

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-22

 1566 Seventh Avenue, Prince George, BC

 cfdc.bc.ca

 250.562.9622

 @communityfuturesffg

OUR PROFILE

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.

Vision Statement

We believe that dreams, passion and a willingness to take risks, builds communities and businesses, now and into the future.

Mission Statement

We invest in people and ideas. We strategically take risks, connecting entrepreneurs with resources and funding.

Commitment

With our support, entrepreneurs compete, collaborate and innovate, developing



Proudly supported by:



Pacific Economic
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The wordmark for the Government of Canada, featuring the word "Canada" in a large, black, serif font. A small red maple leaf icon is positioned above the letter "a".

*Audited Financial Statements are available upon request. Please Contact Susan Stearns, General Manager at: susans@cfdc.bc.ca or 250-561-6428

PERFORMANCE RESULTS

Strong Rural Community Strategic Planning and Implementation	
Total number of community-based projects (new & on-going)	6
Total number of local and regionally-based community strategic plans developed and/or updated	4

Rural Access to Business Development Services	
Total number of business training session participants	373
Total number of business advisory services	311

PERFORMANCE RESULTS

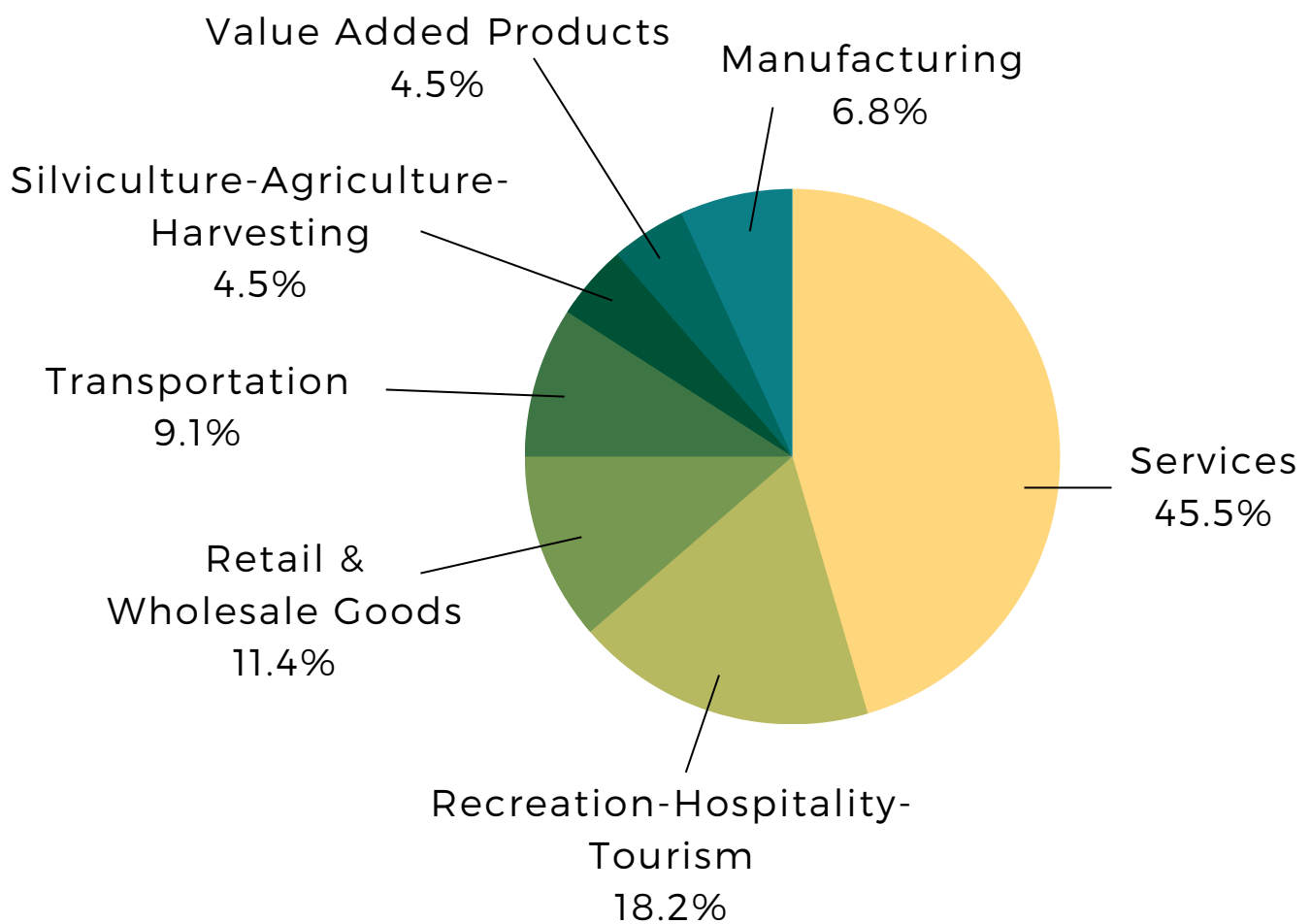
Rural Access to Capital and Leveraged Capital	
Dollar value of loans	\$1,845,328
Total number of loans	26
Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending (estimated at time of lending)	63

