

Coastal Community awards \$20,000 in post-secondary scholarships

Vancouver Island, BC, Canada – August 10, 2023: Since 2005, Coastal Community Credit Union has been helping local grade twelve students with the next step in their educational journeys. This year, eight high school seniors received \$2,000 each to help with their post-secondary plans for undergraduate college or university, trade school or special interest school.

The application to apply comes with a twist: Students apply by submitting a plan for a project to improve their community. Based on these plans, eight students are chosen for a \$2,000 scholarship, with two selected as overall winners. This year Carson Prescesky of Dover Bay Secondary School and Lothar Myck of Ucluelet Secondary School took top honours. In addition to their \$2,000 award, they will each receive up to \$1,000 to implement their projects, as well as an additional \$1,000 scholarship.

Carson's plan is to bring together mental health awareness with hockey, particularly through support for the Buddy Check for Jesse program. Among other things, this caring student will host a Buddy Check for Jesse booth at the Nanaimo Minor Hockey tryouts this summer, and put together a package to hand out to Competitive Division coaches about the program. The package will include green laces and helmet stickers for the players to show their support of the program. There will also be a donation jar at the table and a fundraising webpage. All funds collected will go to the Buddy Check for Jesse organization.

Lothar's project had a similar theme of caring for others. This accomplished musician organized and participated in a free community concert/social event to support connectedness and mental health. Together with an opening act, Lothar performed live music on June 23rd from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the local Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans Club (ANAF). The event offered free pizza and drinks, as well as the chance to win door prizes like certificates to local spas and restaurants, chiropractic visits, and local counseling.

Congratulations to each of our eight winners! They all sent in creative and thoughtful plans.

Carson Prescesky	Dover Bay Secondary School, Nanaimo
Lothar Myck	Ucluelet Secondary School, Ucluelet
Finley Lan	Mark. R. Isfeld Secondary School, Courtenay
Hannah Trieu	Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School, Courtenay
Kolby Andrew	Nanaimo Christian School, Nanaimo
Oliver Anderson	Kwalikum Secondary School, Qualicum Beach
William Grant	North Island Secondary School, Port McNeill
Kate Smith	Mount Douglas Secondary School, Victoria

"Every year we get amazing proposals from students across the Islands on how to make a difference in their communities," said Kristin Hocking, Community Experience Specialist.

"We wanted our program to be as inclusive as possible, and the unique criteria for community betterment allows the broadest range of students to apply."

Coastal Community Credit Union acknowledges that we are located on the Lands of the Coast Salish, Nuu-chah-nulth and Kwakiutl ancestors and families, whose historical relationships with the Land continue to this day. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live, learn, work and play in their traditional and unceded territories.

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About Coastal Community Credit Union

Improving financial health, enriching lives, and building healthier communities... These are at the core of who we are and what we do at Coastal Community Credit Union (CCCU).

As the largest Island-based financial organization, we serve over 120,000 members and clients on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

To help our members and clients improve their financial health, our business lines offer a full range of products and services for personal, business and commercial banking, insurance* and wealth management** through Credential Securities. Our Island communities are our homes, so we make decisions based on knowledge of the local market, strengthening local economies. And we never stop looking for ways to improve the way we do business.

As a financial co-operative, we are 100% member owned. Our shareholders are our neighbours and fellow citizens, so we are focused on building strong and vibrant communities by keeping our earnings and our community efforts local. Coastal Community invests over half a million dollars into communities annually across the Islands through community funding grants, education awards, sponsorships and fundraising initiatives.

Want to learn more? Visit cccu.ca or join us on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

*References to "insurance" refer to the insurance services provided through Coastal Community Insurance Services (2007) Ltd., an affiliate of Coastal Community Credit Union.

** References to "wealth management," "financial planning" and "investments" refer to mutual funds, other securities and securities related financial planning services offered through Credential Securities, a division of Credential Qtrade Securities Inc. Credential Securities is a registered mark owned by Aviso Wealth Inc. Coastal Community Private Wealth Group is a division of Coastal Community Financial Management Inc., which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Coastal Community Credit Union. Coastal Community Financial Management Inc. is a licensed life insurance agency offering financial planning, life insurance and investments.