

Revelstoke Development News

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 15, 2004

*Revelstoke
Economic
Development
Commission*

*Community
Futures
Development
Corporation of
Revelstoke*

*Revelstoke
Community
Skills
Centre*

*Revelstoke
Chamber of
Commerce*

*Revelstoke
Tourism*

*Revelstoke
Business
Mentorship
Program*

Celebrating Community Futures Week

October 18—24

The CFDC of Revelstoke has been operating in the community for the past 16 years. \$11.9 million has been loaned since 1988 to 458 business loan applicants. In addition to managing our loan portfolio of \$5.2 million, we deliver the Self Employment Program, a Business Mentorship Program, Festival & Events Coordination and many community economic development initiatives. For more information about our organization refer to the special insert in this issue.

This year we are partnering with four other Community Futures organizations in the Kootenay Boundary region to launch a regional community economic development website and bi-monthly newsletter. Visit www.kbced.ca and view the CED Summit newsletter.

One of the community development projects we have been working on is raising awareness of literacy and providing opportunities for the local workforce to improve their literacy skills. The Revelstoke Literacy Action Committee will be hosting the following sessions free of charge at the Community Centre. For more information contact call Krista Stovel at OUC at 837-4235 or email kstovel@ouc.bc.ca.

Dyslexia and ADHD Presentations:

Friday October 22 – 8:45 to 11:45 am	Helping children with Dyslexia and ADHD in the classroom
Friday October 22 – 12:00 to 1:30 pm	Workplace literacy and how low-literacy rates impact communities
Friday October 22 – 2:00 to 3:30 pm	Dyslexia in Adult Learning, ADHD and how it effects Adult Learning* <i>*(location will be at OUC Revelstoke 1401 West 1st Street)</i>
Sat. Oct. 23 – 9:00 am–12:00 noon	For Parents: Understanding Dyslexia and ADHD

Debra Wozniak

Chamber of Commerce Recognizes Small Businesses

It's time again for everyone to celebrate the past year at the annual Chamber Business Excellence Awards Banquet and Dance at the Community Centre on Saturday, October 23rd. Again this year we will have excellent food, fun awards, fantastic auction items and great entertainment. I also encourage you to bring your STAFF!!! They are often the ones who help your business become a success! It's a small investment that can go a long way to making your staff feel valued! I also would like to this opportunity to thank all of those businesses who have generously donated items to the Silent Auction. These items go far in enabling the Chamber to continue operating and working for you throughout the year.

BIG news recently at the UBCM Conference in Kelowna with the Provincial Government increasing funding to Tourism BC from 25 to 50 million per year. Currently, Tourism BC receives their operating money from 1.65% of the 8% accommodation tax. This relates to approximately

(Continued on page 2)

Look Inside ...

<i>Chamber of Commerce con't</i>	2
<i>Community Skills Centre</i>	2
<i>Economic Development</i>	3
<i>Community Energy Project</i>	3
<i>Revelstoke Community Foundation</i>	4

Revelstoke Chamber of Commerce

25 million depending on room revenues during the year. The increase essentially changes to 4% of the 8%. This Chamber, along with keen support of the BC Chamber and other Chambers throughout the province, will be lobbying Tourism BC to substantially increase funding to the Visitor InfoCentres across the province. I will also be approaching the City and the Columbia Shuswap Regional District for support of this initiative. As well, the 'one-time' availability of the 25 million to municipalities for enhancement of tourism related infrastructure is also important and I will be submitting some suggestions to Council for consideration.

Construction is complete at the Canadian Avalanche Centre for the new Visitor InfoCentre which will open in May 2005. Until then, the CAA will be using the space for their seasonal operations. Watch for an announcement soon regarding the grand opening. It is important to note that this downtown VIC served 3,034 visitors in May, 5,603 in June, 14,633 in July, 15,520 in August and 8,064 in September for a total of 46,854 travellers to Revelstoke. The staff at the VIC did an outstanding job again this year and I believe we all owe them a big thanks for the high quality service they provided.

