

## Coastal Community's 2010 Scholarship Recipients Look to Make a Visible Difference

Coastal Community awards eleven students across Vancouver Island with \$1,500 each in Coastal Community's 2010 Scholarship Program. Coastal Community opens this program to students in grades 11 and 12, and asks them to submit project ideas to improve on a social, economic, or environmental need in their community, and to demonstrate a commitment to community leadership. The student with the overall best project idea is awarded the opportunity to fund their project with up to \$1,500, and will also receive an additional \$500 scholarship upon completion of their project.

2010 project ideas ranged from gathering volunteers for community clean up days to preparing supply packs for homeless youth to plastic bag recycling programs. "It is great to see that so many youth are passionate about making a difference in their communities," said Allyson Prescesky, Manager of Community Experience and Communications. "Each applicant approached their cause from a unique perspective, and it's refreshing to see that kind of 'outside the box' thinking from the youth in our communities".

Dover Bay Secondary School student, Lesley Martin, was this year's overall winner, and will be implementing her project idea to upgrade one of the washroom facilities at the Clay Tree Society in South Nanaimo. Her project includes installing new doorjambes on the heavy door to allow for easier access for people in wheelchairs, tearing out the forty-five year-old flooring, installing new sinks, as well as freshening up the décor with new mirrors, lighting, and a couple coats of paint on the walls, stalls and ceilings.

Prescesky said, "We are proud to support initiatives such as this one, as we know that the people who use this facility will benefit directly from this upgrade. The Clay Tree Society for People with Developmental Disabilities has created an environment where individuals are encouraged to learn new skills, move beyond their limitations, and help other people. Our recommendation committee feels privileged to have the opportunity to support this project."

Congratulations to the 2010 Coastal Community Scholarship Award Recipients:

|                       |                |  |
|-----------------------|----------------|--|
| Alicia Pawluk         | Victoria       | Homeless Packs for Youth               |
| Ellen Warner          | Duncan         | Cleaning up the City of Totems         |
| Paulina Slobodan      | Nanaimo        | Plastic Bag Recycling Program          |
| Amandeep Singh Parhar | Nanaimo        | The Social Network Project             |
| Lesley Martin         | Nanaimo        | The Clay Tree Society Washroom Upgrade |
| Meghan Carver         | Nanaimo        | Mountain Bike Trails Clean-up          |
| Chelsea Henley        | Qualicum Beach | Let Them Play Project                  |
| Collette Child        | Port Hardy     | Ikada Kalawi Community Compost         |
| Hannah Chester        | Port McNeill   | Port Hardy Food Bank                   |
| Max Barron            | Nanaimo        | Wheel Chair Accessible Garden Space    |
| Kelly McLaughlin      | Port Hardy     | Port Hardy Pound                       |

Coastal Community would like to thank all of this year's applicants, and wants to wish them all the success in their future endeavors.

**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, 625-plus employees, and over \$2 billion in assets under administration, Coastal Community offers caring and helpful service through an extensive network of personal banking, insurance, investment and business services centres. We are passionate about building stronger relationships with our members, clients, employees and communities to improve financial health, enrich people's lives and build healthier communities. Visit us on the web at [www.cccu.ca](http://www.cccu.ca).*

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