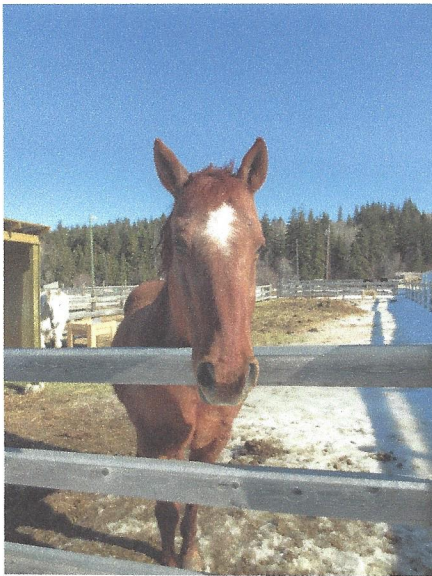
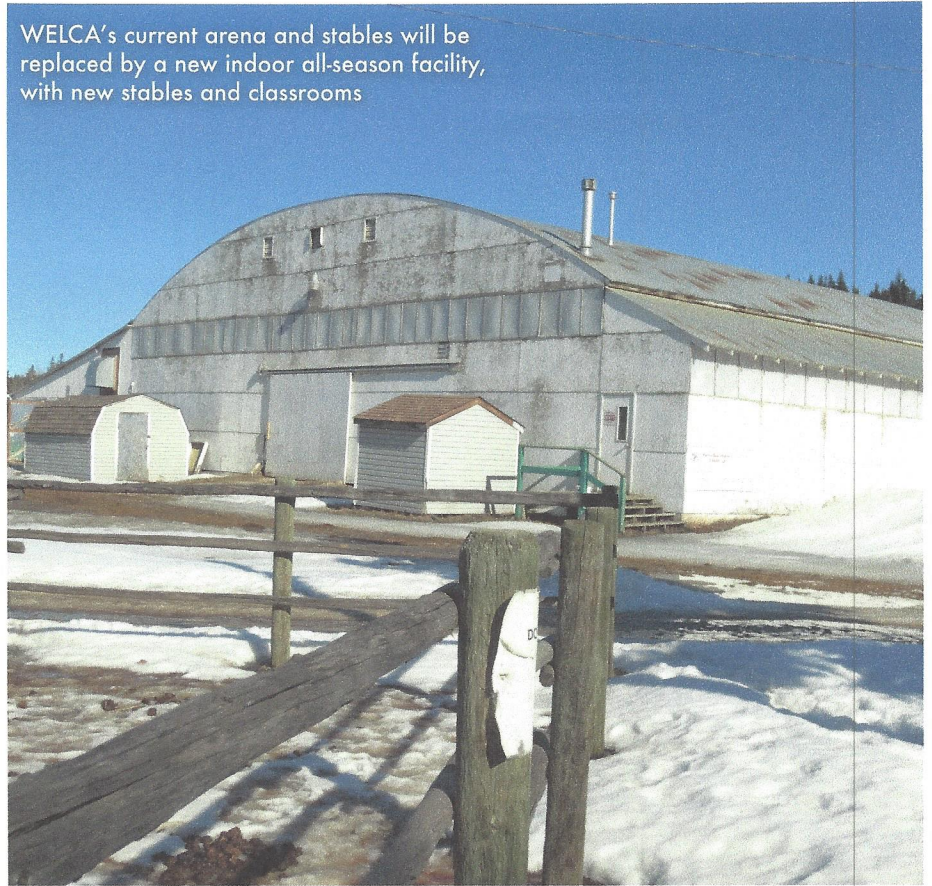


Portfolio

SPRING
2015

WELCA's current arena and stables will be replaced by a new indoor all-season facility, with new stables and classrooms



A new home for some very special teachers

After decades housing horses and thousands of hours teaching kids and adults to ride, the riding arena and stables at the Western Equine Learning Centre are on their last legs.

There are not many cities that can boast a rolling horse facility on a historic farm right in the middle of the metropolis, and Edmonton is one of the lucky few. But the Western Equine Learning Centre (WELCA) is far more than just a home for horses. This non-profit organization is also the home of programs such as the Little Bits Therapeutic Riding Association, where children with physical and mental health challenges experience equine-assisted

therapy. Local post secondary institutions partner with WELCA to give students experience in large animal veterinary skills. Each year thousands of Edmontonians attend special events at the Centre, such as show jumping or performances by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Musical Ride. The centre also offers a restored 1918 log and stone house on the grounds for special events, board meetings and receptions.

