President of the King's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Minister responsible for the Pacific Economic Development Agency of Canada



Président du Conseil privé du Roi pour le Canada et ministre de la Protection civile et ministre responsible de l'Agence de développement économique du Pacifique Canada

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0G2

November 23, 2023

Community Futures Central Okanagan Community Futures North Okanagan Community Futures Okanagan Similkameen

Dear Mr. Widmer, Mr. Cornell, and Ms. Horsfield,

Congratulations on winning the *Feature Loan Award* at the 2023 Community Futures BC Provincial Conference. At the award ceremony, I had the opportunity to learn how the coordinated effort between Community Futures Central Okanagan, Community Futures North Okanagan, and Community Futures Okanagan Similkameen to support Perfit Dental Solutions is attracting jobs and innovation to the Southern Interior.

Community Futures organizations have a long history of providing critical support to small businesses in rural and remote communities across B.C. These businesses are the economic engine of our province.

Your hard work is unlocking opportunity for small businesses in your region – helping them turn ideas into reality, create local jobs, and strengthen their communities.

I wish you ongoing success as you continue to support innovation in the Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys. Congratulations again on this very special recognition.

Sincerely,

The Hon. Harjit S. Sajjan, P.C., OMM, M.S.M., CD, M.P.