



The following is a report on activities and initiatives undertaken by the CF Network of Canada over the past several months.

Season's Greetings

The holiday season is upon us and I would like to take this opportunity



to thank the numerous volunteers and staff members for their countless hours spent working for the Community Futures

Program. Your dedication and hard work does not go unnoticed!

I look forward to 2015 with eager anticipation as we gather in Charlevoix to celebrate our many accomplishments, share our best practices and strengthen our program.

In closing, I wish you all a joyous holiday season and a happy, healthy and prosperous new year!

**- Lori Ries, Chairperson,
Community Futures Network
of Canada**

Réseau des SADC+CAE

A big welcome back to our Community Futures colleagues in Québec. As mentioned in the Spring 2014 issue of The Buzz, the **Réseau des SADC+CAE has rejoined the Community Futures Network of Canada** as an active member of the national network. The Réseau is an association of 57 CFDCs and 10 CBDCs comprised of 400 professionals and 1,350 volunteers serving communities throughout Québec. Daniel Dumas, President, and Hélène Deslauriers, Executive Director, attended the CFNC meetings in Toronto in June and the Réseau has been working closely with their local Community Futures group in Charlevoix, Quebec on the organization of the CFNC's 2015 National Event.



The 2015 National Event in Charlevoix, Québec: Showcasing the heart and soul of Community Futures

Join us in the beautiful region of **Charlevoix, Québec on June 3, 2015 for the 6th National Event of CFDCs and CBDCs**. Held every three years, the theme of this year's event is "Proud of our development culture, let's showcase our accomplishments." It will provide a unique opportunity

for CFDCs and CBDCs from across the country to share their successes and showcase new and interesting initiatives.



Nestled along the north shore of the spectacular Saint Lawrence River and the Laurentian Mountains, this region was designated a World Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in 1989. Explore the region's charming villages and dramatic landscape while being inspired by and learning from colleagues and leaders who are gathering together to celebrate community economic development and our accomplishments across the country.

Some things you will be able to take advantage of at this year's event:

- Guided field visits to an écomusée, artisan studios, agri-food producers, and local manufacturers to learn how culture and heritage contribute to the development of a vital economy;

- Conversations on fostering an entrepreneurial culture - from what makes an entrepreneur to transforming skills into entrepreneurial traits and discovering your region's entrepreneurial DNA;
- A showcase and tasting of agri-food products from producers across the country that have received support from their local Community Futures organizations;
- Inspirational talks from industry leaders including Marc Dutil, founder of the École d'entrepreneurship de Beauce (The Beauce School of Entrepreneurship); well-known author and anthropologist Serge Bouchard; and former national chief of the Assembly of First Nations Ovide Mercredi.

Plus, more than a dozen stimulating workshops and discussion groups dealing with the latest topics and issues facing CFDCs and CBDCs today. Register by April 15, 2015 for the early bird rate.

en.pancanadien2015.sadc-cae.ca

Strategic planning 2014 to 2017

Members of the Community Futures Network of Canada came together in Toronto for a strategic planning session at the beginning of June 2014. The result was the development of the CFNC's Strategic Direction for 2014 -2017 which reaffirmed the organization's vision and mission, as well as the values that underpin the work of the national Network. The group also identified the key priorities that they feel are most relevant to the role of

the Community Futures Network of Canada in supporting the activities of its member associations and their respective members. An overview of the outcome of their planning session is appended.



In 2013, the CF Network of Canada entered into a partnership with **Community**

Futures Alberta to develop a **CF Shared Exchange Email Platform**.

Since the new email server was launched, CBDC offices in the Atlantic region, as well as CFDC offices in Alberta and in Ontario have been migrating over to the new server. To date, there are 623 email user accounts on the new shared server across the country. The new email platform is designed

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to allow other CF association and member CF offices across the country to migrate to the new service, if and when they desire. Offices interested in utilizing this service are encouraged to get in touch with **Derek MacEwen** by phone at **902-367-4184** or email derek.macewen@bulletproofsi.com



Set up a national negotiated hotel room rate with the **Pacrim Hospitality Services** who owns in excess of 60 hotels across the country. Some of the hotels that are part of the Pacrim Preferred Program include Super 8, Best Western and Holiday Inn Select, etc.



The MIS Committee continues to promote the new **Bell Mobility**

Program for CF/CBDC offices across the country. To date, 32 CF mobility accounts have been set up on the National agreement with Bell.

Clothes
That
Work

Mark's

The **CFNC** has established an account for CF/CBDCs to be able to purchase clothing and apparel with the CFNC logo at **Mark's** stores across Canada. Offices interested in taking advantage of this opportunity can contact Nathalie Loyer of Imagewear at 514-697-9238 or by e-mail at nathalie.loyer@marks.com

Established regional Canadian Automobile Association (CAA)



membership accounts for CF/CBDCs across Canada. As part of the plan, the

new membership fee of \$15 will be waived.

AVIS®

A negotiated corporate rate has been established with **AVIS Rental Cars**. CF staff and board members can

quote the following promotional code for personal or business travel: C347598. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-879-2847.



The National Reporting Project

continues to move along on a regional basis in Atlantic Canada. The

Atlantic Canada CBDC Reporting Requirements Project Committee had its first viewing of the reporting platform's interface which allowed the committee to provide additional feedback to developers. The TEA 10 Collector Application (add-on module) for the new National Reporting Platform was released to all CBDCs in early November. All necessary TEA 10 modifications and mapping requirements for the new Collector Application were also set up by **CommonGoals** to ensure consistency throughout the CBDC network. As part of the implementation process, a series of online Collector Application training sessions were also completed for CBDCs during November 2014 which includes a recorded on-demand training video. The second phase of the project - the release of the CF Perform Measurement reporting web platform - is due to be completed in January 2015. CFPM Platform testing and training will continue throughout Q4 2014-15, with the first official submission of performance measurement data anticipated for Q1 2015-16.

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