



Williams Lake & District Credit Union

NEWS

SPRING EDITION 2019

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MAY 8, 2019

The AGM offers members an opportunity to hear about Credit Union activities in the local community, to learn more about the day to day business of the Credit Union, and to interact with members of the Board of Directors and management. Your attendance is encouraged!

Date: Wednesday May 8, 2019
Time: Registration commences at 6:30pm for the 7:00pm meeting
Location: Pioneer Complex, 351 Hodgson Road, Williams Lake, BC

Guest Speaker: We are pleased to host Vanessa Riplinger, new Executive Director of the Cariboo Chilcotin Child Development Centre. Vanessa will present an overview of the future of the Centre and how its existing and potential new programs will look moving forward.

ARE YOU CYBER SECURITY AWARE?

Canadians are increasingly turning to online channels to conduct business; however, many are not aware of 'best practices' to keep their personal information secure. At Williams Lake and District Credit Union, we work diligently to maintain the security of our information systems. It is important to note that security is a shared responsibility between the Credit Union and its members. Some ways to protect the security of your personal information online include:

- 1. Always use strong passwords.** You may be surprised to learn that the three most common passwords used to access online banking are 12345, 54321 and 11111. A good rule of thumb is to include at least one number, one upper-case letter and one symbol in your password.
 - 2. Don't reuse passwords.** Since it can be very difficult to know exactly when your password may be compromised, it is important to not reuse the same password. Additionally, it is important to use different passwords for each account. That way, if a hacker does compromise your password they will not gain access to all your accounts.
 - 3. Be suspicious of downloads and emails.** Trust your gut instinct. If an email seems suspicious, simply delete it and do not follow any links or open any attachments. Likewise, only download applications from trusted sites.
 - 4. Keep software up to date.** Although it can be inconvenient or sometimes frustrating, installing all software updates will ensure a strong defense against potential attacks.
 - 5. Secure your Wi-Fi.** Ensure that your home Wi-Fi router is secured with a strong password and only connect to networks that you know and trust.
 - 6. Install, register and regularly update antivirus protection.** This may seem obvious, but it is very important to install protection against viruses and malware and to regularly update the software to ensure your devices are protected against the latest threats.
- By following these simple steps,** your information should remain safe and secure. If you're eager for more guidance or information, please visit cybersafe.ccuu.com.



CO-OPERATIVE PRINCIPLE #5: EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION

How your Credit Union is applying this principle

Pioneered by Vancity Credit Union, *Each One, Teach One* is a financial literacy program that trains credit union employees to deliver basic financial skills workshops in community settings. The workshops are delivered in plain language and *Each One, Teach One* facilitators strive to meet individuals in familiar settings, for example schools and community halls, and on a schedule that works for them. There are a wide variety of workshop topics offered, from basic banking and budgeting through to identity theft and fraud prevention and prevention of the financial abuse of seniors.

If you know of a group of individuals who might benefit from an *Each One, Teach One* workshop, call our Williams Lake branch at 250-392-4135 and ask to speak to Craig Glover.



Education, training and information

What it means to you: Access to financial literacy tools and resources. Credit unions believe that education contributes to personal growth.



www.wldcu.com

CREDIT UNION DIRECTOR ACHIEVEMENT (CUDA)

Credit union directors are supported in their role through the CUDA national director training program. The program provides new directors with the knowledge and skills required to be active board participants, and experienced directors with the information required to remain current in an ever-changing governance environment. The program consists of three levels: Level A: The Foundations of Governance; Level B: Governance in Action; and Level C: Governance Application.

In BC, credit union directors are required to complete Level A of the CUDA program in the first year of their tenure. Williams Lake and District Credit Union requires directors to participate in a minimum level of ongoing training each year and encourages completion of all three CUDA program levels.

In conjunction with Dalhousie University, the national program offers an opportunity for designation as an **Accredited Canadian Credit Union Director**. Successful



Accredited Canadian Credit Union Director Crystal Verhaeghe

candidates for accreditation must complete all three levels of the CUDA program, have two years of service on a Canadian credit union board, and pass an accreditation exam. We are delighted to advise that our director **Crystal Verhaeghe** recently passed her accreditation exam. Crystal is the second WLDCU director to achieve this distinction since its inception in 2007, and one of only 95 accredited directors in Canada.

TFSA LIMIT INCREASE

Why contribute to a tax-free savings account (TFSA)? Any interest earned on your investment is tax free! The TFSA contribution limit for 2019 has been increased to \$6,000. Those who have been able to invest the maximum amount since the 2009 inception of TFSAs would now have a nest egg of \$63,500 plus the tax-free returns on that investment. Even if you cannot make the maximum contribution, you can still enjoy the benefits of a TFSA. There is no contribution deadline, and unused contribution room is carried forward for future contributions – ask us about getting your TFSA set up today!

E-STATEMENTS

Have you made the switch from paper statements to e-Statements? If you are still receiving your monthly statement via Canada Post, we ask you to consider the following:

- **Security of your personal information** – Recent news stories highlight an increase in thefts from mailboxes in our communities. Thwart thieves by receiving your statements electronically.
- **More space in your home or office** – Storing paper statements takes up valuable space and creates clutter. e-Statements allow you to store your information electronically in PDF format.
- **Less impact on the planet** – Every statement we mail requires an envelope and several sheets of paper. A minimum of four statement inserts are included each year. We hope that much of this material ends up in the recycling portion of the waste stream but feel that not generating paper waste at all is the most environmentally friendly choice.
- **A better bottom line for your Credit Union** – Every penny we do not spend on printed material, envelopes and postage is reinvested back into the Credit Union to the benefit of our members and their communities.

Help make a difference! Contact your local branch to discontinue paper-based statements.

