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Students Display Commitment to Communities during Annual Scholarship Program

If there's one thing students have shown in their applications for Coastal Community's 2011 Scholarship Program, it's that they have community passion.

Students interested in receiving a scholarship were asked to first submit a project idea for how to improve on a social, economic or environmental need in their community. Resulting ideas ranged from a classroom composting initiative, to creating comfort kits for children in need, to setting up a community emergency water source using a solar powered pump.

This year, Campbell River student Genoa Alger and Nanaimo student Brayden Cristiano were awarded the opportunity to implement their project ideas. Genoa's mason bee project is focused on building and distributing bee houses to local gardens free-of-charge. Brayden's project sees some much needed repairs being done to Nanaimo's Linley Valley boardwalk. Both have been awarded funding of up to \$1,000 to implement their projects and will also receive an additional \$500 scholarship upon project completion. They also join eight other students who will be receiving a Coastal Community scholarship of \$1,500.

Says Genoa, "I was really pleased that Coastal Community Credit Union chose my mason bee project as one that could make a difference in my community. I loved having the chance to learn more about mason bees and enjoyed building the mason bee houses. Hopefully this will help island gardens prosper!"

"Big congratulations to this year's scholarship award recipients," says Allyson Prescesky, Manager of Community Experience and Communications at Coastal Community. "It's inspiring to see these students' commitment to making a visible and meaningful difference in our communities—our homes."

Since its launch in 2005, Coastal Community's annual Scholarship Program has awarded tens of thousands of educational dollars to local students. Information on the 2012 program will be available online at www.cccu.ca in January, 2012.

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

Congratulations to the 2011 Coastal Community Scholarship Award Recipients:

South Island	Lara Anderson
Nanaimo & Gabriola Island	Alina Ruiz
	Jason McKee-Fortin
	Brayden Cristiano
	Kailey Laidlaw
North Island, Campbell River Area & Discovery Islands	Alanna Vachon
	Cody Hamilton
	Genoa Alger
Comox Valley	Rachel Mariah Harrison
	Brianna Ford-Joppe



Photo caption: Brayden Cristiano and his team hard at work doing repairs to Nanaimo's Linley Valley Boardwalk.

-3-

About Coastal Community

Serving island communities for over 60 years, Coastal Community Credit Union has grown to be the largest Credit Union based on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. With more than 80,000 members, 650-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 one of Canada's 50 Best Employers, and 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.

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