Regional Relief and Recovery Funds (RRRF) Disbursed During 2021 -2022	
Total number of RRRF loans	14
Dollar value of RRRF loans	\$340,000

LOANS

LOANS BY INDUSTRY SECTOR

This graph shows which industry sectors were advanced loans.



LOANS

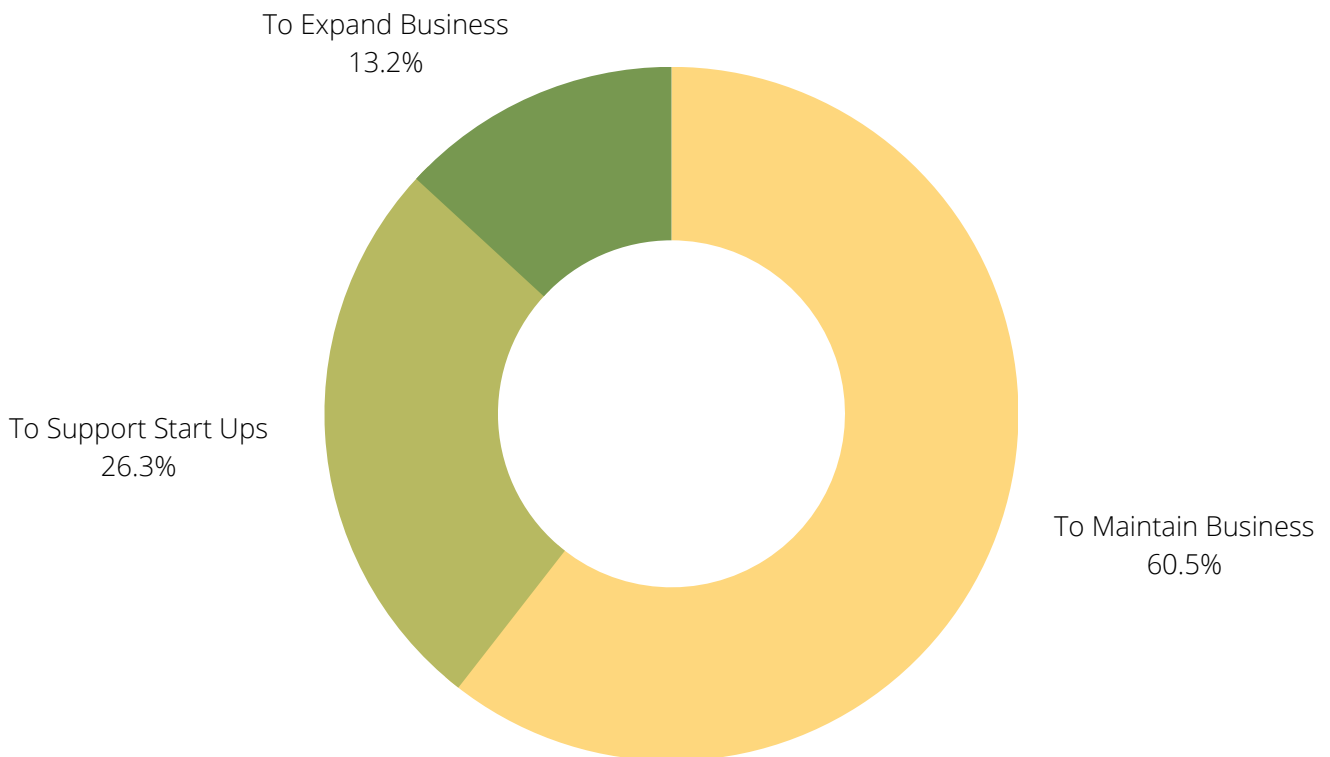


\$1.7M

LOANS ADVANCED TO SMALL
BUSINESSES IN THE FRASER
FORT GEORGE REGION

LOANS BY PURPOSE

This graph shows the purposes of the loans that were advanced.