WELCA has partnered with the City of Edmonton to build a new riding arena and classroom facility, with part of the financing for the project coming from SEF.

Money on a mission.

SEF

social
enterprise
fund

Sometimes the best way to change the world is to stop dreaming and just do it.

Social enterprise is an approach that puts the desire to do something good in the community right in the middle of business. The Social Enterprise Fund provides patient capital at reasonable rates to help put these dreams to work.

We've got money on a mission.

The good work continues

Edmonton Musical Theatre

For many years this company has helped translate a passion for theatre into performance on the stage for young and old alike. They are very happy in their new home in the Woodcroft Community Hall, a move made possible with a loan from SEF.

Finance for Good

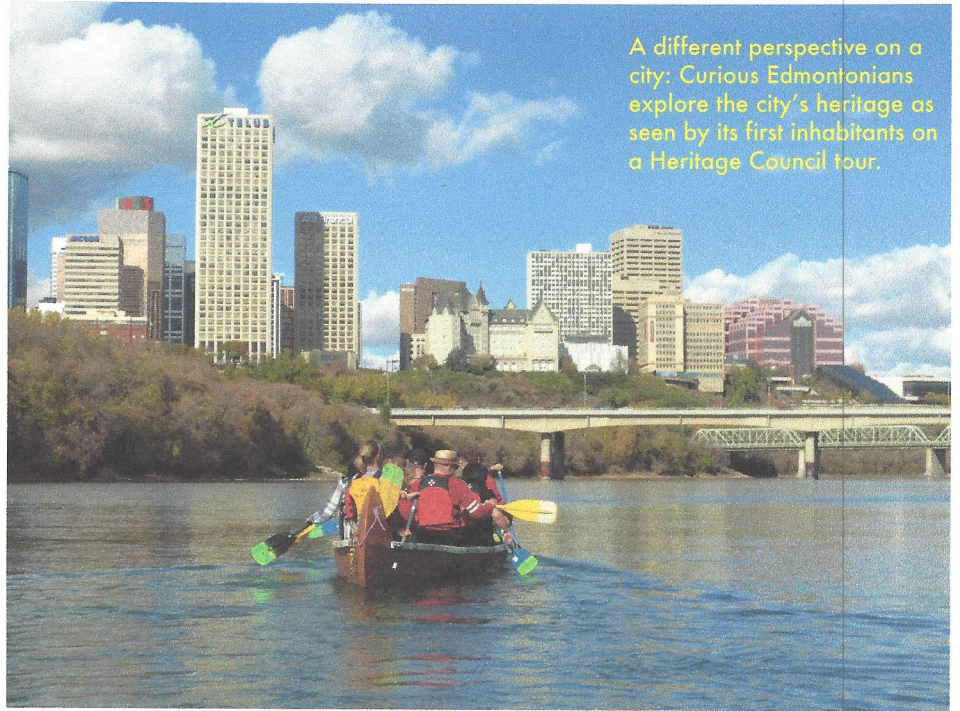
Social impact bonds are a new financial mechanism aimed at increasing capacity of social programs in local communities. Finance for Good is the first purpose-built social impact bond intermediary in Canada, working with government, service organizations and investors wishing to explore this new mechanism for community good. SEF provided the company with start-up capital.

Startup Edmonton

Startup describes itself as “a campus, co-workspace and accelerator that kickstarts and activates local startups.” Now entering its fourth year of operation, Startup continues to create buzz in the 100 year old Mercer Building, with programs and events attracting thousands of attendees and partners including Mozilla and Microsoft. SEF supported the startup of Startup with operating capital.

Centre for Race and Culture

The mission of the Centre for Race and Culture is to create a more inclusive society. After years of offering a range of training, research and consulting services primarily to the public sector, the non-profit is working to deliver its expertise in addressing complex questions through an expanded fee-for-service arm. SEF supported this work with working capital.



A different perspective on a city: Curious Edmontonians explore the city's heritage as seen by its first inhabitants on a Heritage Council tour.

Exploring the past to build the future

Unless a community understands where it has come from, it probably won't understand how its distinct personality came to be – or be able to create an inclusive future. The creation of that understanding is the mission behind the Edmonton Heritage Council.

