



The Community Economic Development Technical Assistance Program (CEDTAP)

Fall Newsletter 2001

The Weather is Changing and So Are We!

CEDTAP is testing a new way to distribute its quarterly newsletter. By using email, we're hoping we can reach a wide range of people and organizations involved in the many facets of community economic development. Any comments? Let us know what you think!

New Projects

Since the official launch of our second phase in May 2001, CEDTAP has held two rounds of project selections. Sit back and enjoy your trip across the country as we offer you a glimpse of the innovative work we're supporting:

In **British Columbia**, the Employment Development Department of the Mennonite Central Committee is receiving technical assistance to implement a "Futures Foundations" Individual Development Account (IDA) project in the Fraser Valley. IDAs equip low-income individuals with tools and resources to build their savings, assets, and financial skills. The technical assistance (TA) provider is the Employment Development Department of the Mennonite Central Committee in Alberta.

In another B.C. project, The Upper Similkameen Indian Band of Keremos is restoring and preserving the "Canadian grand-daddy of mines". Their goal is to bring together First Nation and Canadian mining history by converting the Hedley Mascot Gold Mine into a heritage and industrial tourist attraction. Technical assistance will provide the community with architectural expertise to move the Interpretive Centre's concept drawings to the development phase; architectural engineering to further stabilize the mine; and mentoring from an expert in fundraising. TA providers include Helen O'Toole and Associates and Barry McGinn Engineering and Preservation Ltd.

And in downtown Vancouver, Partners for Economic and Community Help (PEACH) helps residents, organizations and businesses access funds and tools to re-vitalize the city's downtown Eastside. CEDTAP support will help the organization create a framework to evaluate its impact on the community and the effectiveness of the programs it delivers. The TA provider for this project is the Centre for Community Leadership.

Over to the **Prairies**, the Loan Circle Society of Central Alberta is receiving CEDTAP support to create entrepreneurial and money management programs. TA is being given by the Employment Development Department of the Mennonite Central Committee in Alberta. For more information visit www.agrinet-mte.com/lc_index.htm.

In Saskatoon, Quint Development Corporation, a non-profit CED corporation that serves the needs of Saskatoon's five core neighbourhoods, is undergoing a strategic planning process. By working with the Centre for Community Enterprise (the TA provider) Quint will re-examine its goals and objectives in light of the concerns, aspirations and problems of local residents.

And in Melfort, Saskatchewan, the Stardale Women's Group Inc. is receiving support from CEDTAP for the startup of an artistic co-operative in which members will produce and sell creative designs using Coast Salish weaving methods. Technical assistance will provide members with more knowledge and training in business, marketing strategies, Board development, advanced weaving techniques and research/experimentation with flax linen fibre. The TA providers are CHS Enterprises Inc., the Department of Fiber Arts and Pottery and Glass Blowing of the Alberta College of Art and Design, and Biolin Research.

Across the Manitoba border and into near-northern **Ontario**, we find the Deep Water Regional Development Corporation based in Charlton. The organization came together in opposition to a proposed landfill site and as a response to high unemployment in the region. Technical assistance has allowed the organization to go on a study tour to Halifax and Cape Breton. CEDTAP will also

support a two-day strategic planning session where Deep Water will determine its mission, mandate and next steps.

And in Ottawa, there's the Centretown Laundry Co-operative. It's mission is to "empower its members--street cultured and those living on low-incomes--to set up, run and take ownership of a self-sustaining, affordable and accessible laundry facility geared to their needs". The co-op, an initiative spearheaded by the First United Church, will use technical assistance to help develop their organizational structure and a business plan. The TA provider is L'Art du développement.

Traveling to the south of the province, the Atkinson Housing Co-operative is a 410-unit housing initiative located in downtown Toronto. Formerly the Alexandra Park Housing Project, the 1100 residents voted in 1998 to convert their publicly-subsidized units into co-op housing. TA from the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto will help Atkinson develop its Board governance, contract management, operating agreement and a fundraising strategy.

CEDTAP is also supporting the TREC Windpower Co-operative (TWC) in Toronto. The TWC is a joint project of the Toronto Renewable Energy Co-op (a community-based energy co-operative) and Toronto Hydro Services (THESI). TWC will develop up to three utility-scale wind turbines on the Toronto waterfront. TA will help TWC develop its bylaws, a membership agreement and train the Board of Directors. For more information visit www.trec.on.ca.

