

\$133,000 Boost to Community Groups Thanks to Coastal Community Credit Union

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 18, 2010- Vancouver Island & the Gulf Islands. Across Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, 59 community organizations will start the year off with a generous funding boost from Coastal Community Credit Union.

The company's Coastal Spirit Fund will distribute \$133,000 to island community groups and initiatives this month. Since the Fund's inception four years ago, almost \$600,000 has been shared with 212 community initiatives.

The Coastal Spirit Fund puts Coastal Community's commitment to supporting the unique needs of island communities into action. Says Gail Adrienne, Executive Director of NALT, "As funding recipients this year, all of us at the Nanaimo & Area Land Trust are delighted with the news that NALT will be receiving such a generous grant. This funding is crucial to the success of the Departure Creek Restoration Project, and it will provide important leverage to our request for a matching grant from Environment Canada."

Over 170 community groups applied to the 2009-2010 Coastal Spirit Fund, representing \$1.6 million in requests. Funding requests were reviewed and decided by the Credit Union's eight Community Connection Councils. The Councils are made up of volunteer Credit Union members representing people and communities in various regions of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

"On behalf of everyone at Coastal Community, I would like to thank all organizations that applied for funding this year, and to also acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our volunteer Council members," remarks Gail Preus, Chair of the Credit Union's Community Involvement committee of the Board of Directors. "We always receive an abundance of requests, and we value that community groups across the islands look to Coastal Community for its commitment and leadership in building healthier communities."

The Credit Union supports all types of community needs through the Coastal Spirit Fund, including Arts & Culture, Community Service, Education, Environment, Health, Sports & Recreation, and Youth.

"We believe in giving to our communities because our communities are our home," adds Joe Cristiano, Chief Community & Marketing Officer. "Through this program, our Council members and community organizations help Coastal Community make a meaningful difference in the communities we serve." Concludes Sam Sommers, Board member and Chair of Dawn to Dawn's Residential Program committee, "The Dawn to Dawn: Action on Homelessness Society is very grateful to be a Coastal Spirit Fund recipient. This is not only the awarding of a grant, but a worthwhile and meaningful investment in our communities."

Coastal Community Credit Union thanks all who applied to the 2009-2010 Coastal Spirit Fund. Community groups interested in applying to the 2010-2011 Coastal Spirit Fund, or other community investment programs, are invited to visit their website at www.cccu.ca.

About Coastal Community Credit Union

Serving Island communities for more than 60 years, Coastal Community Credit Union is the largest Credit Union based on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. With more than 80,000 members, 650-plus employees, and over \$1.6 billion in assets, Coastal Community offers complete financial services and solutions through an extensive network of personal banking, insurance, investments, and business services centres across Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Passionate about the communities it serves, Coastal Community supports community organizations through various programs and the volunteer efforts of its dedicated employees. For more information, visit www.cccu.ca.

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For more information contact:

Olivia Mongard, Communications Specialist, Coastal Community Credit Union

olivia.mongard@cccu.ca

250-716-2834

2010 COASTAL SPIRIT FUND RECIPIENTS

Activities Unlimited of Cowichan Valley	Facility Improvements
Alberni Valley Community School Society	Parent and Toddler Program
Alert Bay Artfest	Alert Bay 3rd Annual Artfest
Anderton Therapeutic Gardens	Upgrade to Enabling Garden
Arrowsmith Community Enhancement Society	Building Renovation
Arrowsmith Search and Rescue Society	Replacement Command Vehicle
Bard to Broadway Theatre Society	Equipment
BC Forest Discovery Centre	Bigleaf Maple Syrup Festival
Black Creek Community Association	Membership Database Project
Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Vancouver Island	Facility Improvements
Campbell River Alano Club	Facility Upgrade Equipment
Campbell River Beacon Club	Fit and Fun
Campbell River Community Arts Council	Banner Project
Campbell River Head Injury Support Society	Building Purchase
Campbell River Hospice Society	Annual Angel Rock Dinner, Dance and Auction
Campbell River Shoreline Arts Society	Transformations on the Shore
Canadian Diabetes Association	Events in Victoria and Nanaimo
Comox Valley Boys & Girls Club	Golf Tournament
Comox Valley Head Injury Society	Food Program
Courtenay Little Theatre Society	50th Anniversary Production
Cumberland Events Society	Emergency Management Initiative
CV Community Adult Literacy and Learning Society	Tutoring Program
Dawn to Dawn: Action on Homelessness Society	My Own Home - Residential Program
Discovery Coast Greenways Land Trust	2010 Haig Brown Kids Camp
Errington Volunteer Fire Department	Equipment
Gabriola Commons Foundation	Multi-purpose Structure
Hornby Denman Community Health Care Society	Health Care Centre
Kitty Cat P.A.L. Society	Safe Kitten Traps
Kiwanis Hilton Children's Centre	Open Doors Project
Lasqueti Last Resort Society	Health Clinic
Mid Island Wheelchair Sport Club	Gaming Funds
MS Kick for the Cure 10-hour Marathon Soccer Game	10 Hour Marathon Soccer Game
Nanaimo & Area Land Trust Society	Departure Creek Revitalization Project
Nanaimo & District Track & Field Club	Re-surfacing of Rotary Bowl
Nanaimo Arts Council	Vancouver Island Short Film Festival
Nanaimo Child Development Centre	HUG Campaign
Nanaimo Foodshare Society	Foodshare Kitchen Upgrade
Nanaimo Volunteer and Information Centre Society	Workshops
Newbark Canine Rescue & Rehoming Society	'Adopt Me!'
North Island Early Child Development Society	Moe the Mouse
North VI Salmonid Enhancement Association	Quatse Salmon Stewardship Centre
Oceanside Community Arts Council	Soundwaves Community Music Project
Oceanside Hospice Society	Supplies and Equipment
Pacific Rim Arts Society	Workshops and Festival
Pacific Rim Hospice Society	Living with Memory Loss
Parksville Seniors Activity and Drop in Centre	Furniture Replacement
Port Hardy Youth Wellness Group	Port Hardy Wellness Group
Roots of Empathy	Programming
Santa's Workshop Society	Santa's Workshop Annual Operation
Sayward Community Education Trust	Sayward Bursary
Stone Soup Family Resource Program	Aboriginal Culture Program
The John Howard Society of North Island	KidStart
The Salvation Army	Kettle Kick Off
Tidemark Theatre Society	Youth Theatre Arts
Vancouver Island Symphony	Education and Outreach Programs
VI North Women's Resource Society	School Supply Drive
Westcoast Community Resources Society	Prevention Education Program
Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society	Antique Truck Show
Y.A.N.A.	Auction and Dinner