The Council offers many ways to explore and broaden Edmontonians' understanding of their city and its past, including the *City as Museum* project. Since heritage doesn't lie solely within the walls of museums and in the hands of heritage professionals, the project works to find the city's story in archives, neighbourhoods and in the 'passion-projects' of individuals and organizations that don't necessarily identify as heritage workers. Dozens of Edmontonians have participated 'mystery' tours, where they visit unexpected spots around the city to learn about these unearthed stories.

SEF supported the Council through financing to improve and expand its operations through new office space.

A whole new inside – but the iconic fire tower stays

Patrons of the Varscona Theatre in Edmonton's Old Strathcona neighbourhood are used to the sight or the sound – water, dripping on the stage following the passage of a sudden summer storm.

The theatre, which began life as a fire hall, houses about 350 performances a year for 35,000 audience members – all in a converted 176 seat theatre. A small band of theatre companies work together in the space throughout the year, which is also “action central” during Edmonton's annual Fringe Festival – the largest in North America. With a tiny lobby, too few washrooms and the challenge of building systems past their best-before date, a renovation was long over due.

After many years of hard work, the renovation is underway in spring 2015, with re-opening scheduled for spring 2016. And for the nostalgia buffs amongst you – they are keeping the beautiful internal brick walls, and the old fire tower. So it will be just like the old days, except better, and without the wait for the bathroom.

Redemptive's shiny new fleet ready to tackle junk – and poverty



Ending poverty – one clean up job at a time

You know you should be cleaning out that basement or garage, but why start when you can't figure out how to haul away the junk? Or what to do with the stuff that your family has outgrown, but that might prove useful to someone else?

In Edmonton, there is a non-profit social enterprise that will solve your clean up dilemma, while helping to end poverty at the same time – Redemptive Developments.

Redemptive started in 2010 when three social workers at the Jasper Place Health and Wellness Centre, a front line social agency, understood that their formerly homeless clients needed more than just a roof over their heads. They needed meaningful, daily work to help maintain physical and mental health, as well as alleviating isolation. With many combined years of experience in the for-profit sector behind them, the three created Redemptive Development.

The service started simply with a single truck and two staff, but has steadily grown to offer everything from junk removal during home and

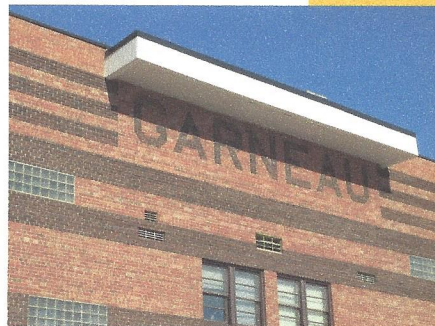
commercial renovations, to salvaging those items which might find a new home elsewhere.

SEF financing is supporting the company's continued growth through the purchase of additional trucks, bins and equipment.

Lights, camera, popcorn!

Metro Cinema is a community-based non-profit organization devoted to the exhibition and promotion of Canadian, international and independent film and video in Edmonton.

Housed in the historic Garneau Theatre just south of the High Level Bridge, Metro's audiences might encounter a Harry Potter marathon (yep, all eight movies, come dressed as your favourite character) a hard-hitting documentary on a global crisis, or the premiere of a locally produced Alberta feature – all in the same weekend. SEF provided Metro with a loan to purchase equipment.



100 year old club – with a bright future

Edmontonians love their river valley – and for more than a 100 years, the Edmonton Ski Club has been at the heart of that love affair. After all, it's not many cities that can boast a ski hill with runs from bunny hill to black diamond just a few moments from downtown, and accessible by city transit.

This non-profit has big plans for future development of the site, cementing its position as part of the city for years to come. After all, if there is anything Edmontonians know how to do, it's to enjoy all the seasons – especially the long snowy one.

SEF provided development capital to the ski club.

Still going strong!

City Ballet

Edmonton's only resident ballet company has just completed its third full professional season of neoclassical ballet, modern and contemporary dance. When City Ballet took the leap to professional status, they were able to do so with financing from SEF.

C Returns

C Returns makes green building renovations easy, whether you are a home owner, looking to upgrade a church or community hall, or greening a commercial space. C Returns offers a whole range of services from energy audits, to selecting the right energy systems, to arranging and managing the renovation project. The non-profit estimated its first dozen residential renovations will have life-time carbon savings of more than 900 tonnes of CO₂ – with lots more to come!