LOANS

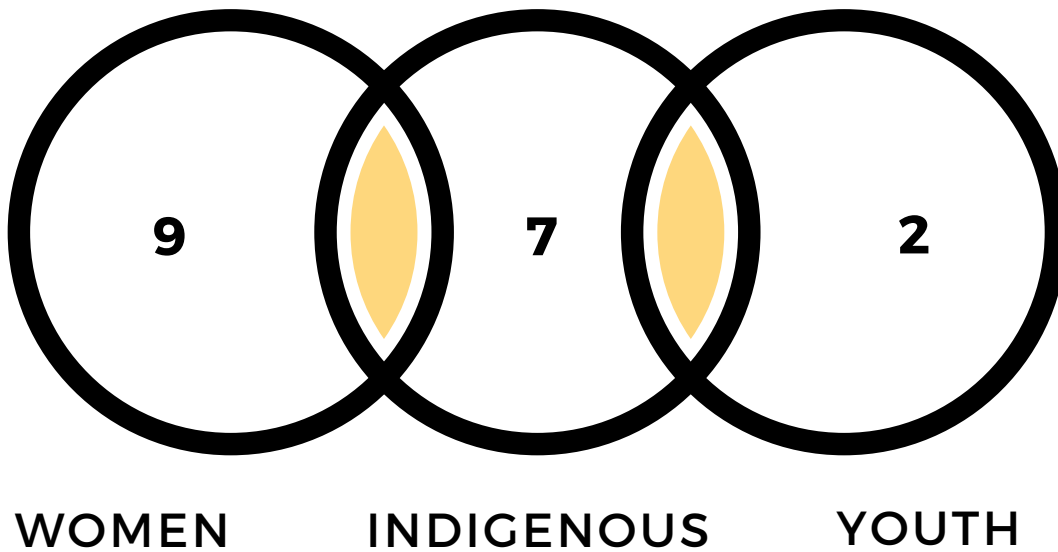


\$600K

OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS
WERE LEVERAGED WITH
OUR LENDING PARTNERS

LOAN DEMOGRAPHICS

This graph shows how many loans were advanced to women entrepreneurs, Indigenous businesses, and youth.



LOANS

COVID-19 RESPONSE

The data below shows the Covid-19 response in loan support to businesses impacted by Covid-19.



14

REGIONAL RECOVERY
AND RELIEF FUND
LOANS APPROVED



\$340K

LOAN FUNDS ADVANCED
TO SUPPORT BUSINESSES
IMPACTED BY COVID-19

TESTIMONIALS - LOANS

“Purchasing our Comfort Keepers in-home senior care franchise would have been difficult without the support of Community Futures business planning support and loan services. Business Analyst Sherri was very helpful and the loan application process relatively quick and easy. It was such a relief to hear we qualified for a loan from Community Futures!”

- Taiho and Rebecca Krahn with Comfort Keepers PG



TESTIMONIALS - LOANS

"Community Futures has helped me get my start-up of Modern PURAIR Prince George successful. We use business coaches who have all of our back end details but Community Futures was able to coach me with extra business planning on a simplified financial projection excel template. All new business start-ups would benefit just by putting Community Future's sales forecast and cash flow projection templates to use. I was able to forecast 12 months out with ease! I was able to secure a small start-up loan through Community Futures to keep my business flowing smooth. When it came to my second loan CFDC FFG required more planning and strategizing. Sherri helped me identify areas of improvement and coached me on how to prepare my best submission for the Finance and Lending Committee of CFDC FFG. Thank you for all your help!"