Thom Tischik

Revelstoke TOURISM

Work has been delayed on the redo of the Hiking and Biking Brochures although we are still continuing to review the material for errors, omissions or new trails. We want to completely change the format to a combined booklet instead of brochure style, something more substantial that can be stuck in backpacks or glove compartments and will stand up to wear and tear.

We are looking at extensive coverage to take our "snowmobile heaven" message further afield and into new markets. Ads have been placed in Supertrax (Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan), Sno West USA (Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, California), Sno Goer (Ontario, Quebec), Sno Rider (Alberta, BC) and Western Producer (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta & BC).

The Community Directory Sign (behind A&W) is designed for Community Organizations to list their facility and/or services. The listings, for a small annual fee, are for Clubs, Churches, Community Service Groups and Health Services. Please take a moment to stop by and have a look.

Revelstoke Community Skills Centre

Job Placement Program

The Revelstoke Community Skills Centre continues to deliver the Jobwave Job Placement Program.

Clients requiring assistance with advocacy may contact Rebecca

Withers at Community Connections 837-2920. Jobwave clients and employers should contact Carol Powadiuk or Kelly Pescod at 837-4239 for assistance.



Training Plan Financial Assistance

Individuals and groups have been applying for financial assistance with their training plans and the staff at the Skills Centre has been able to provide some assistance for people to achieve their educational or training goals. Referrals for financial assistance for training plans should book an appointment with Carol Powadiuk to discuss their educational goals.

English Language School

The Revelstoke English Language School had a busy summer with over 50 students during the summer months. We were honored to have an interesting variety of individuals, youth and professionals who chose to come here to improve their English skills. There was a group of 30 students with their English teachers and principal who spent two weeks here studying English with the assistance of Revelstoke students who were part of the program.

Special thanks go to the families and students who hosted the Korean Middle School students. In the two short weeks good relationships were developed and Revelstoke students learned a lot about another culture and the students from Chungbuk National University Attached Middle School. Many enjoyed the graduation ceremony and the Korean National Performance at Grizzly Plaza on August 9 which marked the end to the English summer camp.

This fall has seen enrollment grow past the numbers from last year and plans are being made for the New Year.

Carol Powadiuk

Wilderness Weddings

We are about to launch a new web page called "Wilderness Weddings". This is a new niche market for us and we have a number of exciting products to offer. A number of communities have done this and do very well with attracting couples that want their wedding to be memorable. If you have any ideas or would like to be included please contact me.

Gerry Gardner

Economic Development Commission

MANY COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES UNDERWAY

The Community Economic Development department is busy with a number of important initiatives this fall. There have also been several news releases recently that could have positive implications for the local economy.

Forestry – On September 30, 2004 the Revelstoke Timber Supply Analysis was released together with a public discussion paper. The TSA accounts for important forest values including timber, mountain caribou habitat, deer and moose winter range, scenic areas and watersheds. The analysis suggests that the current harvest level of 230,000 cubic metres a year could be maintained for the next twenty years, which is very positive news for the local forest industry

Tourism – A positive piece of news for the tourism sector is that **Supertrack International Magazine** recently identified Revelstoke as one of the top ten places in the world to snowmobile. This is great recognition for the work done by many volunteers from the Snowmobile Revelstoke Society and the Revelstoke Snowmobile Club over the past two decades - and not the first time that Revelstoke has been recognized as an outstanding snowmobile destination.

Mount Mckenzie Ski Hill – The City and the Regional District will hold an open house at the Community Centre at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday October 21st. Brent Harley will be presenting his report on the Socio-Economic Impacts of the proposed Mount Mackenzie Resort Expansion Plan prepared for the City and the Regional District. This will be an opportunity for the public to get more information regarding plans for the resort.

