

Holly Sorgen Bio

After graduating with her Bachelor of Arts degree, Holly started as a Youth Programs Coordinator for Community Futures Grande Prairie & Region (formerly SMEDA Business Development Corporation) in May of 1997. Over the next 2 years, she coordinated and facilitated two Youth Service Canada programs, assisted with the I Want to be a Millionaire program and assisted with the design and development of a proposal for a new Youth Connections program in the Grande Prairie region. The contract was awarded to the organization in Feb 2000 and she spent a year as Assistant Director and a subsequent 4 years as Program Director. During that time Holly became highly involved in the Career Development field, taking roles on the Career Development Association of Alberta (CDAA,) becoming Chair of the Building Tomorrow Today Career Consultation planning committee, spearheading the start up of a local branch of the CDAA and becoming a Circuit Coach Master Trainer.

Holly moved into the Executive Director role for Community Futures in October 2005. Since then, she has been involved in the development and facilitation of several Community Economic Development projects ranging from feasibility studies, non-profit strategic planning, new technology advancement and development and community capacity building. She also assists with business meetings and lending activity and fills a number of roles, including sitting on the Community Futures Alberta Board, the provincial Professional Development Committee, the Pan-West Community Futures Professional Development Committee, and the Entrepreneurial Learning Centre (video conference) committee.

She is the President of the Rotary Club of Grande Prairie – Swan City and is an active and engaged Rotarian and she was recently awarded the Laura Swan Award for staff at the recent Community Futures symposium in Calgary, AB.

On a personal note, Holly has been and is involved with a number of other grass roots movements, including the inception and governance of the Sunrise House Youth Emergency Shelter and has recently joined the board of the Grande Prairie Mental Health Society. She is passionate about communities and community-driven approaches and looks forward to helping communities establish strong and focused CED goals, strategies and plans.