



# Revelstoke Development News

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 2  
OCTOBER 18, 2005

## Celebrating Small Business Week

**October 16 - 22, 2005**

CFDC of Revelstoke invites the residents of our community to celebrate Small Business Week . This year, Community Futures is pleased to sponsor the Entrepreneur of the Year Award for a business that took significant risk to develop and/or expand, whereby, showing true entrepreneurial spirit.

Visit our office at 204 Campbell Avenue during the week to meet with our staff to discuss business opportunities and/or community economic development ideas.

Inserted in this issue is our **Report to the Community** describing what the Community Futures program is doing to assist small businesses and facilitate economic development projects in the Revelstoke area.

*Debra Wozniak*

## Chamber of Commerce Recognizes Small Businesses

On October 22, we are again holding the fun filled Chamber **Business Excellence Awards Banquet** at the Revelstoke Community Centre. This year will be big with a new band, new surprise entertainment, silent auction, the popular balloons, a great theme and, most importantly, the opportunity for you to kick back and have some fun after a really busy year! This is also a perfect way to treat your staff to a fun night out and show some appreciation to a job well done! Tickets are on sale now at the Chamber at only \$32.00 per person!



The Plaza Visitor InfoCentre closed at the end of September. Staff assisted 50,405 visitors to the community from May to September, up 7.5% over last year's visitorship of 46,874.

The Revelstoke Forum has been booked for the Revelstoke Home Garden & Leisure Show, April 7, 8 & 9, 2006. Call the Chamber TODAY to reserve your space! Last year was a sell out! We are planning some great events to draw more traffic to the show.

*Thom Tischik*

Look Inside ...	
<i>Revelstoke Tourism</i>	2
<i>Community Futures Corporation</i>	2
<i>Economic Development</i>	3
<i>Revelstoke Community Foundation</i>	4

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Economic  
Development  
Commission*

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Futures  
Development  
Corporation of  
Revelstoke*

*Revelstoke  
Community  
Skills Centre*

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Chamber of  
Commerce*

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Tourism*

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Business  
Mentorship  
Program*

# Revelstoke

## TOURISM

Our new “Wilderness Weddings” brochures are now available. They, combined with our web site, show that Revelstoke would be a marvelous place to do something different with wedding plans instead of the same old tradition. We will also take them to trade shows to distribute and next spring we plan to attend a wedding show. We are currently working on an update for our Biking brochure and are gathering information on changes to our biking areas.

At the end of August a full page ad ran in all the Calgary Sun News Group’s papers in Southern Alberta congratulating Albertans on their Centennial and local participating businesses are offering to pay the GST if they visit us this September and/or October. This should accomplish two things. First, it should increase “shoulder season” business and secondly, it will show Albertans that we care about what’s going on in their lives and that their business is important to us.

We will be attending the new Outdoor Adventure section of the Kamloops Fall Home Show in mid October. This is a market we haven’t had a presence in for quite some time. Not only will we promote our snowmobiling product but will also show summer product and Wilderness Weddings. It will be interesting to get feed back on awareness of Revelstoke as a “getaway” destination.

Kootenay Rockies Tourism has announced a new tourism initiative – Experiences BC. This program is designed to help Adventure operators to develop their businesses and create business plans and strategies.

*Gerry Gardner*

### Mail . Rail . Retail Exhibit Connecting Canadians

June 26/05 - January 28/06  
at the Revelstoke Railway Museum

Sponsored by: Canadian Museum of Civilization,  
Canadian Pacific Railway, Canada Post, Hudson Bay  
Company and the Revelstoke Heritage Railway Society

This exciting exhibition explores how Canadians have connected with each other throughout history, and how they continue to do so today.

**Mail, Rail and Retail** shows how our country’s social and economic fabric were developed through trade, transportation and communication.

## Community Futures Development Corporation

### LOAN ACTIVITY UP OVER LAST YEAR

The Revelstoke Community Futures Development Corporation has made 13 loan commitments totaling \$537,700 to the end of September this year. Six of these loans were to new clients and seven loans went to existing clients who were expanding their businesses. This amount is up significantly over last year – where we made a 24 loans totaling \$502,200 over the entire year. Our average loan size has doubled from \$20,000 to \$40,000. There has been relatively strong demand for commercial mortgage funds – which we have been able to meet in partnership with the Revelstoke Credit Union.

Futures staff continues to provide business advice and counselling on start ups, expansions, purchases and sales. We also continue to coordinate the Self Employment Benefit program. Many of our clients use us as a business management resource and request our input on important decisions they are making about their business. We are happy to help!

### Comments from satisfied, successful clients:

*Thanks to Carol Palladino and CFDC, we were able to open our Dutch Bakery!  
~ Ankie & Willem Nellen*

*I strongly recommend using the Revelstoke Community Futures Development Corporation for your Business needs. They are an informative, professional, and personable organization that prides themselves on helping small businesses in small Communities.  
~ Deenie Ottenbreit, Chantilly Kitchen, Bed n Bath*

*Thanks to Carol at Community Futures for assistance with financing the purchase of our short run digital colour printer – this has allowed us to become more competitive in the printing industry.  
~ Craig McKee, Revelstoke Printing Company*

For more details on the loan portfolio and Community Futures activities check out the special insert in this newsletter.

