



**Community Futures**  
Eastern Ontario

# Facilitated Peer Councils

## building connections

Network Peer Councils provide a free and informal platform for Community Futures subject matter experts to exchange information and ideas through regular facilitated meetings. Members drive the agenda and participate in interactive discussions on relevant business topics, with a focus on real-time issues. The councils are open to Community Futures staff and their Volunteer Board Chairs, and each meeting is guided by a CFEO Network facilitator.

Peer Council	Participants	CFEO Lead	Hybrid Meeting Dates
Executive Director	Executive Directors, General Managers (staff)	Cyndy Palleske Executive Director	First Tuesday of Each Month
Loans Managers	Loans Managers, Loans Administrators, Loans Coordinators (staff)	Michelle Cathers SOFII Loans Manager	Third Tuesday of Each Month
Marketing & Communications	Marketing Coordinators, Students, Administrators (staff)	Erica Tripp Marketing & Communications Coordinator	Fourth Thursday of Each Month
CFDC Board Chairs	Board Chairs, Vice Chairs and Past Chairs of Community Futures offices (volunteers)	Wendy Stone CFEO Network Board Chair	Meets Quarterly
Administrators	Administrators, Bookkeepers (staff)	Leslie Worsfold Office Administrator/Bookkeeper	Meets Quarterly

**Participants benefit from** developing critical thinking, communication and leadership skills, getting confidential advice, building networks and relationships and engage in group problem-solving experiences.

**Meetings are structured for** discussions in confidence with roundtable sharing and opportunities for outside guest expertise. Participants are encouraged to rotate meeting leadership for a shared, cooperative environment.

To join a Peer Council or for more information, email [info@cfeasternontario.ca](mailto:info@cfeasternontario.ca)



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# Chairs Peer Council

## building connections

Network Peer Councils provide a free and informal platform for Community Futures subject matter experts to exchange information and ideas through regular facilitated meetings. Members drive the agenda and participate in interactive discussions on relevant business topics, with a focus on real-time issues. The Chairs Peer Council is open to volunteer Community Futures Board Chairs, Vice Chairs and Past Chairs and each meeting is guided by a CFEO Network facilitator.

Peer Council	Participants	CFEO Lead	Hybrid Meeting Dates
CFDC Board Chairs	Board Chairs, Vice Chairs and Past Chairs of Community Futures offices (volunteers)	Wendy Stone CFEO Network Board Chair	Meets Quarterly

### What they are

- ✓ Opportunities to share ideas, learn best practices, group problem solve
- ✓ Access to knowledge and insights

### What they are not

- Not setting CFDC policy or procedure
- Not decision making or replacing CFDC strategic planning activities

### Your commitment

- ✓ Contribution of knowledge, experience, and skills to the discussions
- ✓ Sharing of success stories and challenges

## why they are important

Being the Chair of a rural business support organization is both a rewarding and challenging experience. High-caliber Chairs are constantly seeking like-minded individuals and resources to further develop themselves and their Boards. Peer Councils offers an easy and convenient way to connect regularly with other Community Futures Chairs from across Ontario who share the same challenges and to gain valuable insights into solutions and strategies.

## JOIN US

Email [info@cfeasternontario.ca](mailto:info@cfeasternontario.ca) for an information package and an invitation to the next Chairs Peer Council meeting.