prepared and help plan for a good exit.





Debra Arnott and community members attended the Tutorial Training to support adults Literacy. Community Futures has been the stewards of the Literacy Program since 2009.



Debra Arnott attended the Lyttonnet's Open House in Lytton. Lyttonnet is a local effort created and maintained by volunteer members of the Lytton Area Wireless Society and other community members. Together, they are working to make our region stronger. Community Futures is proud to be a partner in their Enterprising Non Profit



Debra Arnott attended the unveiling of the "Koi" and "Dragon" mosaic in the Chinese Cemetery along with Minister Teresa Watts and MLA Jackie Tegart. Community Futures is proud to be a partner in this amazing initiative





MCABEE FOSSIL BEDS HERITAGE SITE

Introduction:

McAbee Fossil Beds Heritage Site is a 548 hectare site located adjacent to Highway 1, 13 kilometres east of Cache Creek. For the past 14 months the Community Futures Sun Country has been a member of the McAbee Fossil Beds Heritage Site Working Group. The purpose of this report is to provide the Community Futures Sun Country Board, and the communities it serves, a document that provides the McAbee site history, potential opportunities and steps to moving forward. This briefing note only provides a high-level overview. Supplementary documents are available for those wishing greater details.

History/Background:

The McAbee Fossil Beds Heritage Site (the McAbee site) is part of an ancient lake bed which was deposited approximately 52 million years ago, and is internationally recognized for the diversity of plant, insect, and fish fossils found within. First recorded discovery came in the 1900s by G.M Dawson. This was followed by Len Hill in the 1970s, then by David Langevin who staked a mineral claim in 1991. Bruce Archibald began his research into the McAbee Fossil Bed in the 1990s and remains the site's leading expert.

Research in the early 2000s provided a greater insight into the significance of the McAbee site and in 2009 the province funded a geological and paleontological survey report. That report identified the fossil beds' extent and provided a wealth of technical information for amateur and professional paleontologists. The significant heritage value of the McAbee site include paleontological, geological, archaeological, cultural and social. The significance of the McAbee site is rooted in the quality and diversity of the fossils found, as well as its geology, history, and the exceptional natural values of the setting.

A number of people have been involved in this project. Founding partners and members of The Advisory Team include representatives from: the Heritage Branch, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Royal BC Museum, and the Faculty of Science at Thompson Rivers University. Joining this group are representatives from: the Faculty of Adventure, Culinary Arts and Tourism, Thompson Rivers University; Dr Bruce Archibald and a Consulting Geologist.

In early 2012, a community stakeholder group became focused on the preservation of the McAbee site and on July 18, 2012, the McAbee site received Heritage Designation as a Provincial Heritage Site under section 23 of the Heritage Conservation Act. The designation ensures that the site is protected in the long-term and enables further research, education and development opportunities consistent with its primary heritage values.

To determine the potential of the McAbee site for educational and tourism activities, along with the continued research, a pre-feasibility study was completed in 2013. Community members took the next step in 2014 and prepared a Vision and Guiding Principles for the development of the Site, and in 2015 a tourism workshop was organized by Gold Country Communities Society to help identify potential tourism opportunities.

A McAbee Site Working Group was formed and convened its first meeting on May 16, 2016. The Group included Bonaparte Indian Band, Community Futures Sun Country, Gold Country Communities Society, Thompson Nicola Regional District, Tourism Kamloops, Village of Cache Creek, Village of Ashcroft, and Walhachin Museum. To help further develop the concept, Debra Arnott facilitated a visioning workshop with the Working Group June 29, 2016. With support from MLA Tegart, the visioning workshop outcomes were then presented by Debra Arnott to Richard Linzey, Director Heritage Branch FLNR. Further Research of the US Fossil Centres was also completed to understand the potential opportunity for the Site.

Community Futures Sun Country received \$10,000.00 funding from the Rural Dividend Fund to complete a Business Case and Plan. In February 2017, Community Futures Sun Country engaged consultant ATW Associates Inc. to assist the Working Group in development of the plan. Community Futures Sun Country contributed an additional \$2,202.00 to the contract cost for the consultant to complete one-on-one interviews. The final report was presented by Debra Arnott to the following communities and organizations: District of Logan Lake; Village of Ashcroft; Village of Cache Creek; Village of Clinton; District of Lillooet Chamber of Commerce; Gold Country Communities Society; Hat Creek Ranch Board of Directors and the Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association.

Community Futures Sun Country has been deeply involved in the process for the past year. In-kind support of staff time, travel and office equipment is estimated at \$7,000.00 to date.

