

New Executive Director

Cheryl Johnson is CFBC's new Executive Director. Cheryl brings a passion for small business, community economic development and non-profit management that will be of a great benefit to the BC CF Network. Since coming on board in June, Cheryl has been occupied with many issues, but that hasn't stopped her from getting out and visiting CF offices. So far, she has visited 16/37, Nadina, Pacific Northwest, North Fraser, Boundary, Okanagan Similkameen, North Okanagan, Shuswap, Thompson Country and Nicola Valley. As well as Sto:lo, where she hosted the Adobe Connect Network meeting for input into the "BC Wildfire and Recovery Initiative for Rural Small Businesses" proposal.



Cheryl has attended #TradeTalks of the BC Chamber of Commerce as a guest of Val Litwin, CEO; Premier John Horgan's Summer Reception and has had meetings with organizations including BDC's Wendy Trusler and WED's Tammy Schulz.

Board of Directors Meetings

August 31, 2017
Vancouver, BC

September 15, 2017
Barkerville, BC

CFBC Annual General Meeting

September 15, 2017
Barkerville, BC

2017 Community Futures Conference

September 13-15, 2017
Quesnel, BC

CFNC AGM

September 5, 2017

Canadian Rural Revitalization Forum,

September 20-23, 2017
Nelson, BC

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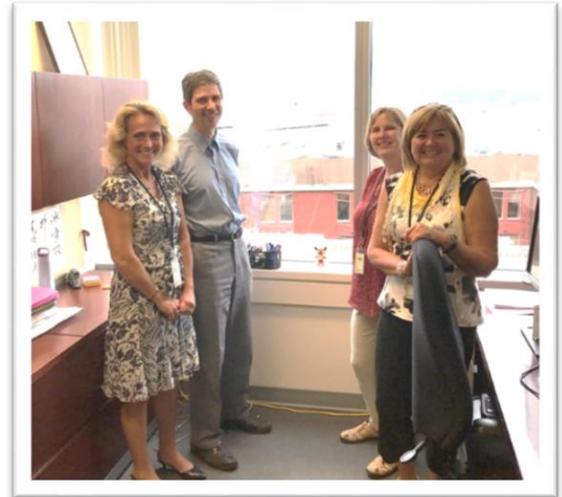
[Kim Ho](#) Ext 224

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BC Wildfires

Community Futures representatives Deb Arnott, Sun Country; Karen Eden, Cariboo Chilcotin; and Cheryl Johnson, CFBC met with WED representatives to present the “BC Wildfire and Recovery Initiative for Rural Small Businesses” proposal. The proposal was drafted with input from the Network at an Adobe Connect Meeting on July 25 and presented to WD representatives on July 26. The proposal was positively received. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please don’t hesitate to contact Cheryl Johnson.



Community Futures Pan West

Executive Directors and Chairs from the four CF PanWest provincial association met June 8. Cheryl Johnson attended the meeting which gave her the opportunity to meet her counterparts in PanWest. CF Manitoba has been approved to host the next CF Pan West Network contract starting April 1, 2018. Attendees met with Jim Saunderson, WED, lead Assistant Deputy Minister from the Alberta Region.

Community Futures Network of Canada

Ron Trepanier, CFNC coordinator, is in the process of compiling the 2016-17 Annual Report. The Annual Report is expected to be completed for the CFNC Annual General Meeting in September. In addition to statistics from each province/territory, this year’s annual report will include two stories from each province/territory, one to feature a CF loans client and the other to showcase a community or regional initiative. Stories submitted were chosen, where possible, to feature businesses and projects that highlight business or projects that align with the federal government’s economic agenda, and thus reinforce the CFNC’s proposal [“Maximizing the Potential of the Community Futures Program.”](#)

Board Committees

BA Support Program Committee

On June 22, 2017, the CFBC Board approved a contribution of \$4,000 to support PanWest Staff Lending Training. The training will take place on Oct 2-3, facilitated by Jon Close – registrations are now closed.

The committee has been collecting business plan templates from CFs around the province.

BC Futures Fund Committee

The BC Futures Fund continues to be utilized by the Network.

Jon Close was contracted to provide an independent review of the BC Futures Fund, in consultation with Network members, that includes observations and recommendations. The report is currently in draft form and will be shared with members in the fall, when it has been finalized.