Matchmaker, matchmaker, find me the right clean technology

Sustainitech is in the matchmaking business - no, not a new online dating service, but matching revolutionary, sustainable technologies with challenges faced by communities across North America.

The company grew out of its sister organization, Sustainival, when the potential of finding sustainable solutions in food production, alternate energy sources and waste management for a wide range of clients became increasingly apparent. From sustainable agriculture strategies for First Nations communities, to developing indoor agriculture solutions allowing northern municipalities to produce crops year-round in Canada's coldest climates, Sustainitech adapts technologies in a way that also makes sense to the bottom line of the organizations they work with.

SEF provided Sustainitech with development capital.

Great food, right to your door

If the old saying that "you are what you eat" is true, it would just make sense to try to find the best quality food that you can for you and your family. That's the central idea behind The Organic Box.

The Organic Box has grown in a few short years to become Edmonton's largest organic food delivery service. The Edmonton family-owned company serves thousands of families and businesses in this city each week, delivering everything from fresh fruits and vegetables to baked goods, milk and hundreds of other pantry items - all of it certified organic. Their aim is not just to find the best local producers and bring their food to as many families as possible, but to do it in a way that is sustainable, supports the local communities where the food is produced, and has no net impact on the environment.

As the company's owners, Danny and Miranda Turner, explain it, "it is not just about better flavour and nutrition. It is about being part of a food cycle that cares for people and the environment. The farmers that grow your food do not use dangerous chemicals. They use practices that with each crop improves the quality of the soil. This is the ethical way: keeping farm employees healthier and harmful chemicals out of the soil and the broader eco-system."

The Organic Box has recently moved to a new 17,000 square foot distribution hub. Not only will this new space better serve the growing demand for their services, it will provide an operational centre for food trucks, farmer's market vendor storage and small scale food producers. This provincially inspected facility will offer the benefits of shared resources, opening the door for new products and expanded production.

SEF provided financing to support the move to the new distribution centre.

Sun and air put to work for the community

After years of work, and \$1.9 million in renovations, the McKernan Community League enjoying a very special new home in Edmonton.

Not only did the League gain a lot more square footage to house a wide range of activities, plus a small elevator to improve accessibility, the renovation incorporated passive solar and geothermal elements that will help the building use less non-renewable energy for heating and hot water systems. It's a long way from the original 1954 building, which had just a half-inch of felt in the attic for insulation.

The centre is a busy gathering space for the community, as well as home to the McKernan Child Care Society and the Alberta AdaptAbilities program.

SEF provided as loan for a portion of the renovation costs.



Sustainival

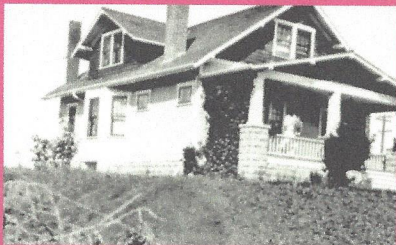
Best known as the (renewable) power behind carnival rides (a million riders and counting since 2012), Sustainival continues its mission to educate through fun. Once you see the potential of alternate energy solutions – like the oil from the french fry truck cranking out the 750 watts to operate the Gravitron or ferris wheel – almost anything seems possible. SEF supported the launch of Sustainival with operating capital.

Music Is A Weapon

It may look like a simple drumming circle or school workshop at first glance, but the people behind MIAW know that your own music making music can open whole new worlds of creativity, health and community. MIAW offers drumming workshops and interactive school residencies, inspiring new musicians both old and young. They also organize 'people powered parties', unique bicycle powered sound and light shows for good causes of all kinds. MIAW took a big leap to expand its reach through artist-in-the-schools programs across Alberta., and with a loan from SEF, purchased the equipment to make it happen.

Highland home

Marshall McLuhan, a leading 20th century thinker best known for communications theory, spent part of his childhood in the Highlands area of Edmonton. The former McLuhan home was recently purchased by Arts Habitat of Edmonton, not just to honour his legacy, but also to create a contemplative centre for arts and ideas. Arts Habitat has located its offices in the home, with space available to individuals and organizations working in literary arts and creative thought. SEF provided the mortgage for the purchase.



Earth's General Store's new outlet on 104th Street in Edmonton – in the heart of the city!



