

Survey number	App#	FY	CA	Project streams:	Funding Amount
47	94	00/01	0800 1204	PIC	\$11,900

Co-op Advantage Projects

Victoria Int Pictures Co-op

Street	City	Province	Postal Code
#6 721 Pembroke	Victoria	BC	V8D 1H7

Contact person	Phone #
Edward Schoenmaker	250 388-3929

Description

to help an existing family business manufacturing photo products and services incorporate, train the board, and create business/marketing plans

Telephone Survey Responses

1a. What was the purpose of your project?

To form a new co-op

To expand an existing co-op

To provide more services

1b. Other purpose(s)

Mentorship and business plan.

1c. Has your project achieved this, or is it still going in that direction?

They are incorporated and have been up and running since March. They have done renovations and got samples out to sales people. They are making new product.

2a. Describe how your project builds partnerships and community networks.

They are trying to find a co-op plywood mill. They would like to work with local people and local co-ops. They would like to find people that work furniture to work with them and form a retail store with them, but they are now concentrating on making product.

Can you provide:

2b. Estimate of the number of potential co-op members

3

2c. Demographics of potential co-op members

The members were 3 former employees of a company that shut down due to bad management.

2d. Names of co-op stakeholder groups

2e. Names of funders

membership shares -CoastCapital Savings, as a loan. They are trying to sell at the markets.

2f. Names of partnering agencies

How has the community/sector benefited from the project. Specify:

3a. Economic benefits; e.g. creation of new bus. and /or investment, -# and type of jobs created or retained

The former business closed and they were going to be let go, so this was a way for them to retain their work.

3b. Social benefits/benefits to the community; e.g. type and amount of community service(s) provided

He would recommend co-ops to people -it's a group effort. It is not just one person trying to hold everything together. They have more control over their own destiny.

3c. Environmental benefits

They dealt with Canwell in Langley for wood source, which is an eco source wood, and the only source of wood in the world certified as such. They are trying to use completely local products.

3d. Creation of sustainable jobs beyond the life of the project; e.g. long term jobs expected

3 of them, and will be hiring more. 3 could produce about 1/2 million in product per yer.

4. Please identify the main group that your project serves; e.g. youth, persons with disabilities, etc.

members

5a. Was your project based on the experience or practice of other co-ops?

5b. If yes, which one(s)?

no. They knew what they were doing because they had been in the business for more than 10 years. During the family battles, they were running the business. The potential is so great that is seemed a waste to let it go. There is only one other company in Canada that does this craft. They are selling internationally.

6a. Did the funding provide you with the ability to train people?

6b. If yes, what type of training was provided?

They received training in co-op development. Andrew Moore and Lyne and Romana helped them. Their business plan is being used as a sample for new co-ops.

6c. How many people were trained

3

7a. If the project was funded as an ID project, how was it innovative and collaborative?

7b. If the project was funded as a SD project, how did it contribute to the development of the co-op sector?

8. What would you have done without funding from The Co-op Advantage program?

would have gone for it anyways.

9. Feedback on Co-op Advantage:

10. General Comments:

11. Survey Notes:

d. new number. Another number for Ed Schoemaker is (250) 642 2970.