

Growing communities one idea at a time.



Creeway Aviation expands to offer chartered aircraft services

Sweeny Enterprises Inc. operating as Creeway Aviation is a privately owned corporation with sole ownership held by Timothy Sweeny, a member of the Cross Lake Band. Creeway Aviation is an existing 100% Aboriginal owned and operated corporation that is starting its third year of operations.

Creeway Aviation first opened its doors in February 2007 to offer aircraft maintenance and Hangar space rentals. In April 2009 Creeway Aviation purchased a Piper Navajo aircraft to expand their services to include aircraft charters. Creeway Aviation will serve Northern Manitoba from its main base in Thompson. Creeway Aviation currently employs four staff. The expansion of Creeway Aviation was supported by the following: Aboriginal Business Canada, First Peoples Economic Growth Fund and Community Futures North Central Development.

Owner/Operator Timothy Sweeny has over 15 years experience in the aviation industry. Timothy is a Licensed Commercial Airline Pilot with Multi-Engine and IFR ratings and as a Licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineer. Timothy saw an opportunity to take the knowledge he has learned through his education and workplace skills to create an exciting business opportunity that brings together the challenging worlds of aircraft maintenance and aircraft charters to serve the residents of Northern Manitoba.

At Creeway Aviation, they believe that it is important to give back to the community that



Timothy Sweeny of Creeway Aviation

they came from and the people they serve. Creeway Aviation proposes several initiatives aimed at providing Aboriginal youth an opportunity for training and employment in the aviation industry. Two of these programs include: The Stevenson Program, which is a 4 year Aircraft Maintenance Engineer program based in Winnipeg and Portage La Prairie. This program allows students to work 10 months of the year while attending school for 9 weeks. The second program is Aviation Sponsorship. By partnering with surrounding communities, Creeway Aviation will be able to sponsor several students in the

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In Memoriam - Sam Saunders

With great sadness CFNCD said goodbye to our good friend Sam this year. Sam was a part of the CFNCD Board for 10+ years as the York Landing representative and was involved in the initial set up of CFNCD. Sam was a husband, father and grandfather. He volunteered many hours with the Executive and Business Development Committees and was always a pleasure to have at board meetings and North Central events.



York Landing Entrepreneurship Training Program

The York Landing Learning Institute and Community Futures North Central Development will be launching the Entrepreneurship Training Program this summer in York Landing. The program is intended for youth and adults who are interested in starting their own

businesses. The program is filled with lots of fun activities that teach the fundamentals of how to set up and run a business. Summer camps will be held in July and August for the youth, and week-long workshops will be held for adults beginning in September 2009.

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Creeway Aviation's Piper Navajo aircraft

field of aviation as pilots. This will give students a chance to succeed by giving them the opportunity for on-the-job experience and the necessary flight hours required to complete their licensing. In turn, Creeway Aviation will have a pool

of "home grown" pilots with which to staff their aircraft.

Community Futures North Central Development would like to congratulate Timothy Sweeny and Creeway Aviation and wish them the best of luck.

Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy and Community Futures North Central Development partner to increase childcare spaces

Looking for Childcare? We can help! The Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy (TUAS) in partnership with Community Futures North Central Development (CFNCD) have created a unique opportunity for home childcare providers to access funding to assist with the child daycare licensing process. Funding is available for home upgrades, Aboriginal language promotion kits, and training such as First Aid, Health and Safety Course and Tiganan Rock and Read Program.



TUAS and CFNCD are working towards improving staff recruitment and retention for local employers and industry by creating much needed childcare spaces in Thompson. The goal of this project is to add an additional 12 caregivers or open 50 new childcare spaces. Kiran Roy, TUAS Coordinator offers education and business support to potential providers on how to set up their own home based business. Contact Kiran at 677-1490 or toll free 1-888-847-7878 for more information.

Forbister's Reno's & Repairs wins business plan competition

Gilbert Forbister, owner of Forbister's Reno's & Repairs, recently attended Vision Quest where he was presented with an award and a \$5000 cheque from the Aboriginal Business Service Network (ABSN), for his submission to their Business Plan Competition.