The Revelstoke Olympic Committee – There are four components to the 2010 Legacies Now program:

- Sport & RecreationNow
- ArtsNow
- LiteracyNow
- VolunteersNow

While funding criteria are still being developed, information has been distributed to various local groups to enable them to prepare to access any grants that become available.

There is also the Live Sites program, which could be used to fund the construction or upgrade of a facility where community residents could gather to watch Olympic events. This project would then leave a legacy of a modern facility that that could be perhaps be used to host conferences and conventions or for other community purposes. Later this year, a series of 2010 Olympic Games Workshops will be held in communities across the province. A workshop will be held in Revelstoke, although no date has been announced yet.

Community Energy Project

The Energy Project is moving ahead with pipeline installation starting by October 18. Notices have been in the local paper about the pipeline route and the timing of openings. We apologize for any inconveniences relative to the pipeline installation and will proceed as expeditiously as possible. All of the pipeline may not get completed this fall. The new indoor pool will be heated on an interim basis using the relatively new boiler from the outdoor pool.

A contract for construction of the building will be let soon with the hope that there will not be an early onset of winter. All the major equipment has been tendered and ordered with delivery times in keeping with the project schedule.

The City received the BC Community Energy Association's 2004 Energy Aware Award for this Project at the UBCM convention in September. Revelstoke's Project is the first wood residue fired District Heating System in BC.

Geoff Battersby

The Research Centre – A meeting was held with staff and researchers from UBC Okanagan and other educational institutions in September. A number of local researchers presented information on research currently taking place in and around the community, and some positive discussions took place with respect to moving this initiative forward.

Columbia Basin Trust – The Trust is in the process of selling off their interests in power projects to BC Hydro for \$260 million. The Trust will be holding meetings throughout the region to solicit public input regarding this matter. There will be a meeting in Revelstoke on November 16, at the Regent Inn, 7-9pm. Should this sale go ahead, the Trust is projecting that there will be more monies available to assist communities in the Basin.

Caribou Recovery Project – In a report published last month, the Forest Practices Board reported that the substantial and continuing decline in the mountain caribou population is serious and requires urgent government attention. Although an overall provincial mountain caribou recovery strategy was published in 2002, the Board found that actions to benefit mountain caribou on the ground remain largely uncoordinated. The board encouraged government to provide clear leadership on mountain caribou conservation by bringing forward new initiatives in this area as soon as possible, otherwise the decline in mountain caribou is likely to become irreversible in the next few years. The local Caribou Recovery Committee established by the City of Revelstoke has been very active Caribou Committee in trying to improve things “on the ground” to benefit local caribou herds.

Alan Mason

Participating Development Organizations



Western Economic Diversification Canada / Diversification de l'économie de l'Ouest Canada



Revelstoke
Community Skills Centre
PO Box 4500, Revelstoke BC V0E 2S0
Phone (250) 837-4239 Fax (250) 837-2882



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



City of Revelstoke

The Enterprise Centre
204 Campbell Avenue
PO Box 2398
Revelstoke, BC V0E 2S0
Phone: (250) 837-5345
Fax: (250) 837-4223
Email: cfdc@revelstoke.net
www.seerevelstoke.com
www.cityofrevelstoke.com

Revelstoke Community Foundation

Clare Singleton Prints

In support of this year's homecoming reunion, the Foundation commissioned Clare Singleton to paint a Revelstoke scene. Reproduction prints are being sold at Ambience Gallery, Pharmasave and the Chamber of Commerce.

Your own legacy in the making...

a new opportunity to give an everlasting gift to the community of Revelstoke and also provide a permanent legacy in your family name or person you would like to recognize. Make a donation to the Foundation's **'Family Fund'** program and be on your way to creating your own fund. Cash is not the only way to donate, ask about bequests through a will or other options available.

Scholarships

The Hillcrest Campbell Award has a new donation challenge issued by Earl Campbell and his family to match \$2,000 that will bring the total scholarship endowment to \$18,000 and an annual bursary of \$900.

