

Performance Results for 2022-23 Sagehill Community Futures Development Corporation

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

Community Futures Performance Results	2022-23
<i>Strong rural community strategic planning and implementation</i>	
1. Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)	53
2. Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	6
<i>Rural access to business development services</i>	
3. Total number of business training session participants	297
4. Total number of business advisory services	1,051
<i>Rural access to capital and leveraged capital</i>	
5. Dollar value of loans	\$572,300
6. Total number of loans	12
7. Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending ¹	29.5
Provide additional information (e.g. Success stories, Links to priorities, leveraging work, communication events, etc...)	
<p>During this past fiscal year, the Board has implemented a Board Self Evaluation Document (created in house) in which it provides each Board member an opportunity to assess their role and understanding of their responsibilities as board members. It also provides our Corporation with areas of needed training opportunities. The Board was very active in participating in training opportunities that increased their knowledge on governance and leadership topics.</p> <p>Throughout board discussion, it was determined that a challenge our SME's face is recruiting and retaining employees. To address this issue within our region, we held a one-day in person Conference in which we brought in specialists within Saskatchewan to provide tips and tools to employers on this topic. Upon review of the evaluations received, the Board has determined that this conference will be held annually for the next three years.</p> <p>We created and implemented a series of Community Economic Development virtual workshops for not for profits, community organizations and municipalities. We approached another CF office to partner with this series. This series of workshops have been a great success. For example, we held a grant writing workshop in which we had 60 participants register. Upon review of the series and evaluations, we have determined that this is something our region desperately needed and will continue to provide CED virtual workshops. From this series, we have been contacted by a school division to provide a series of workshops that will be directed specifically towards their staff. We continue to provide a series of business workshops that are specific to the needs of SME's. Sagehill uses an entrepreneurial mindset when determining the series of workshops. This has proven to be a successful strategy as it shows in our numbers of participants, both new and repeat.</p>	

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Our marketing strategy continues to be aggressive. This is demonstrated by the increase in the number of social media followers, inquiries and advisory services. For example, our FB followers have increased to 727 from 482. We created an Instagram page this fiscal and have 227 followers. Sagehill is very committed to promoting the CF program within our region.

We continue to work with not for profit organizations in creating and developing strategic plans for employee relations. Municipalities continue to reach out to our office to provide the service of creating a strategic plan. We already have committed to working with a handful of municipalities, local chambers of commerce, and not for profits for this upcoming fiscal year.

We continue to seek partnerships with other organizations, including CF offices, to offer organizations/SME's/communities valuable resources throughout our region and province.

This past fiscal year we concentrated on building and/or solidifying relationships with local chambers of commerce, newcomer centres, community service organizations and regional colleges. This provides networking opportunities, project partnerships and a source of referrals.

We continue to have a significant impact within our region. The programs and services provided by our office all contribute to the positive economic climate in our region.