Gilbert is a participant of the Self-Employment Assistance (SEA) Program which Community Futures North Central Development (CFNCD) coordinates this program on behalf of The Province of Manitoba and The Government of

Canada Employment Insurance Account. The program is designed to help people on EI start their own businesses with the assistance and support of the SEA Coordinator at CFNCD. Gilbert's kitchen and bathroom renovations business was successfully launched in January of 2009. Congratulations Gilbert!

Pictured R: Michelle Pruder, SEA Coordinator (CFNCD) with Gilbert Forbister. Michelle presented Gilbert his business plan award at Vision Quest 2009.



Specializing in
Kitchen & Bathroom
renovations

**FORBISTER'S
RENO'S & REPAIRS**

SERVING COMMUNITIES
IN NORTHERN MANITOBA
670-7280

Plan now for snowmobiling in paradise next winter

Thompson recently expanded its northern hospitality in a project referred to as "Snowmobile Friendly Thompson". The project grew out of a concept of developing a regional snowmobile trail system. And with the combined efforts of the Thompson Trailbreakers, Thompson Unlimited, the local RCMP, the City of Thompson and Community Futures North Central Development, snowmobilers now have access to more of the community's hotels, snowmobile dealerships, restaurants and gas stations.

The goal of the project was not only to allow access to more businesses in the city, but to also ultimately position Thompson as a city that welcomes snowmobile tourism. It is estimated that snowmobilers spend \$10,000 to \$30,000 per year on the activity and that does not include the cost of the snowmobile itself. Knowing this, a group was formed in an effort to tap into the economic spinoffs that snowmobile tourism could offer. The larger goal of a regional snowmobile trail system that snowmobilers can use to travel from Southern to Northern Manitoba is the next step.

After meeting with the City of Thompson to

revamp the off-road vehicle bylaw, the working group updated and distributed a map listing the new trails. Signage was erected at intersections within city limits to ensure a safe, enjoyable snowmobiling. The map of the snowmobile trails in and around Thompson can be obtained by contacting the Thompson Trailbreakers Association at <http://thompsontrailbreakers.org>

Tourism North, Northern Manitoba's tourism association, notes on their website (www.visit-northernmanitoba.ca) that hundreds of kms of groomed and well maintained snowmobile trails are part of the Snoman network throughout all of Manitoba. These trails provide countless opportunities for snowmobiling adventures. Snowmobile to Pisew Falls or Paint Lake Provincial Park on a 25 km trail ride. Warm up shelters can be found along the way, and along trails close to Thompson, cell phone service is available. Note that Sno-Pass licenses are required on most trails.

For further information visit the Thompson Trailbreakers website.

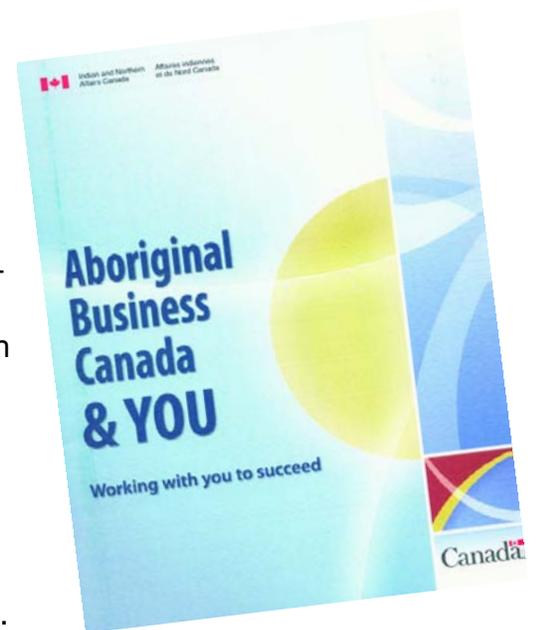
Community Futures North Central Development provides admin support to Tourism North MB.

Aboriginal Business Canada provides range of services and support

Aboriginal Business Canada is a program of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). Working with clients and partners, ABC provides a range of services and support that is helping to promote the growth of a strong Aboriginal business sector in Canada. Support varies depending upon the needs of the client, the availability, and sources of funding, the eligibility of costs, the economic

benefits, and the reasonableness and timing of financial returns on investment.

ABC has created a new publication (pictured right) that provides a step-by-step description of what's involved when you apply for assistance for your business proposal. Contact Peter at Community Futures North Central Development for more information 1-888-847-7878 or in Thompson 677-1490.



