

# 2024

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# Annual REPORT

*Growing communities one idea at a time.*



# Our Vision Statement

A flourishing business community, built on dreams.



## Our Core Values

1

We welcome all and their business ideas; inclusivity is essential to us.

2

We are about on-going support; service is our promise.

3

We champion one another; success matters.

4

We intentionally continue to grow; expertise is important.

# Our Mission Statement

**We make business happen.**

# About Us

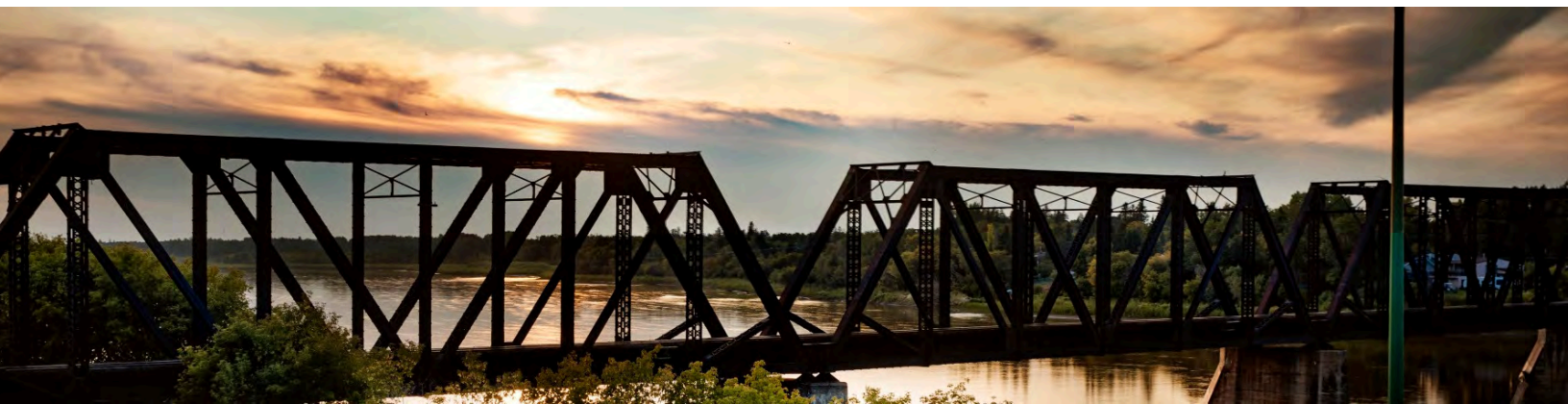


Prince Albert and District Community Futures Development Corporation opened its doors in January 1997. For over 25 years our office has successfully helped local entrepreneurs obtain financing to make their dreams a reality. We are a non-profit organization guided by a volunteer Board of Directors and staffed with business professionals. We work with community partners to help foster, grow, and mentor entrepreneurship in our region.

By partnering with other business lenders, educational institutions, not-for-profits, and municipal governments, we help grow and diversify the economy in our service area.