Vancouver Foundation Challenge

We are pleased to have raised over \$40,000 in new endowment funds during the period Oct 1/03—Sept 30/04 to qualify for a \$4,000 grant from Vancouver Foundation for local charitable activities. These funds will be added to our 2005 grant program.

Youth in Philanthropy

Our youth advisory committee is seeking volunteer members to assist with project planning and grant approvals for youth initiatives. If you are a young person (age 13—24) interested in participating, please contact Debby Robinson at 837-5813.

Debra Wozniak

"If you don't drive your business, you will be driven out of business."
~ B. C. Forbes ~

Community Futures Development Corporation



Small Business Loans

Loans for small business start-up or expansion are available as well as business planning information.

Self Employment Grant

For individuals on Employment Insurance or who have been on EI in the last 3 years or on maternity in the last 3—5 years.

Provides financial support, business counseling and business training.

Community Lenders Since 1988

For Information Call: 837-5345

FOR FREE CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

Contact: David Royce

Revelstoke Business Mentorship Program

Suite D, 200 Campbell Avenue

Revelstoke, BC V0E 2S0

Phone: (250)837-5712

Email: facilitator@revelstoke.net



Report to the Community

Community Futures Development Corporation of Revelstoke

Business Loan Portfolio reaches \$5 Million

The corporation holds a \$5.2 million Business Loan Portfolio consisting of funding received from:

- Human Resources Services Canada
- Western Economic Diversification Canada
- Forest Renewal BC
- Columbia Basin Trust

plus interest reinvestments over a 16 year operating period.

Since 1988, \$11.9 million has been loaned to 458 business loan applicants creating or maintaining 1,208 jobs.

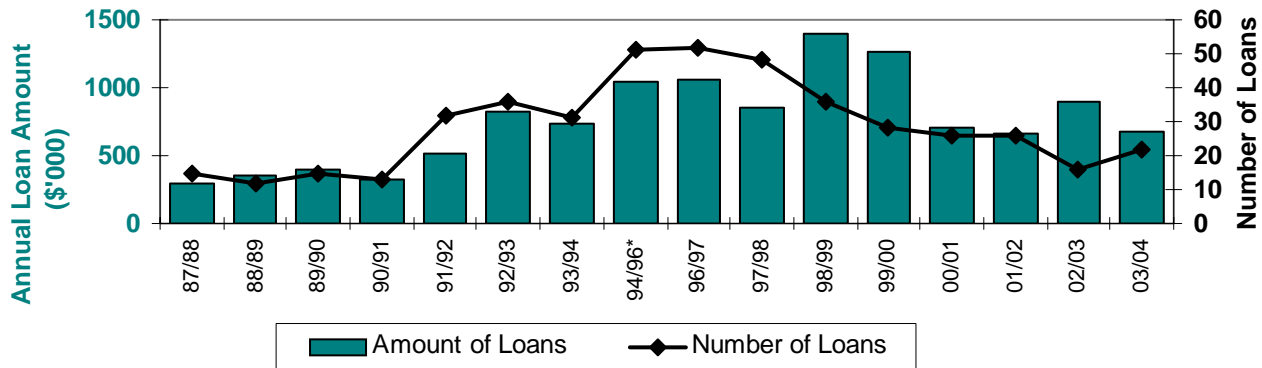
⇒ The past year \$672,072 was loaned to 22 businesses creating or maintaining 52 jobs.

⇒ Current value of loans to small businesses is \$3.2 million, leaving \$2 million available for lending.

⇒ Interest reinvested into the fund this year was \$275,000.

⇒ 2,411 client contacts were made during the year.

⇒ The fund is directed by a volunteer committee of seven community members.



* 16 months of operations resulting from a change of year end reporting date

CFDC Operations

The corporation receives an annual operations grant of \$198,000 from Western Diversification Canada and \$50,000 from Human Resources Development Canada to deliver the Self Employment Program. In addition to these annual funding allocations, special project monies are received from a variety of sources to deliver community economic development initiatives.

