

EASTERN ONTARIO SUMMARY REPORT

REGIONAL RELIEF AND RECOVERY FUND

COMMUNITY FUTURES STREAM



Community Futures
Eastern Ontario



We acknowledge the support of the Government of Canada through the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario.

Nous reconnaissons l'appui du gouvernement du Canada à travers l'Agence fédérale de développement économique pour le Sud de l'Ontario.

Canada 

“

We launched the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund at a time when the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic was sky-high. We knew that Community Futures Development Corporations were in a unique position to help deliver this fund using their local expertise. Now, we are seeing the targeted results of that support, thanks to CFDCs supporting rural businesses and entrepreneurs during these challenging times. We want Canadians to know, we were there for you then, and we will be there for you in the months to come as we work together to come back even stronger.”



THE HONOURABLE MÉLANIE JOLY

Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages
and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic
Development Agency for Southern Ontario





■ BACKGROUND

REGIONAL RELIEF AND RECOVERY FUND

On May 13th 2020, the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages, announced that Canadian businesses could apply for the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF).


The national \$962-million Regional Relief and Recovery Fund allocated \$287 million to support the national network of Community Futures Development Corporations (CFDCs), to provide support specifically targeting critical businesses and organizations in rural communities across the country.

COMMUNITY FUTURES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS

With over three decades of experience aiding rural small and mid-size enterprises, Community Futures Development Corporations were in an unparalleled position to support the Government of Canada and the Regional Development Agencies with the delivery of RRRF.

EASTERN ONTARIO

Through the delivery of RRRF, Eastern Ontario CFDCs played a crucial role, alongside [FedDev Ontario](#), in supporting rural businesses with the financial support to weather the impact of COVID-19. The 15 Community Futures offices across Eastern Ontario rallied to aid businesses, working around the clock to provide the support they need to get through this challenging time.



695

RRRF loans approved
in Eastern Ontario for
a total investment of
\$26,280,080

2,256 Jobs Maintained

\$10,160,992

provided to sole
proprietors

\$9,583,257

provided to main
street businesses

\$8,341,349

provided to
tourism operators

\$9,854,489

provided to women
entrepreneurs



BUSINESSES & COMMUNITIES

#RRRFWITHMYCFDC



1000 ISLANDS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**BROCKVILLE + GANANOQUE + LEEDS & THE THOUSAND ISLANDS +
FRONT OF YONGE + ATHENS + ELIZABETHTOWN-KITLEY**



1000 ISLANDS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**BROCKVILLE + GANANOQUE + LEEDS & THE THOUSAND ISLANDS +
FRONT OF YONGE + ATHENS + ELIZABETHTOWN-KITLEY**



“

We appreciate this opportunity to thank our CFDC, who was instrumental in providing us funding, which helped keep us afloat in these unparalleled times of COVID-19.

Reliant on the Tourism Industry, we were hit hard with cancellations, no business to speak of, and contracts to uphold; the RRRF financial support enabled us to navigate these relentless small business challenges.”

MACIEJ & SIOBHAN BRODOWSKI

1000 Islands Bed & Breakfast
Brockville, Ontario



“

1000 Islands CFDC has provided financial support that has enabled us to expand our portfolio in the times of COVID. We have added two full-time and one part-time employees and equipment that streamlines our operations timelines and profitability.

We are so grateful for the financial support and the considerate conversations from the very experienced team on the overall direction for our company. We are thriving because of the support. Thank you.”

KATHRINE CHRISTENSEN & MIKE DOUCETTE

Marble Rock Developers & Construction
Gananoque, Ontario

CORNWALL & THE COUNTIES CFDC

**AKWESASNE + CORNWALL +
UNITED COUNTIES OF STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY**

Photo credit: Gina Dragone Photography



CORNWALL & THE COUNTIES CFDC

AKWESASNE + CORNWALL + UNITED COUNTIES OF STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY



“

This year was particularly tough on my small business, and I didn't have many places to turn for support. When I learned about the RRRF, it was a weight lifted off my shoulders. The CFDC was so easy to work with and made the process so positive, and definitely made a big impact on my small business.”

