

## Coastal Community announces scholarship winners

Vancouver Island, BC, Canada – July 13, 2022: The last couple of years have been tough ones to navigate for our young people. Coastal Community Credit Union recently offered a helping hand to eight local grade twelve students to help them with their next steps. The high school seniors each received \$2,000 toward their post-secondary goals through Coastal Community's scholarship program.

Since 2005, the Credit Union has been offering \$17,000 in annual scholarships to local students who plan to attend undergraduate college or university, trade school or special interest school. The application comes with a twist: Students apply by submitting a plan for a project to improve their community.

Based on these plans, eight students are chosen for a \$2,000 scholarship, with two selected as overall winners. This year Lyra Fletcher of North Island Secondary School and Emmy Lan of Mark R. Isfeld Secondary school took top honours. In addition to their \$2,000 award, they will each receive up to \$1,000 to implement their projects, as well as an additional \$500 scholarship.

Lyra's plan is a project to revitalize the connector trail between the two trail systems on Cormorant Island. The high school senior feels having greater access to the trails will benefit residents, tourists and local businesses alike and will be a great community re-addition.

Champion cyclist Emmy organized a one-day free mountain biking event for young girls last year, called Connecting Sister Shredders. She will use her implementation funds this summer to bring back the successful project for a second time. Her event gives more girls access to cycling while building their confidence.

Congratulations to each of our eight winners! They all sent in creative and thoughtful plans.

Lyra Fletcher	North Island Secondary School, Port McNeill
Emmy Lan	Mark R. Isfeld Secondary School, Courtenay
Alissa Morris	Dover Bay Secondary School, Nanaimo
Claire O'Brien	Ecole Bellenas Secondary School, Parksville
Emilia Maras-Hilling	Wellington Secondary School, Nanaimo
Isabella Richards	Dover Bay Secondary School, Nanaimo
Juliana Monk	Victoria High School, Victoria
Lucinda Gullison	Brentwood College School, Mill Bay

"At Coastal Community, we know that there's no greater investment we can make than in our young people," said Allyson Prescesky, Senior Manager, Community and Communications. "As these young leaders have shown, the youth of today are the key to building healthier communities for tomorrow, and we're proud to help improve their financial health on their journey."

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## COASTAL COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

***Improving financial health, enriching lives, and building healthier communities...*** These are at the core of who we are and what we do at Coastal Community Credit Union (CCCU).

With these as our focus areas, the CCCU family of companies continues to grow our position as the largest Island-based financial organization. We serve over 120,000 members and clients and close to 9,000 community organizations and businesses on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

To help our members and clients improve their financial health, our business lines offer a full range of products and services for personal, business and commercial banking, insurance\* and wealth management\*\* through Credential Securities. Our Island communities are our homes, so we make decisions based on knowledge of the local market, strengthening local economies. And we never stop looking for ways to improve the way we do business.

As a financial co-operative, we are 100% member-owned. Our shareholders are our neighbours and fellow citizens, so we are focused on building strong and vibrant communities by keeping our jobs, our earnings, and our community efforts local. Each year, Coastal Community invests over half a million dollars into communities across the Islands through community funding grants, education awards, sponsorships and fundraising initiatives.

Want to learn more? Visit [cccu.ca](http://cccu.ca) or join us on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

\*References to "insurance" in this article refer to the insurance services provided through Coastal Community Insurance Services (2007) Ltd., an affiliate of Coastal Community Credit Union.

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