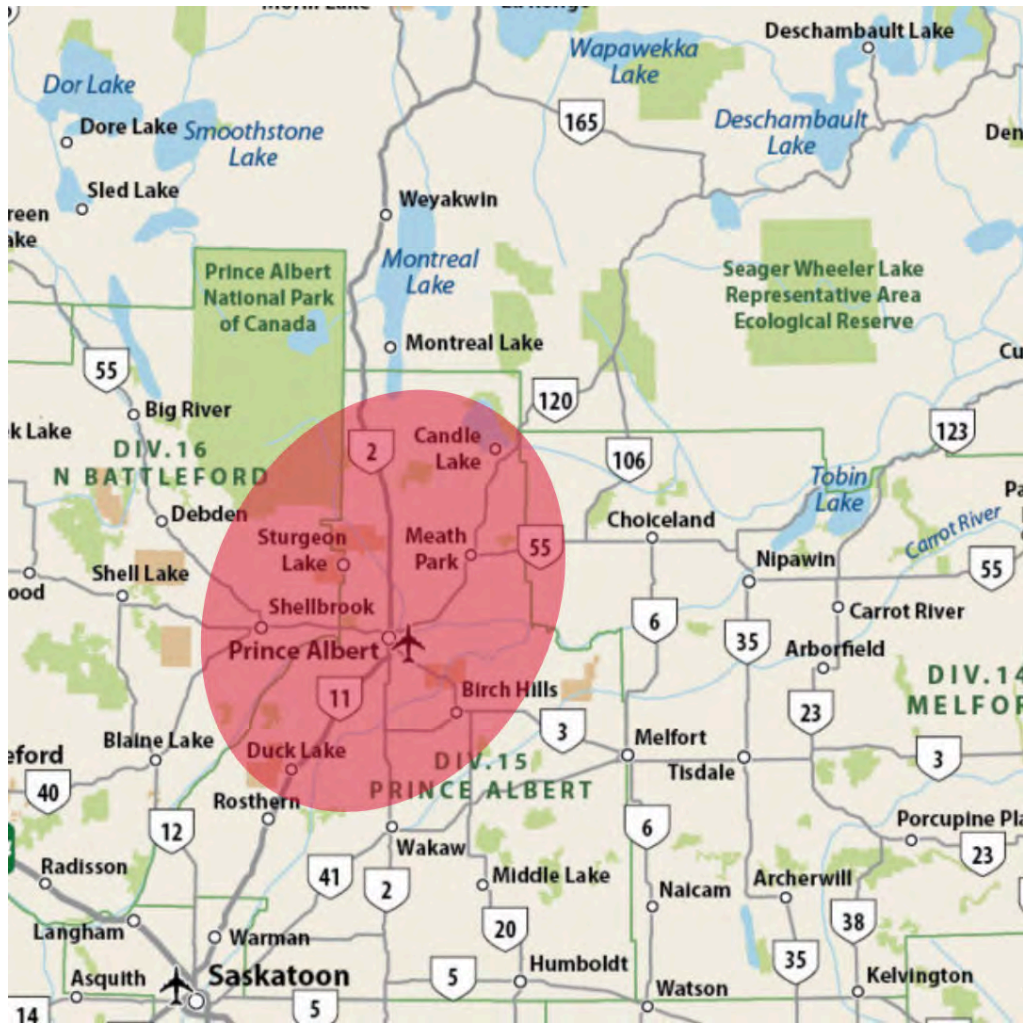
Our Community Futures office provides services and program supports to small and medium sized business owners and entrepreneurs throughout our region. We are developmental lenders. That means, we work in collaboration with conventional lenders like banks and credit unions, to assist individuals who want to start, expand, franchise, or sell a business in the community.

For 30 years Community Futures has helped thousands of entrepreneurs across Canada bring their business dreams to life. Our 13 Saskatchewan offices are part of a nation-wide network that is 100% dedicated to helping small business owners succeed. Whether you're a newcomer to the self-employment scene or a seasoned business owner, you can benefit from our wide variety of services and support.



We exist to provide new and existing businesses, loans and advice.





Community Futures PA & District works, supports, and assists whoever seeks their aid. The PACF Board and Leaders acknowledges the following:

1. Who they exist for
2. Who they shall now make their message clear to
3. Who they want to intentionally attract through their doors are

**Entrepreneurs with great ideas but with limited resources and/or business knowledge.**



# Message from the Chair

**Teresa Hanson**

It has been an honour to serve as the Chair of Community Futures Prince Albert and District (PACF) over the past year, contributing to the economic growth in our district. PACF, a part of the Community Futures National Network, has been serving North Central Saskatchewan since 1997. We are tasked by Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan) to provide tailored advice, support, training, and small business loans to the business community to promote economic development in our area.

The past year brought about changes for PACF, including our relocation to the new downtown location in the New Chamber HQ building and a new General Manager, Kayla Bear. We are excited about the positive contributions and new ideas that Kayla and our organization can offer to Prince Albert, downtown, and the surrounding area.

In the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the PACF Credit Committee approved 14 loans totaling \$730,692. Our organization continues to maintain one of the lowest loan delinquency rates in the province. In addition to our financial support, we also provided 13 PACF clients with a Side Hustle MicroGrant of \$500 each. The Side Hustle program is designed to assist individuals with entrepreneurial aspirations and guide them on how to bring their ideas to life. We are eager to witness the success of these entrepreneurs in their local communities and plan to sustain the Side Hustle Program well into the future.

Looking ahead, we will continue to focus on forging new partnerships, offering training opportunities, and organizing business events in the community. By emphasizing character lending and community connection, we aim to build upon our past accomplishments and fulfill our aspirations for our future.

