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Community transition teams continue efforts in the South Cariboo

Three community transition teams continue to meet in the South Cariboo to discuss opportunities, explore potential areas of collaboration and take action on ways to support the communities of 100 Mile House, Clinton and surrounding areas. The teams have been meeting monthly since they were established in July 2019 after the mill closure announcements.

Each team focuses on a different component of support for the communities' transition: worker transition, community support and economic development. These teams bring together multiple organizations, local governments, various provincial ministries, the major employers, union representatives, service providers and others to address the impacts of the forest industry changes.

The following are some highlights from the teams' recent efforts and some opportunities for residents and businesses to note.

Highlights:

- Several businesses took part in a recent workshop hosted by Community Futures about pivoting your business. The focus was on strategic ways to reposition your business during challenging times. The participants gained beneficial information and practical insights to apply to their business models. Visit cfdccariboo.com for upcoming training opportunities.
- The 100 Mile House Community Forest is working on a number of fuel treatment blocks, helping to keep several forestry crews employed with various projects.
- Horton Ventures and Community Futures Cariboo Chilcotin held a Self-Employment Forum at the end of August. The attendees were equipped with a "Business Start-up Package". Community Futures put on the following workshops - "Is Self-Employment for Me?", "How to do a Business Plan" and "Business Loans 101".
- The Ministry of Forest Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (MFLNRORD), 100 Mile House Natural Resource District office hosted a contractor session in August. The purpose of this session was to provide information to the contracting community about upcoming projects, where to find bidding opportunities, modifications to their small scale salvage program and multiple resources for small business support. The event was well-attended and the organizers are hoping to host another session soon.
- The District of 100 Mile House and the Village of Clinton have recently hosted several interested candidates through the BC Provincial Nominee Program (BC PNP). The visits were very positive, and District and Village staff continue to follow up with the candidates to support their interest in moving and setting up businesses in the area. The BC PNP program is a way for foreign entrepreneurs to gain permanent residency in B.C. It is an avenue for the District and Village to attract new investment in the region, which will generate new employment.