## **Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot**



2017 / 18 Annual Report



















## **Business Services Results**

# Supporting entrepreneurs at all stages through their business cycle

### THINK

104 individuals attended Exploring Entrepreneurship workshops or Self-Employment orientations as they thought about entrepreneurship as an employment option.

### LAUNCH

7 clients launched new businesses through the Self-Employment Services program.

120 of the 1,198 business buyer and seller matches made through the Venture Connect website are expected to have resulted in a sale.

## GROW

21 entrepreneurs obtained loans that created or maintained 57 jobs.

18 business owners applied for
20 facades
to be improved in the 2017 intake.

23 businesses completed their renovations since the program's inception.

### EXPAND REINVENT

282 entrepreneurs received consulting services through Export Navigator or Community Futures.

24 Island Coastal (4 Alberni-Clayoquot) businesses were accepted into the Export Navigator program in 2017/18.

### EXIT

**1,198 buyer/seller** matches were made through the Venture Connect website.

70 BC entrepreneurs received succession planning services though Venture Connect or Community Futures.



#### We are pleased to note that 2018/19 marks the 30th year of the Self-Employment Program.

# **Self-Employment Services**

An evaluation of Self Employment Services was undertaken to increase referrals, client participation and business launches.

- ✓ Communication, training and inter-agency participation was elevated, increasing referral volumes
- ✓ Process timing has been shortened by weeks, increasing client participation
- ✓ Procedural clarity and streamlining processes has increased engagement and participation

✓ Employees delivering program services have training and experience with clients that have barriers to selfemployment

Early and significant results are noted by a sneak peek into Q1 - 2018/19 where 9 business launches are recorded. Two more launches than all of 2017/18!

This new energy and direction is positive, providing a signal that entrepreneurship is alive and well with indications that we are well-positioned to achieve solid results throughout our 30th year of delivering the Self-Employment Program.





had launched their

businesses with

our assistance.



Venture Connect Inc. Subsidiary created in 2011

Subsidiary of 6 Island Coast CF's Delivera business succession services to SME owners throughout BC and matches investors with listing agents / sellers

Leaders in succession services to SME's in BC and leading source of data collection and trend reporting regarding business buyers and sellers

> CFAC is lead office Operates on a fee for service business model

Regional Contract Activity			
Island/Coast	34%		
North	17%		
Kootenay	17%		
Cariboo	14%		
Thompson Okanagan	9%		
G Vancouver RD	6%		
Other	3%		

## **Venture Connect**

Island Coastal Community Futures have, through its subsidiary Venture Connect, provided an extremely efficient and cost effective way to support the BCCF network in the provision of succession services.

#### **During 2017/18 Venture Connect:**

- ✓ Provided business valuation services directly to BCCFs to help their lending committees
- ✓ Supported CFs in BC to retain at least 37 businesses through the provision of succession loans
- ✓ Contracted with close to 6 dozen business owners assisting them with their succession plans
- ✓ Assisted close to 990 business owners and agents to market their businesses for sale

Referral Sources		
Community Futures	40%	
Repeat Clients / Clients	23%	
Other	20%	
Website	17%	

CF Succession Loans			
BC	37		
Alberta	5		
Manitoba	3		
Saskatchewan	1		

Buyer / Seller Services			
Seller	71%		
Buyer	29%		

Services Provided			
Business Valuations	68%		
Mediation Services	9%		
Other	23%		

Facade Improvement Program Contract Partnership with Municipal Government Contract Since 2016 Partner with City of Port Alberni to provide incentives to businesses to improve their facades

21 business owners with 25 facades are participating in initial round of improvements

> Incentives are design services by an architect and non repayable investments

Façade Improvement Program

The Business Façade Improvement Program is a partnership between the City of Port Alberni and Community Futures Alberni -Clayoquot. Since it's inception two years ago 23 business facades around the city have concluded their renovations and 13 more are in process.

In addition to significantly improving

the visual appearance in their areas, the program has positively impacted the community economically as participant investment leveraged \$4.60 for each dollar contributed.

	# Applicant Locations 46		# Not Ap		# No Proce	ot	
			4		6		
Locations Approved & Proceeding			# pleted		# aining	\$ Lever	
3	36 23		3	1	3	4.6	6:1



#### **Export Navigator**

Contract Partnership wit Provincial Government Contract Since 2016

## **Export Navigator**

Pilot helps B.C. businesses grow by supporting their entry into new domestic and/or international markets

Export Navigator helps small and medium-sized businesses grow by supporting their entry into new domestic or international markets. Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot holds the contract to support participating businesses in much of the Island Coast region.



Export Navigator is a joint-Ministry initiative led by the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology with support from the Federal Government, Small Business BC, Community Futures and the Comox Valley Economic Development Society. The pilot project was initially launched in four pilot communities in October 2016, and in April 2017, the Rural Economic Development Strategy provided financial support to expand Export Navigator to two new rural regional communities. In order to continue to help small businesses and entrepreneurs in rural regions get their good and services to new international and interprovincial markets, the pilot was extended for an additional six month in September 2017 and an additional year in March 2018.

## **Performance Results**

Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot is a program that supports community economic development and builds capacity of communities to realize their sustainable potential. The purpose of the CF Program is to help communities develop and implement local solutions to local problems.

Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot Performance Results (via TEA Reporting System)		
Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation		
1. Total number of community-based projects (new and ongoing)	12	
2. Total number of local and regionally based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	0	
Rural access to business development services		
3. Total number of business training sessions participants		
4. Total number of business advisory services		
Rural access to capital and leveraged capital		
5. Dollar value of loans	\$ 566,800	
6. Total number of loans	14	
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending <sup>1</sup>	46	
<sup>1</sup> Estimated at the time of lending		