



Background

About Stó:lō Community Futures

Stó:lō Community Futures is a "not-for-profit" organization whose programs are directed by a Board of Directors whose members are a volunteer group of Aboriginal Community Leaders, local Aboriginal business professionals and Non-Aboriginal organizations who are concerned about the economy and development of their Community. Stó:lō Community Futures is mandated to provide support in the process of community economic development to all Aboriginal peoples living within the Stó:lō Traditional Territory. Most of all, Stó:lō Community Futures embraces and celebrates Stó:lō cultural values and believes in creating and supporting the entrepreneurial spirit in our communities.

Stó:lō Community Futures contributes to social and economic well-being within the Stó:lō Traditional Territory by providing small to medium-sized business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs access to services tailored to individual needs. We assist Aboriginal people living within the Stó:lō Traditional Territory through a range of community economic development initiatives, business support services, and lending services. We offer a full-service support centre, for Aboriginals wanting to start or expand their own businesses, with business supports ranging from financing to training programs.

Community Futures was established by the Federal Government in 1986 to assist local communities in responding to the severe economic and labour market changes they were facing.

Core funding is provided by Western Economic Diversification. Community Futures branches are locally based, non-profit organizations overseen by a volunteer Board of Directors. There are 34 active Community Futures in BC, and Stó:lō Community Futures is one of the only three CFs focused exclusively on Aboriginals.

Our Vision

The Vision of Stó:lō Community Futures is for the Stó:lō Traditional Territory to become a leading center of Aboriginal business and entrepreneurial growth within British Columbia.

With this bold Vision, Stó:lō Community Futures and its numerous partners, over the next five years, will be implementing a comprehensive suite of services and support programs focused on establishing Stó:lō as a leading center of Aboriginal business and entrepreneurs in British Columbia.



In order to achieve the Vision, Stó:lō Community Futures supports the growth of Aboriginal entrepreneurs and the economic development of the Aboriginal Communities, within the Stó:lō Traditional Territory, by assisting the Communities to develop and diversify their economies by means of strategic planning, business service and access to capital, while also developing an entire suite of support services to encourage Aboriginal entrepreneurial growth in the Stó:lō Territory, which will become a leading center of Aboriginal business and entrepreneurs in British Columbia.

Our Mission

Stó:lō Community Futures' mission is to provide services to Aboriginal entrepreneurs and Stó:lō First Nation Communities within the Stó:lō Traditional Territory, through a wide range of business and economic development services. Stó:lō Community Futures offers entrepreneurial training, has a central business resource centre, helps with obtaining financing and creating business plans. Our Community Services focus on building Stó:lō Communities with community planning, and focuses on youth, business, agriculture, forestry and tourism sector initiatives.

Our Commitment

Through partnerships with Aboriginal, non-Aboriginal, and government agencies, Stó:lō Community Futures is committed to building upon community strengths and creating employment opportunities for Aboriginal people. Some of the ways we are able to do this is by building community capacity, diversifying the local Aboriginal economy, attracting new business creating joint venture partnerships with government and the private sector, facilitating investments, expanding existing businesses, and by training and supporting young entrepreneurs.

For More Information, contact

Shirley Hardman
Chairperson
Stó:lō Community Futures
Shirley.Hardman@UFV.ca
Phone: 604-845-2615

Mike Watson
General Manager
Phone: 604-824-5270
mwatson@stolocf.ca
www.stolocf.ca