*Carol Palladino  
Business Loans Analyst  
(250)837-5345*

## Economic Development Commission

### Affordable Housing

With the rapidly rising costs of housing in Revelstoke, there are concerns that local residents and newcomers to the community are having difficulty finding housing that they can afford. With the development of the Mount Mackenzie Resort proceeding quickly, there is no doubt that this challenge will become even greater in the future. The City of Revelstoke contracted a local consultant, Jill Zacharias, to carry out a study to determine how the community can best address this issue. The study includes a number of recommendations as to how the challenge of affordable housing can be addressed, and City Council will be considering these recommendations in the weeks to come. A copy of the study is available on the City of Revelstoke website at [www.cityofrevelstoke.com](http://www.cityofrevelstoke.com) in the "What's New" section.

### Retail Strategy

Over the next six months, the City of Revelstoke will work toward developing a Retail Strategy for the community. Over the past two decades, the City of Revelstoke and many local businesses and property owners have spent a great deal of time and resources revitalizing the downtown core and making the city an attractive place for residents and tourists. As development proceeds at the new resort and elsewhere in Revelstoke, it is important that the downtown area remains the retail "hub" of the community. The features and character of our downtown area is what sets us apart from other resorts, and helps give us a unique niche in the marketplace. We want to ensure that the downtown area remains the retail focal point for the community, and the development of a Retail Strategy will assist the City to ensure that retail development proceeds in such a way that does not detract from the downtown area. There will be several opportunities for the public to comment and provide input to the development of this Strategy.

### Pedestrian Bridge over the Illecillewaet River

Planning for this important project is moving ahead. The bridge will connect the existing River Trail with the wetlands south of the Illecillewaet River, and will be an attractive addition to the trail system in the community. The bridge will be located on the old railway abutments. We are waiting for design drawings from the architect, and hope to move forward with construction in 2006.

### Value of Building Permits Hit Record High

The value of building permits in the City of Revelstoke has reached a record high this year. Last year (2004), the value of building permits totalled just under \$10 million, the highest total for over a decade. To the end of September, 2005, the value of building permits issued has reached almost \$13 million. While a large portion of the construction has been generated by the public sector, residential and commercial building has shown good growth over the past five years.



The Revelstoke Community Energy Corporation is pleased to announce that the official opening will take place on Saturday October 29 at the Plant - 1420 Downie Street (across from Downie Timber's Dry kilns). There will be an opening ceremony at 1:00 PM followed by guided plant tours until 4:30 PM. Coffee and donuts will be provided. A number of out of town visitors will be in attendance. All Revelstokians are invited to attend the ceremony and see the plant. The tours will only take 15 to 20 minutes and will be in groups of ten people.

Since mid July, the plant has been supplying steam for the operation of Downie's dry kilns. Buildings that are hooked up to the CES are the Arena, Revelstoke Secondary School, Minto Manor, the Community Centre, the Aquatic Centre and Powder Springs Inn. The rising costs of other energy sources have generated a lot of interest in the Project. Other buildings will be brought on the system next year.

Larry Marchand is the contracted Manager of the overall project and through a contract with Downie St. Sawmills, Aubrey Salon will be the Plant Operator. The Corporation is pleased that the Project has been completed within 2% of the original budget.

This Project has been the object of four awards in the past two years – the most recent being a UBCM/ CH2MHILL award for innovation that was presented at the UBCM convention in Vancouver in September. All Revelstokians can take pride in having supported the concept of this Project and seeing it through to completion.

*Geoff Battersby*

### Annual Meeting to Review Revelstoke Economic and Social Strategies

The public is invited to attend the Annual Meeting to review the community's economic and social strategies. Every year, staff report out on the progress of work that has been accomplished to meet the goals identified in the economic and social strategies, and request input from the community on the important challenges that should be dealt with in the year to come. This year's review will take place on **Thursday, October 27 at 7 pm at the Community Centre**. Everyone is welcome! Please plan to attend and give your view on how the community should be moving forward.

For further information call Alan Mason, Director of Community Economic Development, at 837-5345 or e-mail [redc@revelstoke.net](mailto:redc@revelstoke.net)

*Alan Mason*

# Participating Development Organizations



Western Economic 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



## The Business Information Centre

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

## Revelstoke Community Foundation

### November is Community Foundation Month

Watch for our display table at local banking institutions during the month of November.

Endowment funds are quickly approaching \$900,000 and we are hoping to achieve a very important milestone next year by reaching \$1M in donations after eight years since inception. Income generated from the endowment funds is distributed annually to a variety of community based charitable activities.

Last year, during Homecoming, the Foundation developed the "Family Legacy" program. Donations to this program will allow a person or family to be recognized in perpetuity. A wonderful gift idea for Christmas, birthday or anniversary. Contact Debra at 837-5345.

*"A Gift to the Foundation is a Gift Forever"*

*The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.  
~ Roosevelt*

### 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 Benefit Program

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 counselling 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](mailto:facilitator@revelstoke.net)