Indigenous Awareness and Engagement Committee

There was a great response to the Indigenous awareness and engagement knowledge needs assessment survey. Of the 34 offices, 24 participated. Bob Joseph’s book “Working Effectively with Indigenous Peoples’ has been sent out to the offices that took part. The results are under review, and will be used as a guide for future training opportunities.

The committee is also collecting together a list of potential indigenous engagement measurement tools, which will be under discussion at the next CF National Canada meeting.

Marketing Committee

A long-term strategy for marketing by CFBC, on behalf of the Network, will be developed over the next 6 months. The marketing strategy will be aligned with the strategy of the CFBC Board, and will consider the diversity of the 34 CF offices. The strategy will include input from other committees of the CFBC Board.

The CFBC office is already developing collateral, to include: a lure brochure, BC specific annual report, and BC CF video.

New Relations Task Force

The committee will review the mandate letters of the new BC Provincial Government. Letters will be sent to cabinet Ministers, tailored to promote CF in BC, and private meetings will be arranged as appropriate. The task force will provide input to key messages to assist local CFs in their relationship building with MPs and MLAs.

Self-Employment Committee

The SE stats collected from CFs have been used to produce a summary document, 'SE Services Delivery Overview and Recommendations'. The report presents the stats in the context of the history of SE program delivery by CFs in BC, and is under review by the committee and the CFBC Board.

Results could potentially be used as supporting information to advocate for futures SE program delivery by CFs. The change BC Government may affect future SE delivery contracts.

Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program (EDP)

EDP marketing

To create greater awareness of the EDP throughout rural BC, a social media marketing project has been launched. Boosted ads are being used on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Google+ to increase EDP followers and engagement on these platforms. The project began on July 1 and runs until September 30. In the first month, followers of the EDP Facebook page have doubled: from 250 to 500, and there has been a steady increase in page engagement and discussion of the Community Futures EDP Program.



EDP Pan West 20th anniversary marketing

Promotional materials for the EDP 20th Anniversary year are nearing completion. Materials include 5 EDP-assisted client stories per Province, project briefs, a timeline of significant events and achievements, and a one-minute promotional video. Materials are designed to be shared publicly on social media, and will be posted to the EDP pages on the CFBC website (www.communityfutures.ca/edp) and the EDP Facebook page, @CommunityFuturesEDP (www.facebook.com/CommunityFuturesEDP/). A postcard has been developed for use across the west at conferences and tradeshows.

EDP client assistance funding

EDP support includes funding for direct assistance to Community Futures EDP-eligible clients above and beyond what can be accomplished at the Community Futures Office. Each support case is different: while most involve business skills coaching, others may involve a combination of disability accommodation and business coaching. While priority for assistance goes to business owners who

are applying for/have an EDP loan, EDP-eligible business service clients can also qualify for funded assistance. Contact Garry Angus to discuss EDP assistance.

Communications

Website Members' Area – Check out the New Look

To access the resources available to staff and volunteers in the Members' Area you must create an account. To do so, visit <http://www.communityfutures.ca/user/register> to be guided through registration. Once you have done so you will receive an email with a one-time login link, which will then prompt you to create a password.

An account provides access to reports, committee minutes, board minutes, activity updates, links and access information to other resources available in the Network, including the Pan West Leadership Institute, the Branding Portal and much more.

Member account requests are processed during regular business hours. If you have registered your account, but are unable to remember your user name, please contact Vanessa Tveitane vtveitane@communityfutures.ca for assistance.

Futurescape Newsletter

The Futurescape Newsletter is published quarterly. Links to past editions are available on the Community Futures BC website in the Member's Area. If you would like to have an article or initiative included, please forward the details to the association office. [Sign up for the newsletter here.](#)

For help accessing the Members' Area of the website, please contact Vanessa Tveitane at 604-289-4222 ext 221 or vtveitane@communityfutures.ca.

Youtube

The [Community Futures BC YouTube](#) channel includes playlists of Entrepreneurs with Disabilities, Community Futures Client Stories, Community Futures Staff Orientation, Community Futures Board Orientation, and many more.

Facebook

Keep informed on the happenings in the Network. Community Future BC's Facebook page shares content from offices in the BC Network. Like the page to keep up to date with the events throughout the network and other information relevant to the Community Futures program.

Community Futures British Columbia

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