

Community Futures Development Corporation

NORTH OKANAGAN

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To Whom It May Concern:

Community Futures Development Corporation of the North Okanagan recently hosted a conference on October 1-3, 2006 in Vernon, BC called *Shifting Directions – The Changing World of Work*.

The conference brought together career development practitioners and industry professionals with a shared interest of learning strategies and approaches to best face the challenges of today's rapidly changing labour market.

One extremely successful and timely component of the conference was the *Best of the Best* networking evening held on the eve of the conference. The Best of the Best evening showcased innovative employment projects and human resource practices that are effectively addressing current labour market issues such as employee retention, recruitment, training and job maintenance. Five presentations were chosen from numerous applications received from across BC and Alberta and included the Labour Futures Project presented by Brook Pearce.

From my initial contact with Brook I was extremely impressed with the level of enthusiasm and dedication he had for the Labour Futures Project. These sentiments were only reinforced during Brook's presentation. Brook clearly outlined the various components of the project, as well as how challenges of each stage were being strategically addressed. It was this latter piece that resonated most with delegates as it provided solutions to roadblocks that opened others to the benefits and possibility of such a project in their own rural communities.

In addition to the energy and enthusiasm that Brook brought to our Best of the Best evening, he also demonstrated first-rate professionalism as a presenter at our conference. Brook's preparedness, organization, responsiveness to conference requests and ease in which to work with were appreciated by conference organizers.

I believe the Labour Futures Project presentation delivered by Brook Pearce was of great value to our conference and have no hesitation recommending him for other events.

Sincerely,

Kim Lauritsen

Manager

Connections Career Centre

(Division of CFDCNO)