

Annual Report

2010-2011

Community Futures North Fraser

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MISSION

The Community Futures Development Corporation of North Fraser is an organization of committed volunteers and staff who provide leadership and act as catalysts, in order to improve the social and economic well-being of communities within the region. We do this by facilitating planning and implementation of community economic development principles and providing training, counselling and financial assistance for existing and proposed small and medium-sized business ventures.

WHO ARE WE?

The Community Futures program is a federal government initiative established in 1986 to assist rural communities in the development of strategies for dealing with a changing economic environment. The program is based on a philosophy that local decision-making and local development are the most effective means for communities to shape their future. Community Futures Development Corporation of North Fraser is an independent, non-profit organization and we are currently funded through Western Economic Diversification Canada.



Message from the Chair & Executive Director



Every year brings new challenges and opportunities. The past fiscal year April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 has been just that for Community Futures North Fraser; a time of challenge offset by many opportunities. During the challenging times, we recognized that it is important to bend, to be flexible and to make decisions with an open mind. Staying strong with our feet on solid ground while maintaining that much-needed suppleness will allow us to withstand the winds of change and embrace opportunities as they are



presented. The Board of Directors and the Staff have made decisions based on this philosophy with an understanding that we need to keep what is working and rid ourselves of that which is not working, approve what is viable and will thrive, and not approve that which is not. We are community-based and driven by a desire to create a better future for all.

Community Futures North Fraser took advantage of a few opportunities this fiscal. For the first time, the Board of Directors undertook a Self-Assessment. The results of the assessment were tabulated and a Strategic Plan was developed with the help of a facilitator. The Plan includes increasing loan targets, strengthening partnerships, understanding the community needs and identifying the gaps, improving operations of both Board and Staff, and increasing customer feedback to create improved service. The entire exercise was tremendously beneficial and annual self-assessments will be on-going.

This past fiscal, the Board approved 15 loans totalling \$841,095. We exceeded our target by 68% which is outstanding considering that we are in the recovery stage of an economic downturn. We have increased our loan targets for the upcoming fiscal year based on the results of Fiscal 2010 and the current demand we have received. We have increased the number of clients served and advisory services to clients from 344 in Fiscal 2009 to 588 in Fiscal 2010. Ninety-eight jobs and 54 businesses have been created, maintained or expanded through combined lending and business services for Fiscal 2010.

Reading further into this report you will find one of our proud successes is the Mission Harbour Authority Service Building Enhancement Project. Meetings for this project started in January 2009 with a go-ahead on March 25, 2010. The project is a partnership with Fisheries Legacy Trust and the West Coast Community Adjustment Program (WCCAP), the Department of Fisheries and Oceans through Small Craft Harbours and Mission Harbour Authority. We anticipate this will be the start of a wave of entrepreneurial initiatives at the Harbour with many job opportunities.



Cathy Robertson presents Cal Crawford with the Volunteer of the Year Award 2010 for Community Futures North Fraser at the 2010 Community Futures BC Annual Conference held at the Victoria Conference Centre, October 18-20, 2010.

Fiscal 2010 has been a proud year for Community Futures North Fraser. The Chair and the Executive Director want to thank the staff for all their hard work and focus, and a big thank-you goes to the Board of Directors for their dedication and commitment. We look forward to the next twelve months and to what will transpire in the upcoming year. Whatever occurs, Community Futures North Fraser will be here to help small businesses and our communities.

Board of Directors

Community Futures North Fraser is governed by a Board of Directors made up of community volunteers from around the region it serves. Community Futures North Fraser Board of Directors operate as a policy board, speaking as one voice, and ensuring the Executive Director follows policies as set out by the directors. The Board monitors the financial results and is involved in the marketing and promotion of the organization. The Board of Directors provide the overall strategic leadership and direction to the organization, ensuring the goals are clear. The Board monitors and evaluates the organization's progress and hires, provides direction, and evaluates the Executive Director's performance.

Community Futures North Fraser Board normally consists of 10 Directors. Currently, there are four (4) vacancies. Three of the ten directors are voted in by the directors to stand as officers of the board. The officer titles are Board Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer. The officers along with the Executive Director become the signing authorities for Community Futures North Fraser.

2010-2011 Board of Directors:

Calvin Crawford

Mission, BC Chair

Ron Leger

Mission, BC Vice-Chair

Debbie Trenholm

Mission, BC **Secretary-Treasurer**

Sean Melia

Mission, BC Director

Stephanie Key

Agassiz, BC **Director**

Stacey Crawford

Mission, BC **Director**



Staff



Sherry Davies, Debbie Cave, Wayne Fobert, and Michele Blackwell at the waterfront

Sherry Davies

Administrative Assistant

Debbie Cave

Accounts Administration

Wayne Fobert

Business Counsellor

Michele Blackwell

Business Analyst

Our Successes

MISSION HARBOUR AUTHORITY (WCCAP PROJECT)

The Mission Harbour Authority Services Building Upgrade Project was a funded partnership of the West Coast Community Adjustment Program (WCCAP) through the Fisheries Legacy Trust, the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) through Small Craft Harbours, and of the Mission Harbour Authority.