Your one-stop shop – for a better world

Looking for compost worms? Or a way to lessen your environmental footprint through a new source of protein – say edible crickets perhaps? A way to consume less of the world's resources through your daily consumption habits? Or maybe you'd just like some excellent tasty food for lunch, or to pick up on the way home for dinner. Then Earth's General Store is for you.

Since 1991, Earth's General Store has been the go-to place in Edmonton to find the tools and knowledge to live a greener, more sustainable life - how to consume less, more wisely, fairly and locally. The stores carry supplies for all aspects of your life, and in recent years have expanded to carry a wide array of food products, including fresh, packaged and frozen food products.

SEF provided financing to Earth's General Store to open a new outlet in the heart of Edmonton, bringing their experience in making the world a better place downtown residents and office tower occupants every day. Stop in for lunch at the Organic Café housed in the 104th Street store – you just might become addicted to their hummus – not to mention the edible crickets.

Turning around lives through good solid work

Companies that hire Verto Labour Services are looking for a good day's work – and that is exactly what they get. Eager young workers, trained in basic worksite rules, showing up on time, supported by a crew leader and ready to do whatever needs to be done. But what Verto's customers often don't realize that they have made an important contribution to turning around a young life.

Verto is an off-shoot of YOUCAN Youth Services, an organization that has provided programs for at-risk youth in Edmonton for over a decade. Believing that employment is one of the best ways to see at-risk youth move out of harm's way and into economic independence, YOUCAN decided to take matters into their own hands and created the company Verto Labour Services Inc.

Verto, which is Latin for turn around or change, is seeing wins on all fronts. Their customers receive a great labour service, and some of the company's profits will go back to YOUCAN to enhance its programs. The youth win by gaining real-life work experience, the first move towards a bright future. And unlike most employers, Verto can measure its success by one more unusual measure; namely how many of their employees are "stolen" and given full time employment by the companies that first contracted them through Verto.

SEF provided Verto with an operating loan to support the company's growth.



Young performers from the Calgary Opera and the Calgary Stampede at the celebration of the joint announcement in March 2015.

Unique Calgary partnership will make beautiful music

The Calgary Opera is breaking new ground – literally – through a unique partnership with the Calgary Stampede, and development funds from SEF.

The Opera, well known as a leader in commissioning new, original works on Canadian and Albertan themes, and for its commitment to training new performers, has been working for several years to create a new production centre. Through a recently announced partnership with that other great Calgary institution, the Stampede, the Opera be part of the Stampede's Youth Campus. The Stampede is providing the land where the Calgary Opera will build the 50,000 square foot production centre, including practice halls, administrative offices, plus a 300-seat rehearsal and performance space.

Both organizations have a history and commitment to working with young performers. At least 70 percent of the space in the new centre will be available for use of not only the founding partners, but the more than 160 community organizations that currently make use of the Opera's current home at the Arrata Centre, along with those that make use of the Stampede grounds.

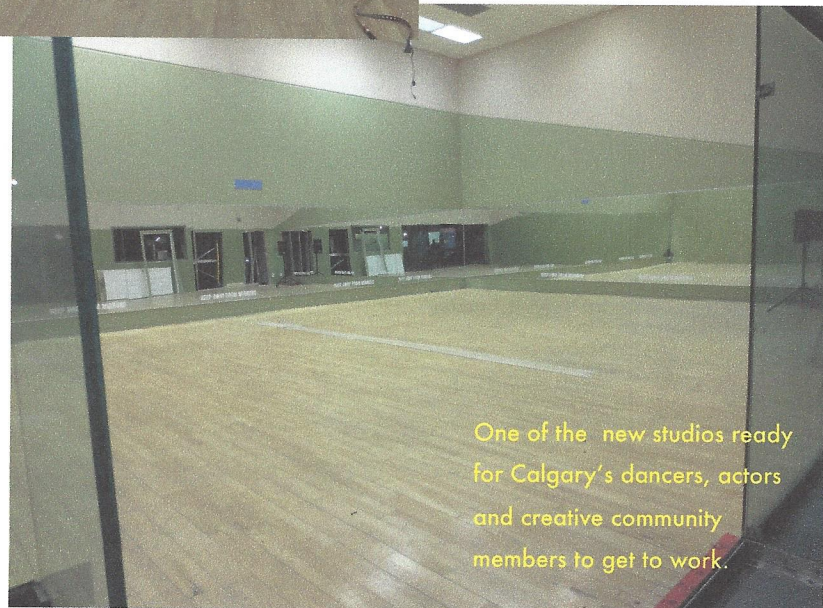
In addition to the Opera's main season (which attracts about 3,400 regular subscribers and 85 percent capacity audiences) the Calgary Opera works hard to bring new audiences to the magic of this special discipline, from school programs where kids write and perform their own operas, to programs that support ticket costs for those who might not otherwise be able to attend.