KELLY COLEMAN

Sweet Clover Flowers
Finch, Ontario



“

At the outset of the pandemic, there was so much uncertainty. There was lots of news about government funding, but we weren't sure our business would qualify for any of it. Once we heard about the RRRF, within less than a day, we had secured the assistance of the Cornwall CFDC. To say this gave us relief is an understatement. We appreciate the work done by the CFDC staff, and are thankful for the incredible efficiency of the Cornwall CFDC.”

MICHAEL BURTON & RON CURRIE

Russell Manor Bed and Breakfast
Morrisburg, Ontario

FRONTENAC CFDC

FRONTENAC COUNTY

Photo Credit: Suzy Lamont Photography



FRONTENAC CFDC

FRONTENAC COUNTY



“

Thanks to support from the Frontenac CFDC, I have been able to continue focusing on my business with confidence during the pandemic. The funding process was efficient and straightforward, and the CFDC staff was very responsive and helpful.”

JENNA FENWICK

Jenna Rose
Mississippi Station, Ontario



“

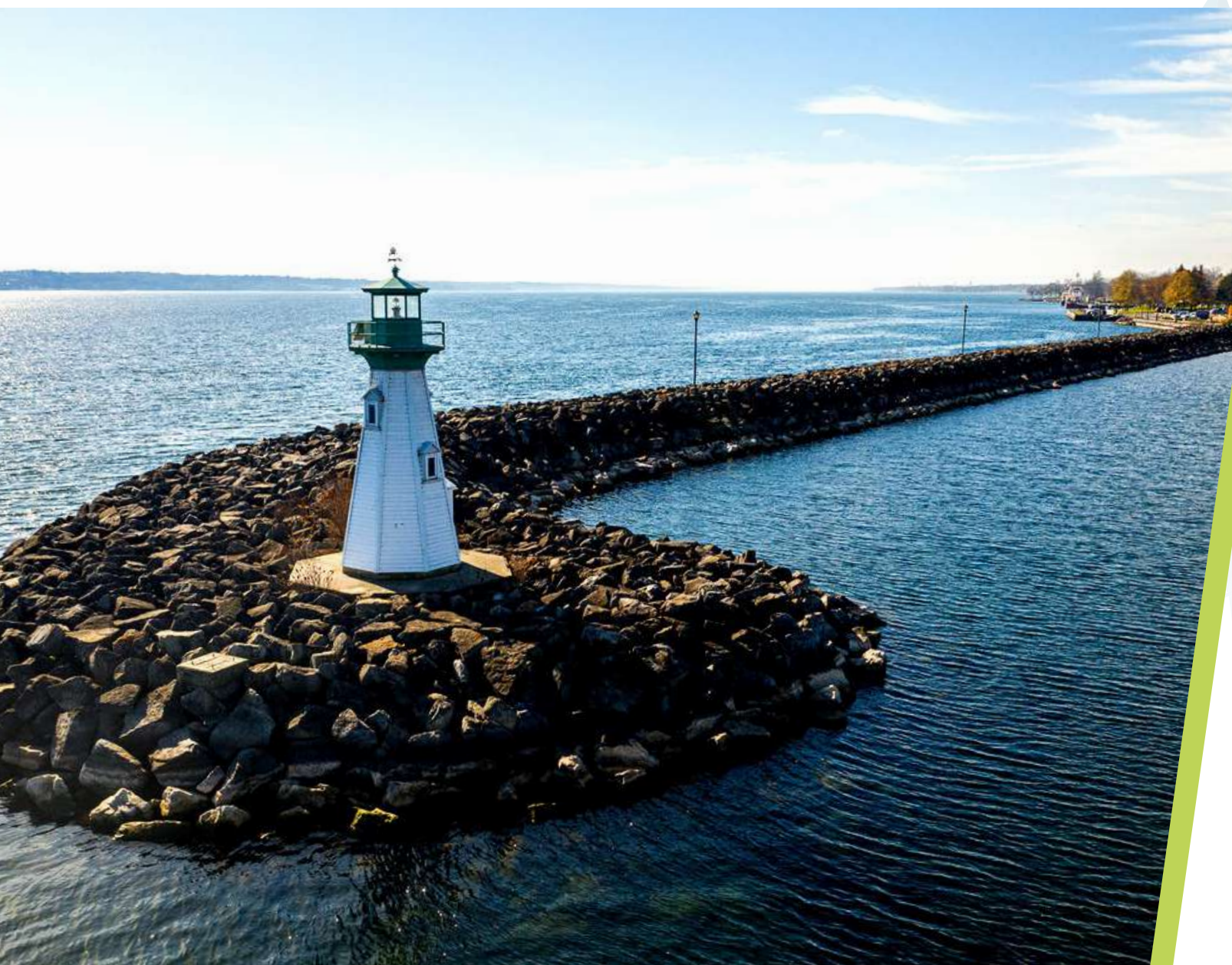
It has been a very challenging year; the CFDC was so helpful. Their response was professional and informative. They were reassuring and provided a quick response in helping us navigate through all this.”

