

# Coast-line Newsletter

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## West Coast Community Adjustment Program Program Steering Committee approves 2 projects for Economic Development Assistance to Coastal Communities

On September 24, 2009 The West Coast Community Adjustment Program (WestCCAP) Program Steering Committee examined 7 requests for funding and approved 2 of them for a value of \$491,080. The names of the successful applicants will be published once agreements have been signed with them and public announcements of the projects have been made.. The names of the successful proposals from the first meeting may be found at the end of this newsletter.

WestCCAP is a federal initiative aimed at fostering increased economic activity and improving the quality of life in British Columbia's fishing-dependant coastal communities. Its goal is to encourage long-term, sustainable economy development and diversification in these coastal communities in order to diversify local economies, facilitate economic adjustment and enable collaboration and partnerships leading to enterprise opportunities.

Western Economic Diversification Canada will work jointly with the Fisheries Legacy Trust, comprised of the thirteen west coast Community Futures offices, to invest more than seven million dollars in coastal B.C. communities outside the Greater Vancouver Regional District and Capital Regional District that have been negatively impacted by changes to the coastal fishery.

A key component of WestCCAP is the Program Steering Committee. The Committee is composed of stakeholder representation from coastal mayors, First Nations, Community Futures and both the federal and provincial governments. It will guide the program's development and make all project funding decisions.

## What is the Fisheries Legacy Trust?

The Fisheries Legacy Trust (FLT) is a network of the thirteen coastal Community Futures offices established in 1998 to attract resources designed to assist hard-hit coastal communities in their efforts to diversify economies that were solely reliant on the fishing industry.

The FLT delivered a \$5M license stacking program on behalf of Fisheries and Oceans Canada and following that, successfully delivered the \$22M west coast fisheries Community Economic Adjustment Initiative and later the \$7M Recreational Salmon Fishery Loan Program. These two programs formed part of the federal government's \$400 million Pacific Fisheries Adjustment and Restructuring Program.

The FLT is effective in delivering economic adjustment programs because the Community Futures offices are based in these communities, are governed by community-based boards of directors and understand the needs of their communities.

Western Diversification Canada provides core funding to the CFs.

## Time Frame

The next WCCAP Steering Committee meeting, where projects will be approved or rejected, will be held March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010. The preliminary application must be submitted to a CF office by **Dec 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009**.

If your preliminary proposal is approved, a detailed project proposal will have to be submitted to the local CF office before **Jan 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010** in order to be considered at the March meeting.

## Eligible Applicants

Project proponents must be located in a fishing-dependant coastal community and be a registered or incorporated, not-for-profit entity, such as:

- an industry association,
- Municipality or Regional District
- First Nation Band or Tribal Council,
- research or educational institution,
- economic development corporation,
- Not for profit society.

Applications from Band owned businesses and social enterprises will be considered on a case by case basis. They must demonstrate that they fill a niche that the market does not meet on its own, must not disturb the competitive balance of the specific industry in the region, and must return all profits, in an auditable and verifiable manner, to the community or to the organization's social purpose.

## Funding Criteria

All projects must:

- Help diversify the local economy without adversely affecting the economies of neighbouring communities;
- Have tangible long term direct economic benefits including employment creation or enhancement, incremental income or businesses and government revenues within an identifiable time frame ;
- Focus on long-term benefits that lead to sustainable development within the region.
- Have broad, demonstrated community support and be consistent with the communities' Community Economic Development strategy;
- Leverage other private and public program funding;
- Not request funding for activities which can be covered by existing programs;
- Be environmentally sound and not increase pressure on marine resources.
- Demonstrate that infrastructure projects have a complimentary relationship leading to realization of an economic development opportunity.

## Eligible Activities

**Note: All projects must be related to the *oceans and marine***

### Projects within an *oceans-based* context

- experimental harvesting of new, under-utilized or alternative species
- experimental fisheries
- fin-fish and shell-fish aqua-culture pilot projects and research and development
- technology transfers
- local pre-commercial/demonstration fish processing (pilot testing)
- marine related tourism product development (non-profit)
- marine related eco-tourism proposals

### Infrastructure Development projects

- marine transportation infrastructure (i.e. wharves, harbours)
- marine research facilities
- development of museums, archeological and historical sites intended to be tourism attractions for the region
- municipal water and sewage systems needed for a specific economic development purpose (not residential development)
- waterfront walkways or park-like attractions

## Project Funding

WestCCAP can contribute a maximum of \$250,000 towards each eligible project to a maximum of **60%** of assisted project costs. The remaining 40% must be arranged by the proponent, of which at least 10% of assisted project costs must be in the form of cash. The balance can be additional contributions from the proponent, matching funds from another funding agency, or in kind contributions. Funding from sources other than the proponent can be considered evidence of community support and will improve the chances of approval. Please note that in-kind contributions must be toward a direct, eligible cost of the project, must be tangible, and must be capable of being objectively valued by an unrelated third party

### Examples of eligible (assisted) costs are:

- Wages and benefits,
- Equipment rentals,
- Materials and supplies
- Contractor fees,
- Transportation and travel.
- Incremental costs of planning activities where they are clearly necessary for the completion of the project and do not exceed 10% of assisted project

## **Project Funding continued**

### **Ineligible (non-assisted) costs are:**

- Pro-forma administration fees
- Meeting, conference, and hospitality expenses, including honoraria
- Non-arms length transactions
- Land and real estate purchases
- Costs incurred prior to the date of signing the contribution agreement

## **Ineligible Projects**

- Subsidize business, except for social enterprises under certain circumstances.
- Do not have direct economic benefits.
- Can be more appropriately funded by other existing government programs. (specifically, salmon enhancement and habitat restoration projects)
- Will cause an inappropriate net increase in the pressure placed on salmon and other fish stocks.
- Violate any environmental or fisheries acts, regulations or policies.
- Are the purchase of land or shares.
- Are the refinancing all or any part of a debt.
- Are aimed primarily at achieving social or environmental rather than economic objectives.
- Are core funding to support the on-going operations of an organization.
- Are inconsistent with the purposes of WestCCAP.