*Teresa*

# Our Board

We are thankful for their service



**Teresa Hanson**  
Chair



**Betty Makelki**  
Vice Chair



**Ryan Court**  
Director



**Barb Gustafson**  
Director



**D.J. Harris**  
Director



**Patty Hughes**  
Director



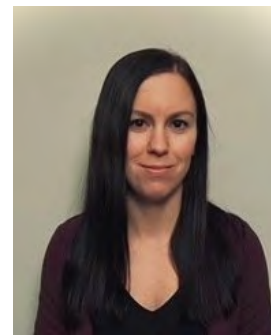
**Steve Jeffers**  
Director



**Tyler Kinash**  
Director



**Sarah Naytowhow**  
Director



**Kristie Stead**  
Director

# Our Team



**Kayla Bear**  
**General Manager**



**Dianne Hutchinson**  
**Office Administrator**



**Charlene Seidenthal**  
**Office Assistant**

Together  
Everyone  
Achieves  
More



# Projects



**The Side Hustle Program** was offered by PACF with sponsorship provided by the Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program. This program offered one-on-one, individualized training to 13 entrepreneurs on turning your side hustle into a business. Upon completion, participants were able to apply for a micro-grant up to \$500 to get them started.

## This year's Side Hustle micro-Grant Recipients:



**Brittanie Manson**  
Nordic Clean PA



**Brooke Gyoerick**  
**Zen Momma**  
Lightworker Holistic Services



**Colby Lavigne**  
Colby Lavigne's Dreams



**Danika Schofield**  
Pretty Polish Studios





**Harmony Johnson-Harder**  
**Down to Earth**



**Kayla Bear**  
**Bear Den Co.**



**Natalie Hawkeswood**  
**Cedar and Sunflower Studio**



**Tayler Levac**  
**Everything Sublime Designs**



**Jean-brice Lavigne**  
**Lavignecuisine**



**Megan Pashak**  
**PASH Collective**



**Megan Witherow**  
**Olive + Rose**



**Tiffany Stuart**  
**Beading At Tiffany's**



**Trina Bell**  
**Mini Melts Vending**



PACF partnered with the SKStartup Institute on two projects. **SKStartup Business Plan Basics** and the **SPARK Event**.

**Small Business Week Luncheon**

in partnership with the Prince Albert & District Chamber of Commerce. Guest speaker for this event was

**Murad Al-Katib**

**President and CEO of AGT Food and Ingredients Inc..**



**PRINCE ALBERT & DISTRICT  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

# Sponsorships



**OPENING DOORS TO TOMORROW  
JOB/CAREER FAIR**

PACF has supported Opening Doors to Tomorrow for the past several years by sitting on the Career/Job Fair Committee and for the past three years has co-sponsored the scholarship program. The career/job fair provides a common forum for agencies, organizations, businesses, universities, colleges, and other interested parties to come together in one place and showcase what they have to offer. This huge event is designed to assist students and youth as well as the general population of Prince Albert and surrounding communities to prepare for, obtain, and/or maintain employment. Historically over 2500 students grades 9 - 12 and over 100 community members from Prince Albert and area attend the career/job fair.



PRINCE ALBERT & DISTRICT  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

THE  
SAMUEL MCLEOD  
BUSINESS AWARDS



PACF has been a proud supporter of the **Samuel McLeod Business Awards** for the past number of years. Since 2013 PACF has proudly sponsored the Young Entrepreneur Award. This award recognizes an entrepreneur between the ages of 18-35 who has achieved great success in the start-up and operation of a new or existing business, has long-term goals and demonstrates innovation by adapting to marketplace challenges resulting in a competitive advantage. In 2024 we were delighted to recognize a Young Entrepreneur that exudes passion, determination, and character that builds into our business community.