- Troy Fors, Franchise Partner, Modern PURAIR® Prince George



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

WORK BC - SE SERVICES PROGRAM

Three participants are progressing through the 48 week program and have opened businesses

Business Types Include:

- *Restaurant*
- *Bakery & Café*
- *Mobile Hairstyling Services*

INFORMATION SESSIONS

30 participants joined Community Futures via Zoom to learn about the programs, projects and services we offer in the Fraser Fort George region



30 INFORMATION SESSION PARTICIPANTS

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

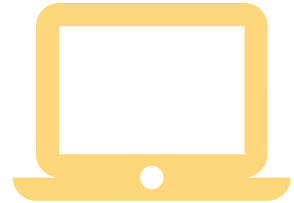
WORKSHOPS & TRAINING



105

PARTICIPANTS

60



**WORKSHOPS & TRAINING
SESSIONS DELIVERED**

SESSIONS INCLUDED:

- *Orientation - A Business Checklist*
- *Business Concept Development Workshop*
- *Business Planning Workshop Series*
- *Market Research*
- *Marketing and Sales*
- *Business Operations*
- *Human Resource Management*
- *Succession Planning*
- *Financial Management*

NETWORKING EVENTS

20 

ONLINE NETWORKING
LUNCH EVENTS HELD

300+



EVENT
ATTENDEES

REFRAME FOR CONFIDENCE - ONLINE WORKSHOP



39

SUCCESSFUL
PARTICIPANTS

BUSINESS INCUBATOR



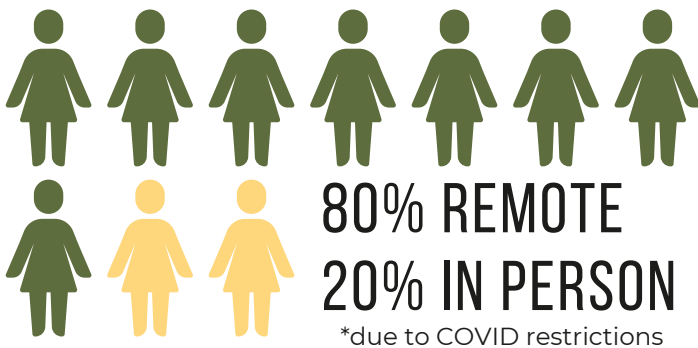
GRADUATES OF
THE PROGRAM

MENTOR MIND GROUP

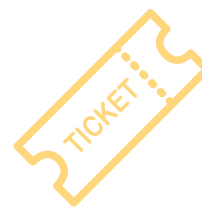


ENTREPRENEURS
PARTICIPATING

ANNUAL CONFERENCE



ATTENDANCE



268

**TOTAL NUMBER
OF ATTENDEES**

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM



5 OPPORTUNITIES HIGHLIGHTED

in the Robson Valley Agricultural Market Analysis, Gaps, and Opportunities Assessment and Implementation Plan

WHAT WE ARE PLANNING

Following the study's action items, we are also working towards:

Developing an action plan and programs based on the findings

Highlight real world ideas around food system value chains

Creating a Robson Valley Agriculture expansion advisory table

Develop marketing strategy to highlight Robson Valley producers

Submitting a grant to host a series of On-Farm research workshops

Scale sustainable project to other communities and regions

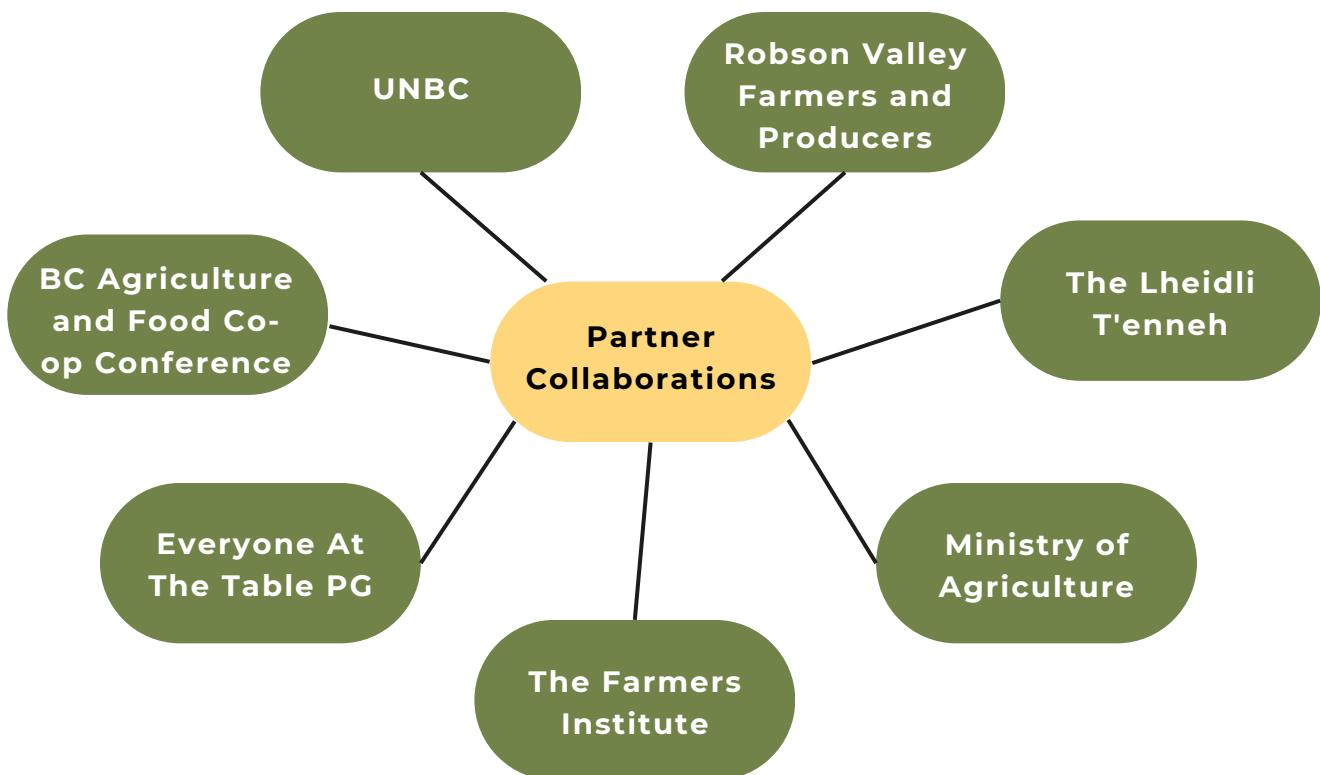
AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

ONGOING WORK

We had a successful and well received Food for Thought Farm Extension Day in the Robson Valley in conjunction with Small Business Week, and work continues developing relationships with growers and producers of the Robson Valley.

PARTNER COLLABORATIONS

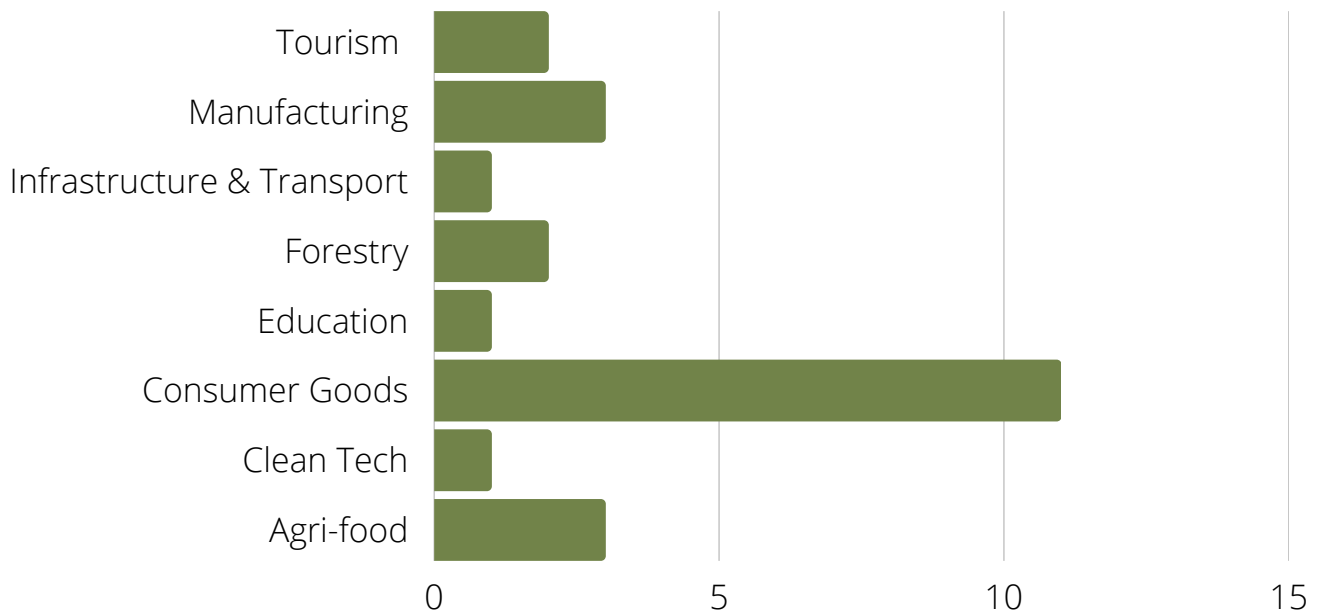
We have been listening and learning from interested and collaborating partners, including:



