

Activities Update

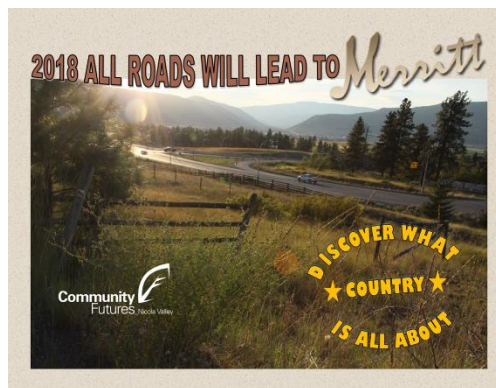
September 1 - October 24, 2017

CFBC Provincial Conference & AGM - September 13-15

Community Futures BC Board, staff and members met in Barkerville on September 15, 2017 to conduct the Annual General Meeting. Community Futures BC welcomed new directors to the board at the AGM in Barkerville. The current Board of directors is Robert Annis, Chair; Michael Guarnery, Vice-Chair, Wendy Prystay, Treasurer; Troy Dungate, Director; Brenda Gould; Director, Russ Beerling Director; Susan Stearns, GM Representative; Kevin Dorrius, GM Representative and Andrea Wilkey, GM Representative. Larry Casper continues as the Indigenous Peoples Advisor. The [2016 AGM Minutes](#) were approved along with the [CFBC 2017 Audited Financial Statements](#).

Highlights of the 2016 Provincial Conference were included in the [CFBC Futurescape Fall 2017](#) newsletter.

The Annual General Meeting will be in Merritt in September 2018. CF Nicola Valley will be hosting CF's from across BC at the Provincial Conference from September 13-15, 2018.



CF

Canadian Rural Revitalization Forum – September 20-22



Bob ANNIS

CFBC sponsored the Different by Design, 29th Annual CRRF Conference in Nelson. Cheryl Johnson and Bob Annis both attended. Bob Annis was inducted as a Lifetime Member at the 2017 CRRF Conference in Nelson, BC. The Lifetime Membership policy recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding contributions to the betterment of Canada and CRRF. Bob has profoundly impacted the landscape of rural development in Canada and abroad. Championing multi-year research initiatives, advanced rural public policy and mentored a generation of new rural researchers, policy makers and community practitioners.

While in Nelson, Cheryl took the opportunity to visit CF Central Kootenay, who partnered on the sponsorship of the CRRF conference with CFBC.



CHERYL & CFCK TEAM

Upcoming events

CFBC Board meeting
November 1-2, 2017

[BC Business Summit](#)
November 1, 2017
Vancouver, BC

[Small Business Information Expo](#)
November 7, 2017

[Aboriginal Business Match](#)
December 4-6, 2017
Langley, BC

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Network and Partnership Engagements



Bob Annis, Wendy Smitka and Cheryl Johnson travelled to London, ON to attend the CFNC Strategic Planning and AGM from September 5-6. After completing the CFNC business, the three took the opportunity to participate in the opening reception of Community Futures Ontario's annual conference.

Cheryl also had the opportunity to meet separately with Wendy Trussler from BDC, September 6; Paulina Cameron from Futurpreneur, September 25; and Laurel Douglas from WEC on October 17. Meeting to explore the relationship between their organizations and Community

Futures with the goal of creating more opportunities for partnerships.

On October 23, Cheryl travelled to Sechelt to participate in the Island Coastal Regional Meeting. Attendees met at Gibsons Public Market, a CF client. After a productive morning, the group travelled to Persephone Brewing Company, another CF client, which is a certified B Corporation incorporating both social and environmental sustainability into their operating principles and core values.



ISLAND COASTAL REGIONAL MEETING

CF Staff Lending Workshop



JON CLOSE & BOB HAHN

Twenty-four CF staff took part in the two-day CF Staff Lending Workshop October 2-3 in Richmond, BC. Jon Close facilitated the workshop which provides an understanding of CF's lending policy and loans types, and of the eligibility requirements, loans process and application review for potential clients. The workshop takes participants through a detailed description of the policies and practices that make up the CF Lending Process. Participants receive a certificate of completion from the Community Futures Leadership Institute.

Small Business Month

October is Small Business Month with many activities hosted throughout BC recognizing the importance of small business to local economies. Cheryl attended the SBBC's Small Business Summit which was held at the Roundhouse Community Center in Vancouver on October 2.

On October 3 Cheryl attended the Futurpreneur's Future Forum at the Vancouver Economic Commission's offices. After the Forum, Cheryl met with Susan Schooley, from WD and brought her back to the CF Staff Lending Training group for lunch and networking.



SBBC SMALL BUSINESS SUMMIT



PREMIER HORGAN & STAFF

CFBC Chair, Bob Annis and Past Chair, Wendy Smitka, attended the Legislature in Victoria on October 16, 2017. In a brief conversation with Premier Horgan, Bob reports that Community Futures was acknowledged for its good work. Premier Horgan announced that Small Business Week was also Manufacturing Week, recognizing the importance of BC's manufacturing sector. Also announced was the reduction of the small business tax rate and the creation of the Small Business Task

Force, two items identified as priorities in Minister Ralston's mandate letter. [Premier Horgan's Statement for Small Business Week](#)



FUTUREPRENEUR FORUM

Cheryl Johnson attended several events in the province during Small Business Week. Starting off the week in Northern BC, Cheryl visited CF Stuart Nechako in Vanderhoof, before travelling to Prince George to participate in the Aboriginal Business Match event on October 16.



