



Coastal Community Credit Union invests \$158,000 in Vancouver Island communities

For immediate release

Vancouver Island, January 21, 2007 – In keeping with its vision to be the best choice for financial and community leadership, Coastal Community Credit Union is awarding a total of \$158,000 in grants -- from \$1,000 to \$20,000 -- to 41 community organizations to fund worthy initiatives across Vancouver Island!

Community response to the program in its second year has been tremendous with over 100 applications to the Coastal Spirit Fund representing almost a \$1 million in funding requests.

Coastal Spirit Fund grants are allocated regionally in the following focus areas: the Arts & Culture, Community Service, Economic Development, Education, Environment, Health, Sports & Recreation, and Youth. Funding decisions are made at a regional level to best meet the unique needs of the many communities the Credit Union serves.

Last November, the Credit Union launched three volunteer Community Connection Councils, whose primary purpose is to review and recommend applications for funding to the Coastal Spirit Fund. "The Community Connection Councils provide a vital link to our communities, ensuring that our funding dollars are going where they are needed most," says Joe Cristiano, Coastal's Senior Vice President of Marketing. "We plan to launch another four Councils later this year to provide complete representation of the regions we serve.

Including the \$158,000 Coastal Spirit Fund, Coastal Community provided \$310,000 in 2007 to Vancouver Island communities through a variety of community initiatives. "Our community investment programs demonstrate Coastal Community's commitment to Vancouver Island and our vision to be the best choice for financial and community leadership," says Coastal's President and CEO, Garth Sheane. "We're proud to be able to contribute to our communities in this way."

Coastal Community would like to congratulate the 2007 Coastal Spirit Fund recipients:

2007 Coastal Spirit Fund Community Partners	Event or Project
The Abbeyfield House	Automatic Door
Alert Bay Seafest Society	Seafest 2008
Amazing Grace Ecological Society	Improvement of Commons Gardens
Black Creek Community	Heritage Legacy Pergola
Campbell River Beacon Club	Fit & Fun
Clay Tree Society for People with development disabilities	Vehicle replacement project
Community Arts Council of the Alberni Valley	Rollin Art interior upgrade
Comox Valley Boys & Girls Club	6 th Annual Golf Tournament
Comox Valley Community Literacy & Learning Society	Adult Literacy Tudor Program
Comox Valley Therapeutic Riding	Horse Sponsorship program
Cowichan Independent Living	Recreation & Adaptive Sports
Cowichan Valley Youth Rugby	Cowichan Valley Elementary Schools
Errington Therapeutic Riding Association	Riding program for Special Needs
Errington War Memorial Hall Association	Stage upgrade project
Family Place Partnership Program	Upgrades to Kitchen & Child Minding area
Filberg Festival	26 th Annual Filberg Festival
Greater Nanaimo Chamber of Commerce	Leadership BC Nanaimo
Heart & Stroke Foundation	2008 Heart Month Breakfast-Title Sponsor
Milner Gardens & Woodland Society	Shoots with Roots Educational Program
Mt Cain Alpine Park Society	Upgrade Windows and Fascia Boards
Nanaimo & Area Land Trust	Mt. Benson Acquisition Campaign
Nanaimo Arts Alive	Arts Alive Summer School (2008)
Nanaimo Community Gardens	Gleaning Project
Nanaimo Marine Rescue Society	New Boat House Project
Nanoose Bay Activities & Recreation Society	Generator Program
Oceanside Track & Field	Electronic Timer & Long Jump

Opportunities Career Services Society	Asset Building Program- Year 2
Pacific Sport	Operation Red Nose (2008)
Parksville Curling Club	Youth & Special Needs Curling
People for a Healthy Community on Gabriola	Violence Prevention response
Port Alberni Tall Ships	Festival of Sails
Serenity Child & Parent Society	Furnishings the Serenity House Pilot Project
Sid Williams Theatre	Phantom of the Opera
St. Joseph's General Hospital	Purchase of a Colonoscope
The Salvation Army	4 th Annual Charity Golf Classic
The Sointula Resource Society	Youth Resource Society
The Port Theatre	Schools On Stage
Tidemark Theatre	Youth Theatre Arts
United Way Central Island	50th Anniversary Event-Title Sponsor
Vancouver Island Arts Festivals Society	2008 International Children's Festival Volunteer Force Program
Wickanninish Community School Society	After School Program

Coastal Community Credit Union thanks all who applied to the 2007 Coastal Spirit Fund. Community Groups interested in applying to the 2008 Coastal Spirit Fund, or other sponsorship programs, are invited to visit Coastal's website at www.cccu.ca.

About Coastal Community Credit Union

Coastal Community Credit Union is the largest credit union based on Vancouver Island. From Victoria to Port Hardy, the Credit Union offers quality financial solutions and unsurpassed service through community branch, financial planning, business and insurance locations. Passionate about its communities, the Credit Union provides financial, in-kind and other resources to support charity and non-profit groups through its Community Investment programs. Visit Coastal Community on the web at www.cccu.ca.

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