TIM & KELLY GIBSON

By the Bay Cottages
Cloyne, Ontario

GRENVILLE CFDC

AUGUSTA + EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL + NORTH GRENVILLE + PRESCOTT



GRENVILLE CFDC

AUGUSTA + EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL + NORTH GRENVILLE + PRESCOTT



“

The CFDC has been very engaging and worked with us to find the right resources to support our business through these challenging times. Their staff were very helpful and guided us through every step of the process.”

DAVID BEKING

Beking's Organic Inc.
Oxford Station, Ontario



“

COVID-19 hit hard. I needed help to be able to make the changes necessary to survive this pandemic. I am so thankful for Grenville CFDC and their opportunity of loaning me the funds for survival. I could not have done it without them.”

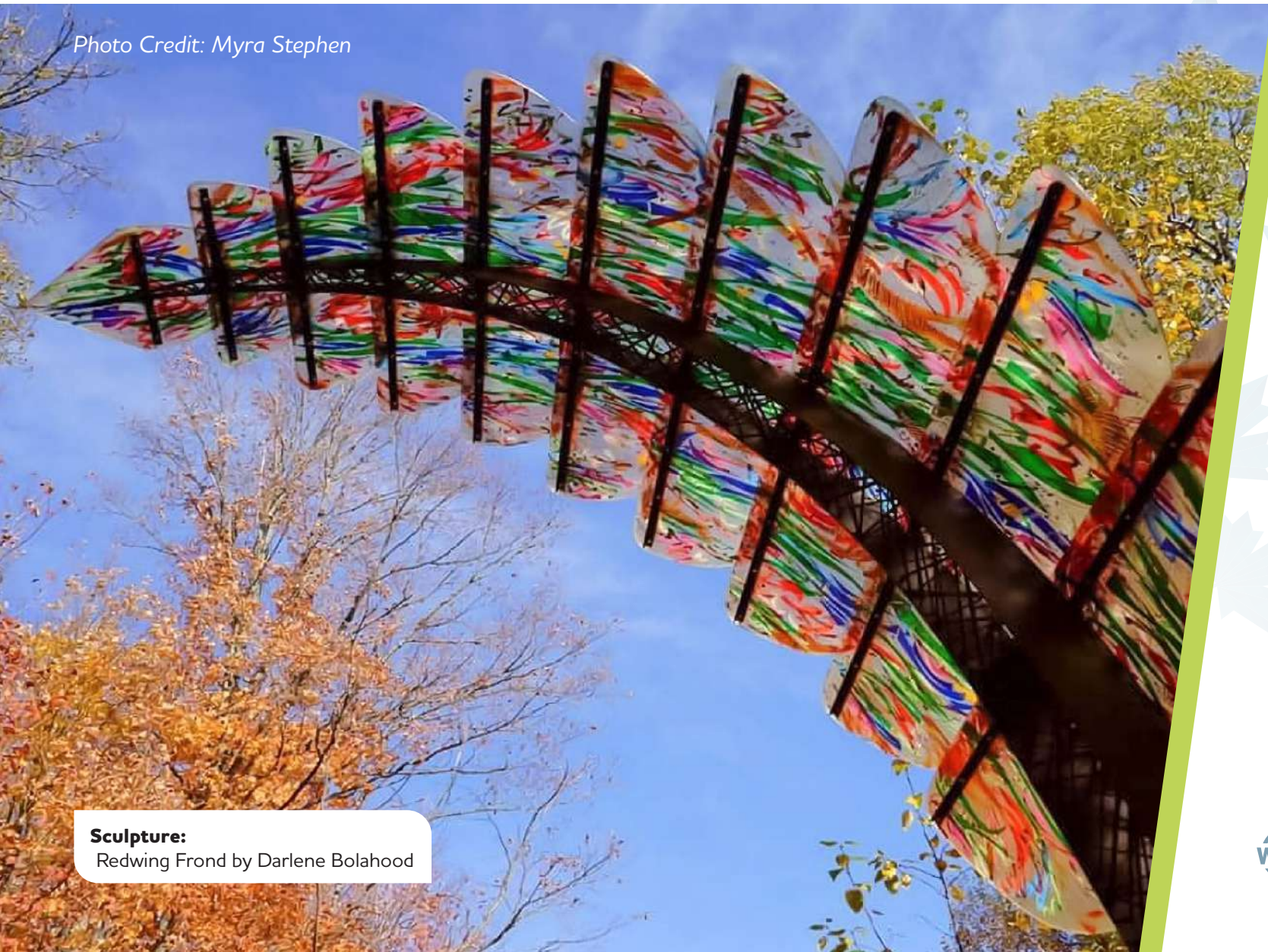
LESLIE BOTTIGONI

LeMar Luxe Spa Studio Inc.
Prescott, Ontario

HALIBURTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HALIBURTON COUNTY

Photo Credit: Myra Stephen



Sculpture:
Redwing Frond by Darlene Bolahood



HALIBURTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HALIBURTON COUNTY



“

Being impacted by COVID as a main-street business owner has been extremely challenging. Because of the responsiveness and expertise of the Haliburton County CFDC, they were able to provide us with funds through the RRRF Program.

Our business has been able to pivot our operations to help us move forward.”

AARON WALKER

McKecks Tap & Grill
Haliburton, Ontario



“

The CFDC has a very dedicated team of caring professionals who have provided my business with a great experience. They have been quick to help support Haliburton Dance Academy during these times, enabling us to continue to provide our services to our community at the standard we set for ourselves.”

CHYNA SCHELL

Haliburton Dance Academy
Haliburton, Ontario

KAWARTHA LAKES CFDC

KAWARTHA LAKES



KAWARTHA LAKES CFDC

KAWARTHA LAKES



“

Thanks to funding from the Kawartha Lakes CFDC, the Academy Theatre has a good chance to rebound and contribute to the local economy through partnerships with local businesses, encouraging increased collateral spending throughout Lindsay.”

CRAIG METCALF

Academy Theatre for Performing Arts
Lindsay, Ontario



“

2020 has proven to be more than just a challenge, and I love a challenge. The Kawartha Lakes CFDC was instrumental with their guidance and The Regional Relief and Recovery Funding. It has enabled me to deal with my reopening and focus 100% on the recovery for my family and all of my staff. We were even able to hire!”