CHERYL JOHNSON & GERI COLLINS

Heading south Cheryl met with Laurel Douglas of the Women's Enterprise Centre in Kelowna before continuing to Vernon, to attend the CF Central Interior First Nations (CFCIFN) AgriForum. Geri Collins', long time Director of Operations for CFCIFN, retirement was announced. Geri will be leaving CFCIFN at the end of October. She was presented with a gift from her board, along with an award from CFBC recognizing her years of service to CF.



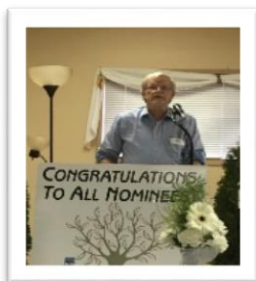
GRAHAM STANLEY & CHERYL JOHNSON

Cheryl returned to Kelowna on the evening of October 18th to attend CF Central Okanagan's (CFCO) Small Business Week Open House. CFCO and their facility partners, WEC and ITA hosted the event providing an evening of networking to celebrate Small Business Week. Catering was provided by a CFCO client [Start Fresh Collaborative Kitchen](#), a socially-responsible, performance driven and innovative food and beverage provider in Kelowna.



CHERYL FAST, CHERYL JOHNSON & MICHAEL BUFFET

On October 19th, Cheryl and Garry attended CF Boundary's 25th Anniversary celebrations. Dave Marshall, a founding board member of CF Boundary shared some of the history over the past 25 years. The celebrations continued on into the evening with CFB's Annual Small Business Award event.



DAVE MARSHALL

BC CF Network client stories that were submitted in time for Small Business Week, were shared on CFBC's social platforms and are compiled in [Client Stories, Small Business Week 2017](#)

Community Futures Network of Canada

On September 21, 2017, the CFNC representation committee, Ron Trepanier, Helene Deslauriers and Wendy Smitka met with Minister Bains. It was evident that Minister Bains had been well briefed on the Community Futures Program file. He listened intently, asked a number of questions and took notes. Lobbying of MPs has been effective as at one-point Minister Bains smiled and said, "you have friends in caucus." The focus of several questions was Indigenous engagement and inclusion. The



MINISTER BAINS, WENDY SMITKA, HELENE DESLAURIERS & RON TREPANIER

committee were able to report that almost half the indigenous financial institutions in Canada are CF offices and many more CF offices are engaged with First Nation bands in their regions. The CFNC Annual Report which highlights stories of indigenous engagement, innovation and clean tech was left for Minister Bains to review and share.

The committee expressed the CFP's need for increased resources, the desire for more flexibility and autonomy and the value of CF's for the efficient delivery of many other government programs and services. We spoke of CF's work on the Ministry's key objectives, as well as the reality that rural Canada is aging and the need to transition existing businesses to the next generation of entrepreneurs.

After a half an hour with the Minister the meeting concluded with him asking for our "next step". It was agreed Ron would communicate directly with Shaun Govender, the CFP lead within Minister Bains's office, with the objective being to strike a task force of CFNC representatives and the relevant RDAs to modernize the program to maximize its potential.

After the meeting with Minister Bains, the committee met with Marc Serre, MP, one of two vice chairs of the Liberal Rural Caucus. The Liberal Rural Caucus consists of 54 rural Liberal MP's whose intent is to ensure "a rural lens is upon all policies. Mr. Serre requested CFNC provide data demonstrating the role rural Canada plays in driving the Canadian economy. Following this meeting, the committee met with Barbara Motzney, ADM, Policy and Strategic Direction for WED, providing her with the key messages of the position paper, the role CF plays in supporting rural economic development. The committee also provided an overview of CF's past role in addressing issues such as softwood lumber, fisheries adjustments as well as the role CF can play in natural disasters, such as forest fires.

CFBC Board Committees

BA Support Program Committee

The Committee met on September 21, 2017. The committee is working towards standardizing documents that are widely used in the BC CF Network, such as the business plan. It was noted that there is a need to remind the Network that there are resources available for BA's. A document listing the resources will be created and distributed. If you are a BA or manager that would like to be on the BA Support Committee, please contact Catherine Simmons.

BC Futures Fund Committee – Next Meeting: October 30, 2017

The BC Futures Fund Committee meets to review BC FF loan applications as required. In addition, the independent review of the BCFF has been completed and will be discussed by the committee prior to the November 1-2 CFBC Board meeting.

Marketing Committee

The Marketing Committee met on October 11, 2017. Andrea Wilkey was appointed chair. Garry Angus, EDP, and Mitch Rosco, Creative North, provided an overview of the EDP Social Media Marketing campaign. A draft short-term marketing strategy was presented to the committee with feedback requested. A session including Marketing committee members and other relevant committee representatives is planned for early 2018 to guide CFBC in creating a long-term strategy and plan for promoting the CF brand and services in the next 3-5 years.

Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program

Garry Angus is travelling and giving several speaking engagements to stakeholders at the request of CFDCs to promote CFs and the service they provide to business owners managing ongoing health or disability issues. October is fully booked, and November is filling up fast. Be aware that this is a travel year for Garry, and due to the limited funds available in the EDP support contract, requests for

regional support meetings/speaking engagements are not first come-first serve, but by order of EDP support priority for the requesting CFDC.

There is greater appetite for social enterprise development around the province, especially for groups that assist persons with developmental disabilities. Garry is exploring co-op models so that the workers are empowered as shareholders in such ventures.

Communications

Are you receiving?

The weekly BC CF Network – Useful Updates and Information e-blast? The quarterly CFBC Futurescape Newsletter?

If you haven't received these communications and would like to, please contact Vanessa Tveitane to have your email address added to the distribution lists.

Do you have an account to access the CFBC Website Members' Area?

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 for assistance.

Have you liked CFBC on Facebook?

CFBC shares information and client stories on both [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). When posting to your social media channels, use #communityfutures to make it easier for others to find your posts.