**HAVE YOU EVER
WANTED TO BE YOUR
OWN BOSS?**

Community Futures North Central Development has loans available for business start up and expansion. Contact our loans officer today for more information - 677-1490 or 1-888-847-7878

Vision Quest Conference keynote speakers include entrepreneur Calvin Darrell Helin and rising country music star Crystal Shawanda

Vision Quest Conference Inc. held its annual conference May 11-13, 2009 in Winnipeg. Now in its lucky 13th year, the event brought together delegates from across Canada to share information and advice, to show support and encouragement and to network and celebrate.

While the schedule of workshops, speakers and events may change from year to year, one thing remains the same: the primary objective of fostering and promoting Aboriginal Business, Community and Economic Development. This year there were two keynote addresses, 16 workshops, over 70 exhibitors, cultural events, presentations and awards announcements.

This year's kick-off event was a Comedy Night featuring Ryan McMahon, Gerry "The Big Bear" Barrett and musical guest War Party. For delegates attending the kick off event an "open mic" was organized for those brave enough to get up on stage and share a joke of their own with Ryan, Gerry and War Party judging. The winner received a \$100 cash prize. A 42 inch flat screen TV was also raffled off.

This year Vision Quest was able to secure Darrell Calvin Helin and Crystal Shawanda as keynote speakers. Calvin Darrell Helin is a Lawyer, Entrepreneur and author of best selling book "Dances with Dependency: Out of Poverty through Self Reliance". Calvin's



Calvin Darrell Helin

new book "Surviving Dependency: Hope and Empowerment through Self Reliance" is expected to be released in 2009. Crystal Shawanda is a fast rising country music singer who has recently signed with Sony Music Nashville recording. Her recent CD and hit "Dawn of a New Day" continues to climb the charts.

The Gala banquet which closed the conference was an evening of recognition and entertainment. The board presented gifts to the Elders, Guest Speakers and Sponsors. This year a fashion show was organized at the completion of dinner. Fashions were created by Edna Nabess of Creations & Artists Showcase. There were approximately 20 outfits modeled of beautiful and unique men's and women's clothing. Upon completion of recognition to spon-



Crystal Shawanda

sors and special guests, Crystal Shawanda along with her band gave an outstanding one-hour performance. Crystal also sold CD's, took pictures with fans and signed autographs.

Vision Quest Conferences Inc. is a community based organization formed through partnerships with the following Community Futures Corporations: Dakota Ojibway, Kitayan, Northwest, Southeast, North Central Development and Cedar Lake.

CFNCD Staff Members



TIM JOHNSTON
MANAGER



TAMY BURTON
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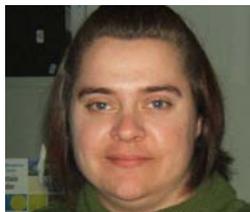
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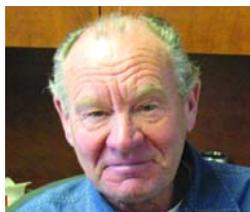
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ABORIGINAL BUSINESS
CANADA

Thompson Newcomer Settlement Services enters second year

The 2009/2010 Thompson Newcomer Settlement Services proposal has been approved by the Province's Department of Immigration and Labour (Manitoba Immigrant Integration Program) for one more year. Angelica Matiasek, Newcomer Settlement Services Coordinator

receives direction from an Advisory Committee and works out of the Community Futures North Central Development office providing assistance to Landed Immigrants, Refugees and supporting employers with immigrant employees.

Angelica provides links and follow-up between clients with specific settlement needs to available resources in the community - social, professional, government services and programs as well as conducting group and individual orientation, workshops and/or one-on-one support for topics such as housing, education, transportation, employment and child care. For more information on this project or if you are new to Thompson and have questions, contact Angelica at 677-1495 or 1-888-847-7878 or via email at ncd@northcentraldevelopment.ca



Western Economic
Diversification Canada

Diversification de l'économie
de l'Ouest Canada

Canada

COMMUNITY FUTURES NORTH CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT MISSION STATEMENT: Community Futures North Central Development will endeavour to bring together to support, develop, and promote communities, individuals, organizations, business and other appropriate stakeholders within the north central region (of Manitoba) to encourage self reliance and viability of the social and economic quality of life.