EXPORT NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

The Export Navigator Program serves rural B.C., offering free expert guidance to businesses on exporting.

Industry Sectors of Active Clients Currently/Recently Working with the Export Advisor



HIGHLIGHTS

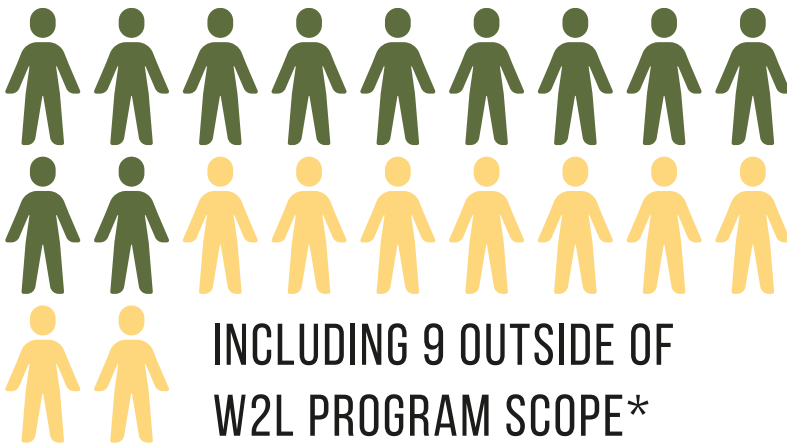
Some highlights of the 2021/2022 year included several speaking opportunities, webinars, and presentations on the topics of Interprovincial Selling and Expanding Markets Outside of BC.

WORKING2LEARN PROGRAM

Working2Learn: Non-Profits (W2L) is a pilot project between Community Futures Fraser-Fort George, the College of New Caledonia (CNC) and the University of Northern BC (UNBC) to support students entering the workforce. The project met and exceeded many of the outlined objectives of the pilot project.

HIGHLIGHTS

20 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED



*masters students, they are students at other institutions (not CNC or UNBC) or they participated in WIL for organizations that were outside of our project scope (i.e. business, not non-profit)

ENGAGED

36 

ORGANIZATIONS ABOUT WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING



7 ORGANIZATIONS OFFERED WIL OPPORTUNITIES

WORKING2LEARN PROGRAM

7 PARTNERSHIP
AGREEMENTS
SIGNED



6 CASE STUDIES
DEVELOPED

with recommendations for future WIL programs

Systems, tools and resources were developed, including:

Intellectual Property

Modules

Partnering Agreements

Student Handbook

Faculty Tools

Student Agreement

TESTIMONIALS - WORKING2LEARN

"Working with [my Learning Partner] has been a pleasure and having her as a mentor has given me confidence, and access to resources I felt I needed in order to succeed..."

"The W2L: Non-profits student module was excellent...this student module speaks not only to those considering working for a non-profit, but also for students as a whole..."

"This applied project was an excellent opportunity to hone my skills and get guided research and career support. I learned how to share information respectfully, and that I can affect change."

"This experience allowed me to relax and apply my learning before graduation, which was helpful and a good eye-opening experience. I can make mistakes in a safe setting before going into the workforce."

"I enjoyed the modules, the academic content behind the modules, making connections with other organizations and identifying new resources courtesy of other partner organizations."

THANK YOU

Lastly, we want to thank the staff, volunteers, and partnering organizations who have supported Community Futures Fraser Fort George this year.

Thank you to the staff for all of the incredible work you have done over the past year, as well as the many partnering organizations that we work with. Without you, we would not be able to accomplish what we do!

Lastly, we'd like to thank the volunteers. Volunteers are the backbone of our organization, providing us with governance, direction, loan approvals, and guidance in all that we do, and we are incredibly grateful for your time and dedication.



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