

Community Futures Central Kootenay

Performance Results for 2025-26

Community Futures (CF) is a national program that fosters entrepreneurship and community economic development in rural Canada. There are 34 CF offices in British Columbia, mandated to deliver a variety of services ranging from strategic economic planning, technical and advisory services to businesses, loans to small and medium-sized businesses, self-employment assistance programs, and services targeted to youth and entrepreneurs with disabilities. CF offices are non-profit corporations run by salaried staff and guided by volunteer boards of directors.

Community Futures Performance Results	2025-26
<i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i>	
1. Number of new community-based projects	5
2. Number of local and regionally based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	3
<i>Rural access to business development services</i>	
3. Number of business training session participants	583
4. Number of business advisory services	476
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>	
5. Value of loans	\$3,009,555
6. Number of loans	21
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹	100
Provide additional Information (e.g. success stories, links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc.)	
<p>For 40 years, Community Futures Central Kootenay (CFCK) has been supporting entrepreneurs and strengthening rural economies through financing, business services, and community economic development initiatives. In 2025-26, we advanced several workforce and regional development priorities, including launching the West Kootenay Rural Community Immigration Pilot, supporting the Kootenay Childcare Initiative, and establishing the Kootenay Workforce Housing Society.</p> <p>The fiscal year also included several important organizational developments for CFCK. We completed a strategic office relocation to improve operational efficiency and long-term sustainability. We strengthened governance through board renewal, welcoming two new board members while recognizing the contributions of two long-serving directors who retired from the Board. We also navigated a significant staff transition with the retirement of longtime Loans Manager Don McCulloch after 19 years of service and the appointment of Paul Kelly into the role.</p> <p>These efforts reflect CFCK’s continued commitment to supporting businesses to be successful and communities to be economically healthy.</p>	

¹ Estimated at the time of lending