



### **Coastal Community Shares its Community Spirit**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
**December 14, 2009**

**Campbell River, B.C.:** The spirit of sharing is in action at Coastal Community Credit Union this holiday season.

“Sharing our Community Spirit” is an organization-wide charitable initiative that is underway at Coastal Community locations in Campbell River, as well as across Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. From now until Christmas, Coastal Community employees will be supporting a variety of local causes through in-house initiatives, and are welcoming the support of members, clients, and the general public.

“Our employees donate their time, expertise, and support to many worthy causes throughout the year,” remarks Joe Cristiano, Coastal Community’s Chief Community & Marketing Officer, “but their efforts come in full force in December because the need is so great.”

The Discovery Harbour branch will be supporting an “angel tree” at the Coast Discovery Inn by purchasing some of the items requested on the gift tag decorations. Employees also recently teamed up with the Quadra Island branch to collect \$300 worth of toys for the Knights of Columbus Christmas hampers and \$175 in cash for the Needle and Arts Group, a charity that knits hats, toques, and scarves for chemotherapy patients at Campbell River Hospital. On top of that, this energetic team has so far raised over \$900 for local charities by raffling gift baskets and wreaths. Additional corporate donations include turkeys for the Salvation Army and a cash donation to the Women’s Centre.

If you drop in at the Discovery Harbour branch, you can still buy raffle tickets for such tempting items as baskets for children aged three to six; a bath accessory basket; a handy person basket; two raku ceramic wall hangings; and other items. Don’t miss out on Cookies in a Jar, that extra-special dry cookie mix lovingly prepared by Coastal Community employees, according to a secret recipe. It makes a great hostess gift. All proceeds will be donated to local charitable organizations.

The Willow Point branch is collecting for the local food bank and the SPCA. “There’s a lot of collection going on for needy people, but a lot of these people also have pets. Because our area has been hit hard economically, many people are not able to keep their pets, so our animal shelter has been feeling the pinch,” branch manager Shauna Helson said. The SPCA is asking for pet food, blankets, and office supplies.

Meanwhile, employees at Coastal Community's central operations department in Campbell River have presented seven big boxes of food and \$200 in cash to the food bank's River Relief Truck.

Coastal Community employees are excited to put their spirit of giving in action this holiday season, and invite anyone interested in making a donation or contribution to talk to a Coastal Community Representative. "We wish the best to everyone during the holidays," concludes Cristiano, "and welcome our members, clients, and the public at large to share their community spirit by donating what they can this Christmas season."

***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](http://www.cccu.ca).*

-30-

**For more information contact:**

Olivia Mongard, Communications Specialist  
Coastal Community Credit Union  
[olivia.mongard@cccu.ca](mailto:olivia.mongard@cccu.ca)  
250-716-2834



Employees from Coastal Community's central operations department in Campbell River bring seven big boxes of food and \$200 in cash to Dave Reynolds of River Radio, to help fill up the River Relief Truck



Employees at Coastal Community's Discovery Harbour branch in Campbell River in front of the gift baskets they are raffling off.