



Coastal Community Credit Union Mortgages Make a Difference

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nanaimo – February 1, 2006: Nanaimo based Habitat for Humanity is getting a \$6,300 boost from Coastal Community Credit Union to support its building and ReStore initiatives in South Central Island region. The Credit Union earmarked ten dollars towards Habitat for Humanity from every new mortgage and mortgage renewal generated from its 2005 “Bring Your Mortgage Home” program.

Habitat for Humanity Nanaimo believes that everyone deserves simple, decent, safe and affordable housing. Operating from Chemainus to Qualicum, their mission is to eliminate poverty housing in our communities.

The donation will be used primarily toward the construction of a new home in Nanaimo for Brenda Wiebe and her daughter, Shawne. The Habitat home will help Brenda, a part-time Aboriginal Education Assistant at Forest Park Elementary in Nanaimo, to build a future for herself and her daughter through owning her own home. Habitat Nanaimo’s Executive Director Mark Warrior says, “With the support of community partners like Coastal Community Credit Union and our ongoing ReStore initiatives we look forward to helping more families in Nanaimo achieve the dream of home ownership.”

Families apply to Habitat affiliates for a house and are chosen based on their need, willingness to participate in the process and ability to repay the mortgage. A family is eligible if their income is below the poverty line, as set by the government for their particular region.

Nanaimo Habitat also operates a ReStore, proceeds from which help to finance the construction of Habitat homes. The ReStore accepts donations of new and used building materials from individuals, retailers, businesses, as well as items salvaged from the deconstruction of buildings that would otherwise have ended up in the landfill. When people donate to a ReStore they are helping to build homes for families who would otherwise not be able to afford one.

Habitat for Humanity is a grassroots organization with global reach. Ninety percent of funds raised by Habitat affiliates go toward building homes for struggling families in our community. The remaining ten percent goes to the organization’s national office to build homes in countries such as Bangladesh, where the cost of a basic house is only \$600. People can help by donating their money, time, tools and building materials or simply by shopping at the ReStore.

Each year Coastal Community Credit Union chooses community partners to share in the success of its Mortgage Campaign. “Our partnership with Habitat for Humanity is an important one”, says Dean Rathwell, Coastal’s Vice President of Community Investment. “Habitat for Humanity shares our vision of leading our community to make a difference in the lives of others.”

Coastal Community Credit Union is the largest credit union based on Vancouver Island serving communities from Victoria to Port Hardy through 20 branches and 19 insurance offices. Passionate about our communities, the Credit Union provides financial, in-kind and other resources to support charity and non-profit groups through its Community Investment program.

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Building Homes. Building Hope.
Appearing from left to right are: Lynne Fraser, Senior VP of Finance Coastal Community Credit Union, Sheila Colbert-Kers, President Habitat for Humanity, John Newall, Board of Directors Vice-Chair CCCU, and Brenda Wiebe, Habitat volunteer and recipient of Habitat Nanaimo's 2006 home.