

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

East Coast Credit Union Wins \$5,000 Grant in Support of the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund

Antigonish, NS, May 27, 2021—East Coast Credit Union has received a \$5,000 grant from Concentra Bank (“Concentra”) in support of the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund. Through its annual Empowering Your Community campaign, Concentra invites Canadian credit unions to submit grant applications for exceptional community projects.

The Fuel Fund offers emergency relief for members of the community of Antigonish who are in immediate need of financial support to heat their homes during the winter. Funding comes from donations made by community members and local organizations, including East Coast Credit Union.

Mike MacDonald, President of the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund says, *“In 2008, East Coast Credit Union funded the seed capital for the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund. Providing this initial funding enabled a community movement that is now an association that continues to help countless members of the community in Antigonish. This funding will allow us to continue to assist members of the community in a year that has been difficult for many.”*

To date, East Coast Credit Union has made more than \$70,000 in donations to the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund. Sally Van de Wiel, VP Operations at East Coast Credit Union, says, *“The Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund has been part of our annual donation strategy since we committed our support in 2008. We will continue our partnership well into the future as we can see firsthand the positive affects the Fuel Fund has on the community. At East Coast Credit Union, we are passionate about helping our communities. Although it is unfortunate that a fund such as the Fuel Fund is required, we are happy to be able to support our community members through these difficult times.”*

East Coast Credit Union is a part of something bigger. We are committed to helping build stronger communities and through this commitment, we see fairness, trust, equality, and independence come to life in real and meaningful ways. This is an important part of the work we do every day and seeing these principles come to life in our relationship with the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund is very rewarding for the board and staff of East Coast Credit Union who work hard to support these vital initiatives.



About East Coast Credit Union

East Coast Credit Union is a dynamic, full-service financial co-operative using a member-first approach to partner with individual and business members to achieve financial success. East Coast Credit Union is the largest credit union in Atlantic Canada with over \$1 billion in assets and serving approximately 42,100 members from a branch network reaching from Cape Breton to Halifax, giving you more access when and where you need it. They have grown to become a stronger credit union that is focused on investing in your communities, providing competitive products and new services and building relationships with your unique financial needs in mind. Providing convenient and flexible banking options means their members can do their banking any way, anywhere! They are proud to be a part of the credit union system that has been ranked first in customer service excellence out of all financial institutions for 13 years in a row. East Coast Credit Union is locally owned by their members. They are committed to supporting the communities they live and work in through not only financial support but also countless volunteer hours.

About the Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund

The Antigonish Emergency Fuel Fund offers limited emergency financial support to low-income individuals and households who are unable to pay the full cost of heating their homes during the winter season. Through the Fuel Fund, individuals and families may apply for help with their heating costs, which includes oil, electricity, and wood.

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