Business Case / Plan Highlights:

There has been overwhelming support for establishing an interpretive centre from all partners that include affected communities, Indigenous Peoples and other stakeholders. Stakeholder Groups include: research, science, education, culture, communities, heritage site, tourism, and Indigenous Peoples.

The consultant reviewed all documents compiled to date, conducted market and socio-economic profiles of visitor impact of the surrounding area, research of selected fossil peer museums and science centre operations. Also reviewed were the strategic plans of selected communities, Indigenous People, tourism agencies and heritage site operations. The consultant also completed 23 one-on-one interviews with partners, stakeholders and museum experts.

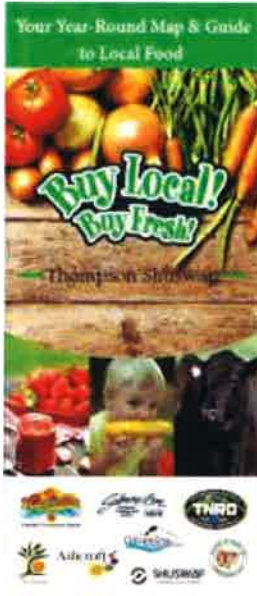
The Business Case identifies the multiple assets of the McAbee site for research, education and tourism opportunities. A market analysis of the region, and comparative research of other fossil and museum facilities, suggests that the McAbee site has the potential to attract 50,000 visitors per year and generate up to \$6.9 million per year in direct spending in the Kamloops/Gold Country area. To achieve this potential opportunity, the Business Plan provides a phased in approach to the site's development. That approach begins in the years 2017 and 2018 to have the site visitor and market ready, and have the completion of a World Class Interpretive Centre by the year 2025. Critical success factors identified in the report include community-led, visitor focused programs, long-term vision, financially sustainable, and a detailed governance structure. The Partners, members of the Working Group and the Advisory team are committed to ensure the site is re-opened to the public and managed in a sustainable and economically viable way for the benefit of all.

Moving Forward:

Community Futures Sun Country has been approved for funding assistance through the Canada 150 program to fund the development and construction of key aspects, such as: site plan, washroom facilities, temporary shelter, design for interpretive trails, and to drill a well for water. Community Futures Sun Country is leveraging \$10,000.00 for a total project cost of \$61,406.00. The next phase is the development of a Non-Profit Society to move the Business Plan forward. Community Futures Sun Country applied for and received \$1,500 to assist the new Society with cost of registration and other expenses.

Buy Local! Buy Fresh!

General Manager worked with the coordinators of "Buy Local! Buy Fresh!" www.buylocalbc.org to include our region. This partnership has provided some of our local producers an opportunity to raise their profile.



Bhumi Farm Organics
Off Venables Valley Rd, Ashcroft BC
Phone# 778-988-7558
Email: bfororganics@gmail.com

Desert Hills Ranch
250 Elm St. Ashcroft BC
Phone# 250-453-9878
Email: deserthillsranch@hotmail.com
Web: www.deserthillsranch.com



Horstings Farm Market
4570 Cariboo Hwy 97, Cache Creek
BC
Phone# 250-457-6546
Email: horstingsfarm@shaw.ca
Web: www.horstingsfarm.com

Thank you to Director May who donated boxes of business books to our business resource library!

Have a look at our full listing of all our business resource books on our website
<http://www.cfsun.ca/business-resource-library>



Audited Financial Statements – Financial Information

COMMUNITY FUTURES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF SUN COUNTRY Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2017

	Operating Fund	SE Fund	Reserve Investment Loans Fund	Youth Loans Fund	FCWP Loans Fund	Devolved Entrepreneur Loans Fund	Capital Fund	2017 Total	2016 Total
ASSETS									
CURRENT									
Cash	\$ 18,048	\$ 62,494	\$ 305,491	\$ 278,748	\$ 209,826	\$ 55,125	\$ -	\$ 996,752	\$ 877,360
Accounts receivable (Note 4)	2,708	-	5,167	-	17	-	-	7,992	5,376
Interest receivable (Note 3)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,324	7,366
LOANS RECEIVABLE (Note 6)									
TANGIBLE	91,176	62,494	310,908	278,748	209,843	55,125	-	1,004,344	890,136
CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 8)	-	-	1,207,789	-	1,081	-	-	1,210,790	1,243,915
	\$ 91,176	\$ 62,494	\$ 1,518,787	\$ 278,748	\$ 208,864	\$ 55,125	\$ 19,912	\$ 2,231,186	\$ 2,132,924
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS									
CURRENT									
Accounts payable and accounts (Note 9)	\$ 46,436	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,436	\$ 51,454
Deferred revenue (Note 10)	24,942	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,942	-
	71,378	-	-	-	-	-	-	71,378	51,454
GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE (Note 11)									
	-	-	-	200,000	-	200,000	-	400,000	400,000
	71,378	-	-	200,000	-	200,000	-	471,378	451,454
FUND BALANCES									
Government	-	-	864,052	-	(100,000)	-	-	964,052	964,052
Contributions (Note 12)	-	-	(100,000)	-	(100,000)	-	-	(200,000)	-
Reserve fund transfers (Note 12)	19,798	62,494	734,715	78,748	8,844	(144,875)	10,912	795,754	717,418
Fund balances	19,798	62,494	1,518,787	78,748	208,844	(144,875)	19,912	1,799,008	1,791,470
	\$ 91,176	\$ 62,494	\$ 1,518,787	\$ 278,748	\$ 208,844	\$ 55,125	\$ 19,912	\$ 2,231,186	\$ 2,132,924

