

Coastal Community Shares its Community Spirit

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Vancouver Island, 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 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.”

Employees at Coastal Community locations in southern Vancouver Island are committed to showing their support for this organizational cause, in their own unique ways.

Employees at the Coastal Community insurance services office in Victoria are collecting non-perishable food items for the Mustard Seed Street Church Food Bank. At the Duncan insurance services office, employees are also busy collecting food donations and, in support of recent flood victims, will be making a corporate contribution to the Salvation Army. “The people affected by the recent flooding in Duncan are our fellow community citizens. We felt compelled to do our part by supporting the Salvation Army during the “Sharing our Community Spirit” initiative,” says Corrine Gardner, Duncan’s insurance office agency manager.

At Coastal Community’s Chemainus location, a variety of charitable initiatives are happening from now until Christmas as part of “Sharing our Community Spirit.” A Christmas bazaar, occurring each Friday until December 18th, has been organized by the employees at Coastal Community’s Chemainus location in support of Harvest House. The space beneath the in-branch Christmas tree is quickly being filled with unwrapped gifts and food donations. Employees are also volunteering at Little Town Christmas on December 19th. The Coastal Community bus will be present at this event for the community to fill with non-perishable food items. To top it all off, Chemainus employees are also putting together three Christmas hampers for families in need.

When asked about the motivation behind the variety of charitable initiatives happening at Coastal Community's Chemainus location, Shawna McPhillips, branch manager, replied, "This is our tradition. We enjoy sharing our community spirit all year long, but during the holiday season, we become even more inspired to make a difference, and the community's support fuels our motivation."

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.

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Coastal Community employee Natasha Bennett and the donated gifts at the Chemainus Branch.



Employees Claire Ronningen and Jason Willems from Coastal Community's Chemainus branch in front of handmade gifts being sold at the Christmas bazaar.