SHELLY HARDAKER

Smitty's Restaurant
Lindsay, Ontario

CFDC OF NORTH & CENTRAL HASTINGS AND SOUTH ALGONQUIN

NORTH + CENTRAL HASTINGS + SOUTH ALGONQUIN



CFDC OF NORTH & CENTRAL HASTINGS AND SOUTH ALGONQUIN

NORTH + CENTRAL HASTINGS + SOUTH ALGONQUIN



“

The financing we received through the RRRF has made all the difference to us. We are still in the “relief” phase of our pivot, not “recovery.” Without RRRF funding, we would likely have been unable to continue, including employing several young people over the summer. The relationship we have and the support we received from our local CFDC were key to our ability to benefit from this program.”

AL SHAW & SCOTT WILLIAMS

7/62 Craft Brewers
Madoc, Ontario



“

Thanks to The Regional Relief and Recovery Fund, implemented through by the Community Futures Development Corporation there is assistance for local businesses moving forward through economic hardship, due to the challenges of COVID-19.”

CLIVE EMERY

Trips and Trails Adventure Outfitting
Bancroft, Ontario

NORTHUMBERLAND CFDC

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY



NORTHUMBERLAND CFDC

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY



“

During a time of much uncertainty, it was a relief to know that the RRRF program was available to help small businesses like ours in our community. Thank you to the CFDC staff for their support during the application process. Their timely response to our questions and willingness to help truly made a difference.”

CARLA & ANGUS FORTEAU

Plank Road Cottages & Marina Inc.
Gore's Landing, Ontario



“

With the pandemic, it has been very challenging and stressful for small businesses. With the help and support from the CFDC, we were able to maintain our seasonal wedding venue in a time when restrictions did not allow for large gatherings, catering, dancing, and all other matters associated with a wedding, which resulted in couples making the difficult decision to postpone their special day.”

BLAINE & LYNDA TINNEY

Polmenna Barn
Campbellford, Ontario

COMMUNITY FUTURES PETERBOROUGH

PETERBOROUGH CITY + COUNTY



COMMUNITY FUTURES PETERBOROUGH

PETERBOROUGH CITY + COUNTY



“

When the pandemic hit, we had to make some very serious and large changes to our business. The support we received from the Peterborough CFDC was outstanding. They were understanding and fast and, in return, helped us get through these challenges.”

JOSH KEEPER

Kitchen Farmacy
Peterborough, Ontario



“

The pandemic caused a disruption in our business, but our tenacious team was more adaptable. With the support of the RRRF program, we could fulfill our obligations and remain operational. I'm proud of the collective effort from the Government, Community Futures Peterborough, and my team for all of their hard work through these challenging times.”

GWEN LITTLE

Paus-n-Train Agility & Obedience
Selwyn, Ontario

PRESCOTT-RUSSELL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

UNITED COUNTIES OF PRESCOTT & RUSSELL



PRESCOTT-RUSSELL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

UNITED COUNTIES OF PRESCOTT & RUSSELL



“

After being open for one month and surpassing our sales targets, soon enough, it was all downwards from there. We had to shut down our business due to COVID completely! Thankfully PRCDC has been by our side through it all. Whether it's providing relief funding, distributing PPE, or lobbying for grants to help the business community, PRCDC is a true leader for Prescott-Russell and the francophone entrepreneurs. We are beyond grateful.”

DANIKA BOURGEOIS-DESNOYERS

Aventures AHOY!
Casselman, Ontario



“

There have been many challenges with the pandemic for a small business owner like me, but our experience with the CFDC was positive and reassuring. Without a doubt, they make a difference in our community and to our business.”

ANDRÉA DELORME

Sublime d'Esthétique et Maquillage
Rockland, Ontario

COMMUNITY FUTURES PRINCE EDWARD LENNOX ADDINGTON

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY + LENNOX & ADDINGTON COUNTY



COMMUNITY FUTURES PRINCE EDWARD LENNOX ADDINGTON

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY + LENNOX & ADDINGTON COUNTY



“

The RRRF program was a tremendous help in keeping my business afloat during the pandemic. After being closed for several months and then having to spend several thousands of dollars to reopen, my local CFDC reduced many burdens and helped me get back to serving my community.”