### **The following are examples of projects that came before the WCCAP Steering Committee and did not get funding.**

- Band owned businesses to establish commercial scale shellfish farms. Rejected because shellfish aquaculture in BC is a fully competitive industry and assistance would be a subsidy to a normal business.
- A new landfill for a coastal community. Rejected as proponents could not demonstrate that this infrastructure was related to a specific economic opportunity.
- Develop and test fish traceability software for the fishing industry. Rejected as it was submitted by the organization that was proposing to conduct the work rather than the industry.
- Projects not related to the oceans and marine. Rejected.
- Pilot project on mariculture. Rejected as knowledge of how to grow that species in that location already exists and is being done already.
- Rehabilitate a dam. Rejected because there were no direct, measureable economic benefits identified in the proposal and the rehabilitation is a legal requirement of the water license.

## **Examples of Ineligible Projects continued**

- Market a music festival. Rejected as nearly all the funds were for marketing and core funding of an organization, neither of which is eligible.
- Develop retail spaces in a municipally owned harbour. Rejected as being a commercial project.
- Construction of a commuter trail within a municipality. Rejected as it is not a "destination trail" but is primarily to be a local community amenity.
- Two harbour expansion projects were rejected, one because the proposal was incomplete and the other because the harbour authority was not contributing the minimum 10% proponent contribution.

## **How to Apply for WESTCCAP Project Funding**

Please contact the Community Futures (CF) office nearest to you (see the list on the Page Four). The CF will assist you in determining whether your idea fits the program requirements and provide advice on the next steps in the process.

If the CF advises you to proceed with your application for funding, please prepare a maximum five page initial application using the following headings:

1. Applicant Information:
  - a. Name of key contact
  - b. Name and legal status of the Organization submitting the application
  - c. Address, phone/fax number, and email address.
2. Location of Project
3. Description of Project (include duration and time lines);
4. How the project meets the funding criteria (see p.2)
5. Long term project benefits (projection of jobs created, businesses established, spin-off opportunities);
6. Applicant background and experience related to the Project;
- 7.. Total Project budget;
8. Sources of Funds (include Applicant contribution, other government and non-government funding and amount requested from WestCCAP);
9. Community support: how the project fits into the community's plans and concrete evidence of its support for the Project.

Note: Please contact your nearest CF office to discuss your Project idea prior to preparing our application. If this is not possible you may submit your written application to your local CF office by e-mail or regular mail.

October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009

## Coastal Community Futures Development Corporations

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NOTE: We recommend that you contact your nearest CF office to discuss your project idea prior to preparing your application. If direct contact is not possible, you may submit your written application to your nearest CF office by e-mail or by regular mail.

An on-line application guide may be found on the Internet at [www.cfislandcoastal.ca](http://www.cfislandcoastal.ca)

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## Announced Projects from the April 30, 2009 Meeting

**Bella Coola Harbour Authority:** \$189,187 to upgrade the Bella Coola Harbour. The project will consist of four phases: parking lot expansion, sewage/wastewater system installation, breakwater float rehabilitation, and potable water system installation.

**Northern Vancouver Island Salmonid Enhancement Association:** \$132,000 will assist the in design and installation of interpretative displays, classroom outfitting and signage for the Quatse Salmon Stewardship Centre. Displays will showcase the importance of salmon within our ecosystems through storylines and interpretive exhibits.

**Namgis First Nation:** \$250,000 for the upgrade of the waterfront walkway with the addition of 669 metres of boardwalk to connect the net loft to the B.C. ferries terminal at Alert Bay.

**Namgis First Nation :** \$92,000 for the upgrades to the wharf head at the Namgis dock facility.

**Malcolm Island Lions Club:** \$250,000 for improvement and expansion of the Malcolm Island Harbour in Sointula. 6) Funding of \$250,000 for the Quatsino Community Society will upgrade facilities at the Coal Harbour Wharf. Project activities will consist of expanding the floating dock, upgrading lighting and installing access walkways, offloading equipment, small work shed and a floating platform.

**Wuikinuxv Economic Development Corporation:** \$49,550 will allow the to construct a 750 square foot cedar carving shed and interpretive centre on the bank of the Wanuuk River on Rivers Inlet. The carving shed will serve as a featured attraction on cultural tours conducted by the Wuikinuxv Nation as part of the overall tourist experience at Rivers Inlet.

**Vancouver Island University:** \$250,000 Centre for Shellfish Research will develop a new Deep Bay Field Station.

**French Creek Harbour Authority:** \$84,000. The French Creek Harbour Authority will create a dedicated visitor's dock and a 120-foot public sales dock to attract additional tourism and investment opportunities to the Oceanside region.

**Cowichan Bay Fisherman's Wharf Association:** \$210,250 to expand the Cowichan Bay Harbour. The expansion is required to meet the current needs of harbour users, serve the demands from both established commercial and new recreational and eco-tourism markets, and ensure the continued viability of the Cowichan Harbour.

**City of Port Alberni:** \$250,000 to build a multi-purpose waterfront boardwalk and floating wharf at Port Alberni's Harbour Quay, located at the foot of Argyle Street.

**Quatsino Community Society:** \$250,000 to upgrades to the Coal Harbour Wharf consisting of a new 300 foot float, a tourism dock, anchoring system and lighting upgrades.