Big dreams can come true – with a lot of hard work

Many non-profit organizations dream of owning their own space, but few are able to make that dream come true. Calgary's Evergreen Theatre is one of those few.

Evergreen is best known for helping kids discover science through the art of theatre. They present touring shows and school residency programs, puppet camp and delight audiences in the Big Green Puppet Bus. For a number of years they have also provided shared leased accommodation for other non-profits, an experience which inspired them to take the next step of owning their own building.

With the support of SEF, Evergreen has purchased a 24,000 square foot facility that will boast 24/7 access, ten flexible studios, offices, production and performance space, storage, props and costume workshop, a visitor lounge, prep/change area, and underground heated parking. As described by Evergreen, "this project is an innovative venture: a community-centric, not-for-profit arts facility supported by Alberta foundations and endowments... this facility supports Evergreen Theatre's mandate to promote the arts through space provision to artists and the greater community. We offer cost-effective spaces with the highest functionality possible." Although the building will not open until Fall 2015, it has already attracted eight additional full-time resident groups, with many more eager to be part of the fun.



One of the new studios ready for Calgary's dancers, actors and creative community members to get to work.



How easy is this? Your smart phone helps food tell its story

Localize helps food tell a story – with tasty results

What if your food could talk?

If only those potatoes and carrots could tell you where they grew. If the cheese could tell you about the milk used to make it, and whether the goats can wander the pasture. If any of the ingredients in the loaf of bread were trucked from across the continent. And whether the “local” label actually means the producer lives in the community.

Localize has set out to help food tell its story – so that the consumer can judge for themselves whether the item is truly the product of local producers. The Edmonton company works with grocers to clearly label local products through a shelf labeling system. The labels give customers a detailed rating system based on location and ownership of the producer, sourcing of ingredients, and sustainability. A QR code on the shelf label allows customers to use their smartphones to explore a full profile about the product and the producer.

As Localize describes its mission, “we make it easy for grocers, producers and consumers to make the local connection.” By working closely with grocers to identify local food businesses in their stores, and to get the most ‘local’ food products onto their store shelves, Localize is having a noticeable effect in boosting the sales of those local products. As a result, more and more grocers are

“Localizing” their stores, with over 300 already signed on in Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

And not just grocers, producers and consumers are noticing Localize and its work. In May 2014, the company took home the \$100,000 TEC VenturePrize along with the Edmonton Journal’s People’s Choice Award as part of TEC Edmonton’s annual business planning competition. It’s not the only prize for Localize – they took home a \$20,000 first prize at the 2013 Social Enterprise World Forum in Calgary.

Learn a language – and discover a culture

What could be more enchanting than comparing notes about this year’s Beaujolais Nouveau, *en français*, while never having to leave Edmonton? Or joining 1,200 others for a fabulous *Dîner en blanc*—on the banks of the North Saskatchewan? You don’t need to just dream of exploring the best of French culture close to home while Alliance Française of Edmonton is at work.

Along with offering popular French language classes, Alliance strives to provide a full range of activities for its members, students and guests: from French films to lectures to wine tastings and cooking classes, to social events where you can master your command of the language of love.

SEF provided bridge financing to Alliance Française of Edmonton.

Partnerships make impact investing possible

The Social Enterprise Fund was created through a collaboration between the City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Community Foundation. Innovators in both organizations saw the need in the city, and with help from others such as the United Way, created an initiative that now serves social enterprises and social entrepreneurs across Alberta.

So far the fund has invested over \$19 million in more than 30 projects since SEF’s launch in 2008. More than \$4.5 million has already been paid back, ready to do more good in the community as new loans.

Shall we talk?

Jane Bisbee
Executive Director
jane@socialenterprisefund.ca

Gail Yakemchuk
Administrative Associate
gail@socialenterprisefund.ca

9613 111 Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta
T5G 0A9
780.756.0660

www.socialenterprisefund.ca