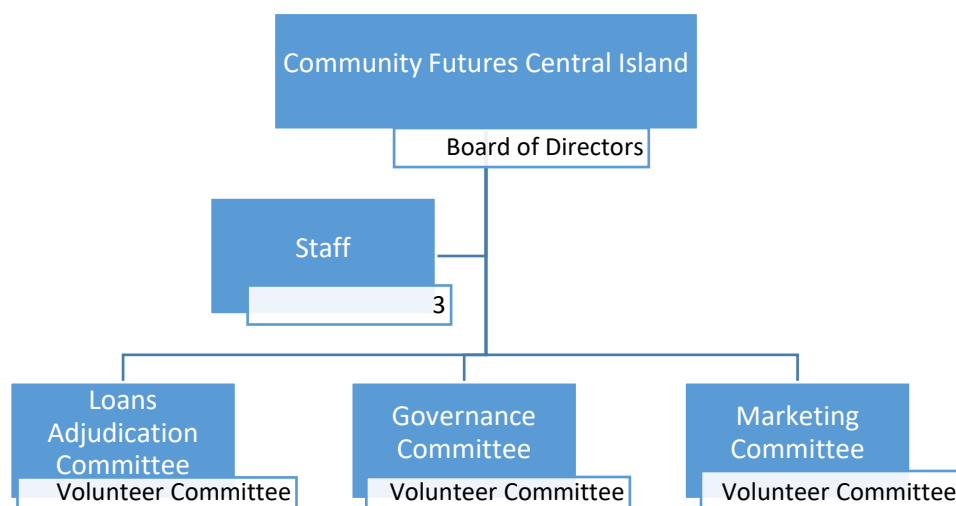


Community Futures Central Island



About Us:

Community Futures is a non-profit organization, guided by a volunteer Board of Directors with a current staff of three. Since 1985, we have worked with community partners to help foster entrepreneurship and economic development in our region.

Our Board of Directors is comprised of 11 business people from the central island region who have extensive knowledge and experience of Vancouver Island's economy and represent its population and main economic sectors. The role of the Board is to establish our organization's priorities, monitor our business loans, oversee our general performance, and be accountable to key stakeholders - local, provincial and federal governments. We also have working committees manned by board members as well as volunteers.

We work in partnership with other business lenders, educational institutions, not-for-profits and community governments to grow and diversify our local economy. We are completely focused on the needs of our clients, our local businesses, and our area's economy. We assist entrepreneurs throughout central Vancouver Island ... from Ladysmith to Bowser and Whiskey Creek to our island communities of Gabriola and Lasqueti.

At Community Futures, we are developmental lenders. That means we work in collaboration with, not in competition to, conventional lenders like banks and credit unions. For over 25 years we have successfully helped local entrepreneurs get financing to:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start or expand a business • Apply new technology to a business • Upgrade a business' facilities and/or equipment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access new markets • Expand into the global marketplace |
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Our Community Futures office provides services and program supports to rural small and medium-sized business owners and entrepreneurs.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business plan critiquing and coaching • Small business training • One-on-one start-up or expansion consulting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support in gaining access to other small business supports, information, and access to capital |
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