

## Coastal Community Builds Global Relationships Through Mentorship Program

**Vancouver Island, BC- May 29, 2013:** Aurea Dequito Magpantay is trading one Pacific island for another during her mentorship abroad. A credit union manager in her native Philippines, Ms. Magpantay is a guest of Coastal Community Credit Union while participating in a unique mentorship program through the CCA (Canadian Co-operative Association).

The CCA's Women's Mentorship Program connects women credit union leaders from developing countries with a host credit union in Canada. The women learn first-hand about Canadian credit unions' policies and procedures—knowledge they can transfer to their own co-operatives.

It's Coastal Community's second time participating in the Mentorship Program. In 2009, Coastal Community mentored two women credit union leaders from Mongolia.

"It's an honour to once again be a part of an initiative that's focused on building global relationships, sharing knowledge, and growing the co-operative movement," says Susanne Jakobsen, Coastal Community's Board Chair. "Co-operation is one of Coastal Community's core values, and the Mentorship Program is a shining example of people working together for a common benefit. I look forward to sharing my knowledge with her."

Laurie Tennian, Manager of the CCA's Women's Mentorship Program, says that the Program wouldn't be possible without the support of the Canadian credit union system. "Credit unions like Coastal Community volunteer to be part of the program, and their commitment has been stellar," she says.

Coastal Community's guest, Ms. Magpantay, is the general manager at CARD (Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development) Employees' Multipurpose Co-operative in San Pablo City, Laguna. CARD's services include housing and disaster loans, as well as health insurance. Through her mentorship at Coastal Community, she hopes to learn more about creating guidelines and policies for her co-operative and staff of seven. The co-operative she manages has over 6,000 members, and more than half are women.

Since its inception in 2002, the Women's Mentorship Program has mentored over 175 women from 18 countries. Noted impacts as a result of the Program include increased membership in credit unions, improved profitability, reduced loan delinquency and expanded operations. For more information, visit [www.coopscanada.coop](http://www.coopscanada.coop).

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**ABOUT CCA** The Canadian Co-operative Association is a national association for co-operatives in Canada, representing more than nine million co-operative and credit union members across the country. CCA provides leadership to promote, develop, and unite co-operatives and credit unions for the benefit of people in Canada and around the world. CCA members come from many sectors of the economy, including finance, insurance, agri-food and supply, wholesale and retail, housing, health, and the service sector. Visit our web site at [www.coopscanada.coop](http://www.coopscanada.coop)

**ABOUT COASTAL COMMUNITY** For over 60 years, the satisfaction and happiness of Coastal Community's members and clients have been our bottom line. That's why we've grown to be the largest financial services organization based on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. With 80,000 members, 625-plus employees and over \$2.1 billion in assets under administration, Coastal Community offers caring and helpful service integrated across an extensive network of personal banking, insurance, investment and business services centres. Our members also have access to The Exchange® Network, with more than 2,300 no-fee ATMs in Canada. We've been named one of Canada's Top 50 Best Employers three years in a row, and we're passionate about building stronger relationships to improve financial health, enrich people's lives and build healthier communities. Visit us at: [cccu.ca](http://cccu.ca) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [YouTube](#)