Then there's Niagara Food Innovations (NFI) in Jordan, southern Ontario. NFI's mission is to support the efforts of small

Niagara processors to produce premium specialty food products using local agricultural products. Creating viable business opportunities for low-income individuals, with particular emphasis on women, is an integral part of the organization's mission. NFI is receiving CEDTAP support to enhance the enterprise's business and financial management systems, develop its sales, and ensure sufficient cash flow to sustain the business during its rapid growth phase. The TA provider is the Canadian Co-operative Association, Ontario Region. For more information visit www.niagarapresents.net.

Finally, in **Québec**, The Réseau des Ressourceries is a network of community enterprises involved in sustainable resource management. The network provides technical assistance, research and development, and coaching and mentoring to its members. Support from CEDTAP will allow the Réseau des Ressourceries to research strategies to become more self-sufficient.

Our last stop takes us to the Gaspé...and beyond. Since 1997, the Coopérative de solidarité de Rocher-Percé has been working on renewing the agricultural sector in the region. One of their strategies is to grow medicinal plants, so CEDTAP is supporting a study tour to France and Switzerland for three of the co-op members so they can learn more about this practice.

Call for New Technical Assistance Providers

In CEDTAP's first phase, we established and maintained a directory of 35 pre-qualified and experienced organizations--non-profits, community development agencies,

educational institutions and firms--from which communities across the country requested technical assistance. CEDTAP is now expanding this pool to more than 100 providers. We are also expanding the range of expertise held in our repertoire so that it includes lawyers, architects, engineers, computer programmers and others whose knowledge may be key to moving a CED initiative forward.

If you would like to apply to become a technical assistance provider, or know of an appropriate consultant, visit our Web site at www.carleton.ca/cedtap. Click on "Directory of Technical Assistance Providers" and download the form you'll find on this page.

New Faces at CEDTAP

CEDTAP would like to extend a warm welcome to Paul Born, who has recently joined our Advisory Panel. Paul has recently partnered with The Maytree Foundation to establish an institute for community building and leadership development in Canada called the Tamarack Institute for Community Engagement. Paul was the Executive Director of the Community Opportunities Development Association (CODA) for 12 years. He also founded and was the Consulting Director of Opportunities 2000, a region-wide initiative (83 partners) to reduce poverty in Waterloo Region, Ontario, to the lowest level in Canada. In addition, Paul was the Consulting Director of the Foundation for Rural Living and the founding Chair of the Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet). He was the founding chair of the curriculum committee at Leadership Waterloo and holds

a Masters in Leadership from Royal Roads University.

We also have a new addition to the Réseau d'investissement social du Québec (RISQ), our partner organization in Québec. Louise Lafortune, who will be working alongside Elise Tessier as our Regional Co-ordinator in the province, has over 15 years experience working in community development. She has worked at the neighbourhood level in Montréal and was an adult educator for a national training organization for 10 years. Welcome, Louise!

Lastly, we regret to announce that Melanie Conn has stepped down from her position of Regional Co-ordinator in British Columbia. Melanie had been job-sharing the role with Carol Madsen through Simon Fraser University's CED Centre. Melanie resigned from her position so that she could continue working as a technical assistance provider through CEDTAP. We would like to thank Melanie for her contributions to the program, and look forward to working with her on CED initiatives in the future. A bientôt!

CED Conferences

Many of you have been asking about the next CEDTAP Forum. While we are unable to announce dates as of yet, a series of CEDTAP Fora will be held at the regional level throughout 2002. The next pan-Canadian CEDTAP Forum will be held in late 2002. Watch our winter newsletter for more details.

In the mean time, CEDTAP is supporting several regional CED fora in B.C. this fall. The events, organized by the B.C. CED Network, will result in a compilation of

CED activities and organizations in the province.

CEDTAP also provided funding for the successful Canadian Community Economic Development Network (CCEDNet) conference that was recently held in Halifax. For more information on the Network or the conference, visit www.canadiancednetwork.org.

CEDTAP is managed by the Centre for the Study of Training, Investment and Economic Restructuring (CSTIER) in the Faculty of Public Affairs and Management, Carleton University, in Ottawa. CEDTAP's initial funder is The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation, whose recent \$5 million grant will be matched through sponsorships from other foundations, corporations and government. For more information visit www.carleton.ca/cedtap or write cstier@carleton.ca.