See notes to financial statements



Audited Financial Statements – Financial Information continued

COMMUNITY FUTURES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF SUN COUNTRY Statement of Operations Year Ended March 31, 2017

	Operating Fund	RI Fund	Regular Investment Loan Fund	Youth Loan Fund	FCSI Loan Fund	Credit for Entrepreneur Loan Fund	Capped Fund	2017 Total	2016 Total
REVENUES									
Federal Government contribution	\$ 274,357	\$ -	\$ 91,029	\$ 865	\$ 417	\$ 22	\$ -	\$ 371,678	\$ 324,241
Interest from loans	6,074	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,074	91,603
Administrative fee/fee (Note 1)	1,118	32	1,210	1,925	1,412	384	-	6,078	3,849
Interest from investments	-	4,360	-	-	-	-	-	4,360	6,227
Other unrelated revenue	-	-	14,769	-	-	-	-	14,769	21,860
Waiver-fee receiving	3,421	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,421	4,317
Loan processing fee	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,189
	284,976	4,402	109,028	2,227	1,829	406	-	400,838	458,734
EXPENSES									
Advertising	(1,350)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,350)	(2,078)
Amortization	19,849	-	-	-	-	-	6,100	25,949	5,191
Conferences and seminars	3,559	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,559	21,671
Insurance	2,012	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,012	3,230
Licensing dues and fees	18,552	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,552	1,944
Office	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,373
Other contract expenses (Note 14)	27,061	51	-	-	-	-	-	27,112	25
Professional fees	6,463	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,463	28,753
Recruiting	13,827	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,827	-
Rent	4,822	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,822	13,437
Repairs and maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,275
Reserve and loan write-offs	10,815	-	1,050	-	-	-	-	11,865	19,138
Telephone and cellular	8,047	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,047	11,033
Travel	208,912	-	-	-	-	-	-	208,912	8,009
Wages and benefits	317,499	31	1,050	-	-	-	6,100	324,680	300,863
	652,523	4,341	107,958	2,227	1,829	406	(6,100)	762,184	577,871



See notes to financial statements

OUR SERVICE AREA

Incorporated Communities

▢ District of Logan Lake ▢ Village of Ashcroft ▢ Village of Cache Creek ▢ Village of Lytton
▢ Village of Clinton ▢ District of Lillooet ▢ District of Hope

First Nations Communities

Ashcroft Indian Band	Skeetchestn Indian Band	Boston Bar Band
Cooks Ferry Indian Band	Canoe Creek Indian Band	Boothroyd Band
Kanaka Bar Indian Band	High Bar Indian Band	Chehalis Band
Lytton First Nations	Pavillion Indian Band	Seabird Island Band
Nicomen Indian Band	Bridge River Indian Band	Spuzzum First Nation
Oregan Jack Indian Band	Coyoose Creek Indian Band	Yale First Nation
Siska Indian Band	Xaxl'ip Indian Band	Sto'lo Chawathil Band
Skuppah Indian Band	Seton Lake Indian Band	Skawahalook First Nation
Bonaparte Indian Band	T'it'q'et Indian Band	Shxw'pw'hamel First Nation

Regional District Communities

Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD)

▢ Savona ▢ 70 Mile House ▢ Spences Bridge ▢ Walhachin ▢ Electoral Areas E, I, J

Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD)

▢ Boston Bar ▢ Yale ▢ Spuzzum ▢ North Bend ▢ Hell's Gate ▢ Electoral Areas A, B

Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD)

▢ Bralorne ▢ Pavilion Lake ▢ Goldbridge ▢ Fountain ▢ Seton Portage
▢ Shalalth ▢ Electoral Areas A, B

Community 
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