

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

East Coast Credit Union Deepens South Shore Investment with LaHave River Branch Grand Opening

BRIDGEWATER, NS, Sept. 24, 2026 – East Coast Credit Union is celebrating a renewed investment in Bridgewater and the South Shore with the grand opening of its transformed LaHave River Branch. The modernized space offers members a welcoming place for meaningful financial conversations and reflects the credit union's long-term commitment to the community. It also provides an early example of the local investment East Coast Credit Union intends to build on as it prepares to merge with Acadian Credit Union, iNova Credit Union and Teachers Plus Credit Union.

This investment comes at a time when many financial institutions are reducing their physical presence in local communities. The transformed branch demonstrates East Coast Credit Union's continued belief in accessible local financial advice and a strong, lasting presence on the South Shore.

"The LaHave River Branch is a clear sign of our confidence in Bridgewater and the South Shore, and of our commitment to keeping local, relationship-based banking strong," said Ken Shea, President and CEO of East Coast Credit Union. "This is the kind of meaningful community investment we want to continue making. As we prepare to bring together East Coast, Acadian, iNova and Teachers Plus credit unions, we see an opportunity to build greater capacity to invest in our members, our employees and communities across Nova Scotia while staying true to our local roots."

The newly renovated branch offers members greater comfort, privacy and flexibility in a modern, bright and welcoming space. Sustainability features include 84 solar panels to help offset energy use, LED lighting throughout, a new heat-pump system and two EV charging stations for members. Together, these improvements make the branch a practical investment in both the member experience and the community it serves.

"This branch has always been part of the fabric of our community, and this investment ensures it will continue to be for years to come," said Andrew Caines, Branch Manager, LaHave River Branch. "Our members want to know their credit union believes in the future of this community. The transformation of the LaHave River Branch puts that commitment into action."

The LaHave River Branch transformation supports the people who rely on the branch to buy homes, grow businesses, plan for retirement and navigate life's important milestones. It gives members a modern place to connect, plan and grow, and signals East Coast Credit Union's long-term commitment to Bridgewater and the South Shore.

About East Coast Credit Union

East Coast Credit Union is a member-owned financial cooperative focused on putting people first. As Nova Scotia's largest credit union, we serve more than 60,000 members and manage \$1.77 billion in assets, with a network spanning from Cape Breton to Bridgewater and throughout the Halifax Regional Municipality. We bank with purpose, putting people and communities at the heart of everything we do. As a certified B Corporation, we are proud to be part of a global movement using business as a force for good. Locally owned and deeply rooted in our province, we support communities through donations, investments, targeted grants, and employee volunteerism.

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