Please join me in congratulating this year's

**Young Entrepreneur Award Winner,**

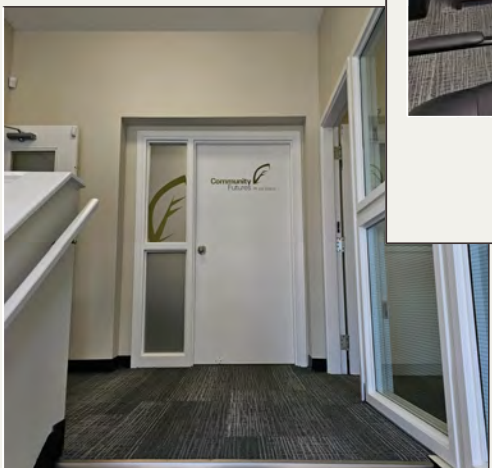
***Aiden Edwards - JamFam Media***





# The Big Move!

In the spring of 2024 we said goodbye to our “home” of 10 years and embarked on a new adventure! The opportunity to partner with the Prince Albert and District Chamber of Commerce and become a long term tenant in the new Chamber HQ building was one we could not pass up. This was an amazing opportunity to better service our business community and be a part of creating a new business hub. Although we will miss the great neighbors we are looking forward to an exciting future in the heart of the downtown.



# LOANS

Community Futures is an alternate source of business funding offering loans to businesses for start-up or expansion. Funding is available up to \$150,000 to be used for capital expenditures or operating requirements.

Flexible, affordable Community Futures loans are specifically designed for new start-ups, expansions, or to buy a business in a rural community. Solutions are tailored to meet the needs of the individual business and decisions are made locally.



# ADVICE

Prince Albert and District Community Futures has been supporting businesses in our region for over 25 years. Our mandate is to provide a variety of support services to anyone wanting to start, expand, franchise or sell a business in the community. Our services include:

Small business coaching

One-on-one start-up or expansion consulting

Support in gaining access to other small business supports, information, & access to capital

Succession planning

The Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program (EDP) helps people with disabilities or health conditions start or expand businesses.

This program is open to anyone with a viable business idea who has a self declared disability or a health condition.

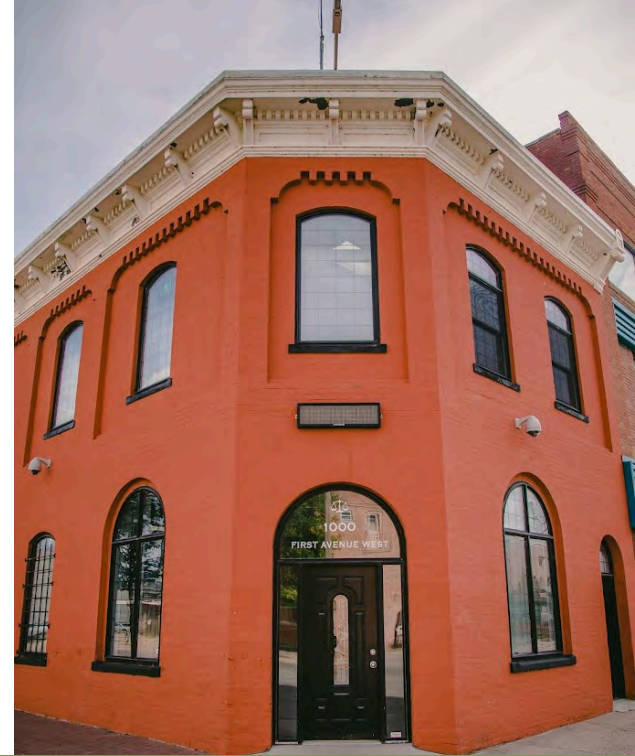
We're funded in part by the Government of Canada's Opportunities Fund for Persons with Disabilities Program, Elevate provides assistance, support and resources to qualified individuals who wish to become self-employed.

Up to \$750 in funding is available for rural entrepreneurs with health conditions or disabilities to access professional services to move their business sales online, enhance their online services or improve online marketing.

# SUPPORT



**For the fiscal year 2023-2024  
Community Futures Prince  
Albert & District advanced  
14 loans for a total of  
\$730,692.**



## **Accomplishments**

<b>Total number of community-based projects (new &amp; on-going)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Total number of Side Hustle \$500 Micro Grants given</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Total number of business training session participants</b>	<b>362</b>
<b>Total number of business advisory services</b>	<b>131</b>
<b>Number of jobs created/maintained/expanded through lending</b>	<b>12.5</b>





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communities  
one idea at a  
time.


**Prince Albert and District Community Futures  
Development Corporation would like to thank  
our primary funder  
Prairies Economic Development Canada**

With the support of:  
Prairies Economic  
Development Canada

| **Canada** 



54 - 11th Street East  
Prince Albert, SK

 306-763-8125

 [info@pacf.ca](mailto:info@pacf.ca)

 [www.pacf.ca](http://www.pacf.ca)

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Development Canada