The WCCAP funding announcement on February 22, 2011.



A few of the citizens attending the WCCAP funding announcement



Alec Finsson, Chair Mission Harbour Authority; Oleene Herman, Executive Director Community Futures North Fraser; Mayor James Atebe; Randy Kamp, MP Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge-Mission; Cal Crawford, Chair Community Futures North Fraser

The purpose of the project was to raise the existing building to comply with recently adjusted British Columbia Flood Construction level of 9.5 metres geodetic in the Mission area of the Fraser River, expand the Mission Harbour Authority building and decking to improve community access to the Fraser River, and to accommodate opportunities in tourism and ecotourism products and services.

The interior of the building will house a small food services business and eco-tourism kiosks for information services and booking tours and guides. Educational and storybook displays will sit on the walls while the exterior deck provides a terrific vantage point to observe and connect with the river.





The building is raised.



The building and deck are expanded.



The interior near completion in early May 2011.

As an added attraction, the windows are cased in pine-beetle wood.

The shingles on the original exterior were reused on the expanded building and the additional shingles required to complete the work were donated by the Cedar Shake & Shingle Bureau.

While we believe all our loan clients to be great examples of success, the following highlights 2 clients.

EVOKE WELLNESS CENTRE

Lacy Rolleman is a registered massage therapist, and labour and delivery Doula. She also works with massage therapy students in their final semester, supervising the outreach program at Royal Columbian Hospital in the high risk obstetrics ward 2 days per week. She contemplated opening her own clinic and in November, 2010 dropped into CF North Fraser's office to gather information on starting her own business and to seek information on financing options.

With the help and guidance of Community Futures North Fraser, she developed a business plan and set about making her vision of a wellness centre a reality. A suitable location was found in downtown Mission and she created a clinic that exudes professionalism and serenity. In the short time the clinic has been open she has leased rooms to two other massage therapists and a chiropractor and is on the way to building the multidisciplinary team she envisioned.

Although this is a new venture we have no doubt the entrepreneurial Ms. Rolleman will make it a success.



Lacy Rolleman at the reception desk

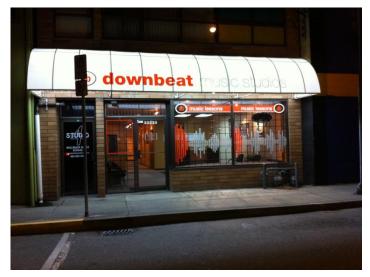






Inside views of Evoke Wellness Centre

DOWNBEAT MUSIC STUDIOS



Downbeat Music Studios in Mission, BC

Ryan Beszu first came to Community Futures North Fraser in 2005 with the idea to start a professional music studio in downtown Mission. With North Fraser's financial help, the studio has been successful and since then, he has come to us for advice and business counselling on several occasions. He spoke frequently about an innovative plan he had to create a website with live interactive music instruction.

With the financial help of Community Futures, he devoted much of the last few years developing a website that will be ready to launch in late June, 2011. A sneak preview of some of the music lessons on the site and the chat room with the instructor was given to North Fraser staff. The concept is very exciting and a good fit with the Community Business Loan Program through the use of technology in an innovative manner.



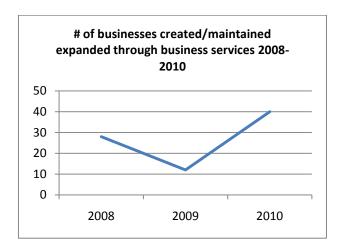
Inside Downbeat Music Studios – reception area and music room

Financials

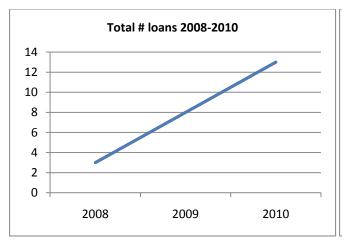
Non-consolidated Balance Sheet - condensed version

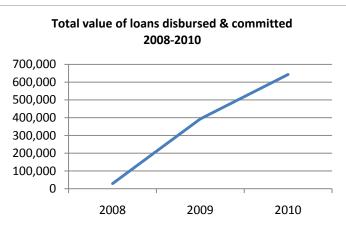
	2011	2010
Assets		
Current Assets	1,431,250	1,571,673
Loans Receivable	936,344	663,931
Property, plant, equipment	4,611	4,681
Investments and advances	4,951	4,201
	2,377,156	2,244,486
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Liabilities and Fund		
Balances		
Current liabilities	117,417	40,637
Contributions repayable	1,540,000	1,540,000
Fund Balances	719,739	663,849
	2,377,156	2,244,486

The following graphs demonstrate that the activities of the office have significantly increased over the past three years:



The loans portfolio has improved dramatically in the past 3 years.







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