The corporation is governed by a 10 member Board of Directors and 4 Honourary Board members. Operations are supported by a staff of four full time and three part time employees.

Special Project Highlights

- Self Employment provides small business support to eligible clients.
- Business Mentorship program continues to be a successful addition to our business support services.
- Community Forest Conference was a huge success.
- Tourism Market Survey underway.
- Festival & Events coordinator hired.
- Revelstoke Community Foundation endowment fund exceeds \$600,000.
- Annual Scholarship awarded to RSS Graduate.

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CFDC of Revelstoke

Partners for the Future

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.seerevelstoke.com/rcdc

Special Project Activity during 2003-2004

Self Employment (SE) Program

The corporation contracts with Human Resources Development Canada to deliver the SE program in Revelstoke. The program consists of entrepreneurial skills training, business advice and a grant which is dispersed bi-weekly. During the year, 79 potential clients sought program information and 15 new client contracts were approved.

The SE Coordinator is Kevin Dorrius. Kevin may be contacted at 837-5345 or by email at kdorrius@revelstoke.net.

Business Mentorship Program

Business Mentorship is designed to promote business opportunities by assisting entrepreneurs to build strong business management skills. During the past 12 months the facilitator worked with 46 clients.

The program operates with a half time Facilitator, David Royce. David may be contacted at (250)837-5712 or by email to facilitator@revelstoke.net.

Community Forest Conference

Ninety participants and twenty presenters gathered at the Community Centre April 15–17 to discuss issues pertaining to the development of community forests across BC. An evening was dedicated to a presentation from a number of well-known experts on fire interface planning, where an emphasis was placed on the importance of community efforts to prepare and manage forests in high-risk interface areas. The Conference Summary can be viewed online at www.rcfc.bc.ca.

Tourism Market Analysis

A survey of 1,200 visitors in the Revelstoke area was conducted from June to September 2004 to gain a better understanding of their demographics, social character, motivations for visiting Revelstoke and what experiences they are seeking. Analysis of the survey results will help to identify what type of thematic projects are needed to attract enough visitors to the forestry museum facility to generate a financially sustainable operation. This data will also assist development of other Revelstoke attractions.

Festival & Events Coordinator

Christiane Gosselin was hired in January 2004 to coordinate Festival and Events activities. In addition to the coordinators wages, funding was provided for two highway billboards, completion of the Revelstoke CD ROM project, update of visitor kiosks and a variety of marketing activities such as posters, tent cards, radio spots and an Our Town production with BCTV.

Major events benefiting from the coordinator's position include the Beats & Blues Festival, Timber Days, Railway Days and Mountain Arts Festival. Marketing efforts also included promotion of many other community festivities. SnowFest in February is the community's next major event. The website for festival and events is www.seerevelstoke.com/events. Please contact Christiane at 837-5345 for assistance in planning your upcoming festival or event.

Revelstoke Community Foundation

The Foundation was officially launched in April 2000 and now holds a capital pool of over \$600,000. This capital pool will continue to grow with each new gift, generating a perpetual source of income for annual grants to a wide range of charitable community interests and needs.

In the spring of 2004, grants for 14 community projects totalling \$19,715 were announced. In June 2004, fifteen scholarships totalling \$5,750 were awarded to graduates of Revelstoke Secondary School.

CFDC Disability Fund

Investment earnings from this fund established with the Community Foundation resulted in a \$3,000 grant to the Community Connection Crew, a supported work program for persons having difficulty finding employment due to psychological, emotional and physical disabilities.

Scholarship awarded to RSS graduate

In June of 2004, Eliisa Tennant was selected as the recipient of a \$500 scholarship to attend post secondary schooling. Successful applicants for this scholarship are chosen on their concept of entering into small business and how they plan on achieving their goal. The scholarship is set up as a \$10,000 permanent endowment with the Revelstoke Community Foundation and will generate an