

Performance Results for 2017-18 COMMUNITY FUTURES WOOD BUFFALO

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 2017-18
<i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i>	
1. Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)	13
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	0
<i>Rural access to business development services</i>	
3. Total number of business training session participants	671
4. Total number of business advisory services	198
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>	
5. Dollar value of loans	\$1,225,000
6. Total number of loans	23
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹	159
Provide additional Information (e.g. Success stories, Links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc...)	
<p>Introduction of the Wood Buffalo Recovery Loan Partnership Program (WBRLPP)</p> <p>On June 1, 2017 Community Futures Wood Buffalo rolled out the (WBRLPP). Designed and launched as result of a collaboration between local businesses, support organizations and lenders this Program development was supported by the Wildfire Recovery Committee under its Economic Pillar. Based upon its design, Committee support and RMWB management’s recommendation, the RMWB Council approved grant funding in the amount of \$ 2.0 million to Community Futures Wood Buffalo for the development, delivery and administration of the WBRLPP.</p> <p>The Program was designed and has successfully operated to help reinvigorate economic activity following the May 2016 wildfire through strategies that would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable new and existing businesses (urban, rural and Indigenous) recover from consequences of the wildfire; • Maximize the local benefits of recovery operations to the RMWB business community; and • Seize diversification opportunities as part of the recovery. <p>Under this Program, small and medium-sized enterprises licensed and operating in the RMWB gain access to small business training, coaching and access to loan capital.</p>	

¹ Estimated at the time of lending

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To optimize the impact of the RMWB grant dollars to assist clients with access to required capital, Community Futures Wood Buffalo secured additional Program operational monies through grants made available to it through the Government of Canada under the WD Program and through the Government of Alberta CARES program. Funds available through these other two (2) levels of government (\$205,000) are used to fund the incremental operating costs required for the effective delivery and administration of the WBRLPP during the period June 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018.

2017 Live2Lead – Leadership Event

In partnership with members of the Business Support Network (BSN) Community Futures Wood Buffalo organized and delivered a ½ day leadership development workshop. Key speakers available through simulcast video session included internationally renowned author, speaker and leadership expert John C. Maxwell, author-speaker Dave Ramsey, Cheryl Batchelder former CEO of Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen and famed football legend Warrick Dunn. Held at Shell Place a total of 67 leaders from the community attended. Smaller sessions were held at the request of other organizations. Due to the success of this event, Live2Lead will be held again on November 7, 2018.

Women In Technology Event

In partnership with RMWB Economic Development, the Regional Innovation Network and Community Futures Wood Buffalo delivered the ½ day women in technology event. A total of 26 participants engaged in discussion intended to promote women in technology. Fort McMurray and Calgary were the only two Alberta centres engaged in this training and discussion session.

Leadership in Schools

As part of the Global Youth Leadership Week, Community Futures Wood Buffalo delivered leadership training to 5 class at St. Anne's School in Fort McMurray. Delivered by Community Futures Wood Buffalo, the training featured internationally renowned motivational speaker and youth leadership expert Nick Vujicic . Over 125 grade 4-6 students attended and actively participates in this powerful youth leadership development event.