THOMASINA LARKIN

The Health Hut
Enterprise, Ontario



“

The CFDC was fabulous to work with. Thanks to them, we were able to get the funds we needed quickly, make changes to the business, and adjust to a new way of doing business during the pandemic.”

LESLEY SNYDER

Rosehaven Yarn
Picton, Ontario

RENFREW COUNTY CFDC

RENFREW COUNTY



RENFREW COUNTY CFDC

RENFREW COUNTY



“

The professional staff at Renfrew County Community Futures reacted quickly to help our company remain financially sound through the pandemic and provide funding to pivot our production to design and scale-up the manufacture of PPE to help protect our community and Canadians.”

STEPHANE LEVESQUE

SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc.
Pembroke, Ontario



“

The CFDC has been with us every step of the way in the growth of our business, including two major renovations as we expanded to serve our local community. Being in the health services industry, we have been especially challenged during this pandemic time. The relief assistance we got from CFDC was personalized and prompt, helping us keep strong so that we can get through these difficult times.”

COLETTE SZALAY

Natural Health Centre
Barry's Bay, Ontario



SOUTH LAKE FUTURES

EAST GWILLIMBURY + GEORGINA + BROCK



SOUTH LAKE FUTURES

EAST GWILLIMBURY + GEORGINA + BROCK



“

The pandemic has had a large impact on our business, especially during the initial lockdown. Both from remaining closed for over two months and the diminished sales since reopening as many businesses have faced.

The RRRF program helped to cover our fixed costs short-term and keep us operating during these uncertain times.”

JUSTIN & AMANDA ZIELONKO

Elpida Café & Roastery
Keswick, Ontario



“

The CFDC is a unique resource that we are lucky to have access to. They are dedicated to our small business community and have provided access to much-needed relief during these challenging times.”

KRISTEN SCHIENER

Whole Family Health Food
Keswick, Ontario

TRENVAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**BELLEVILLE + QUINTE WEST + STIRLING-RAWDON + TYENDINAGA +
MOHAWKS OF THE BAY OF QUINTE + DESERONTO**



TRENVAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

**BELLEVILLE + QUINTE WEST + STIRLING-RAWDON + TYENDINAGA +
MOHAWKS OF THE BAY OF QUINTE + DESERONTO**



“

When the pandemic happened in March, we felt lost, confused, and didn't really know what to do, and weren't sure how we would move forward with the business. When the RRRF was announced, our local CFDC was there to help us from the beginning. They walked us through the process with all the requirements we needed. Our application was approved within a week. Our local CFDC has been very supportive during this difficult time. Although we are still facing some challenges, we can now refocus and manage the operation of our business with less worry.”

RAUL DEBORJA

The Riverbrake Café
Trenton, Ontario



“

As a single mom, my income was essential even if the work I did was not considered as such. Having been an entrepreneur for more than 25 years, I am used to pivoting, but it would've been impossible without outside resources. This is where the CFDC loan came in and saved the day! Their quick response and easy application made me breathe easier and allowed me to focus on what I could control amidst all the uncertainty. I am so grateful to be back at work and able to continue to grow my businesses thanks to the CFDC.”

SHARON HUCKLE

The Cat's Meow Salon
Belleville, Ontario

VALLEY HEARTLAND CFDC

LANARK COUNTY + NORTH LEEDS



VALLEY HEARTLAND CFDC

LANARK COUNTY + NORTH LEEDS



“

Responding to COVID-19 as a small business was made possible through the RRRF program. Because of the responsiveness and expertise of our local CFDC, the process was efficient and our business was able to focus our time on pivoting.”

HEENA TAILOR

Westport Station Motel
Westport, Ontario



“

Dealing with the CFDC has been such a positive experience. The Regional Relief and Recovery Funding has allowed me to focus on the success of my business. It has been wonderfully reassuring during these challenging times.”

RANELLE LAROCQUE

Queen Bee Millinery
Perth, Ontario



Community Futures
Eastern Ontario

