



## Interior Savings and Prospera Put Their Money on Volinspire

**November 14, 2017** (Kelowna) – A reasonably new social platform, developed in the flourishing Okanagan tech industry, is poised to change the landscape of volunteering and giving across Canada. This, according to Interior Savings and Prospera Credit Unions, founding community partners of Volinspire, who've released a joint announcement that they've now also purchased shares in the platform.

Led by Kelowna-based tech-entrepreneur, Sheldon Gardiner, Volinspire is creating a community of people and businesses with a shared interest in community development and just generally doing good. In a way that has never before been possible, the tool connects volunteers with organizations who care about the same causes. It allows people and organizations to share what they're doing, to recruit others to join in and to recognize those who are making a difference.

According to Gardiner, the Kelowna-based platform is seeing strong growth across Canada.

"We started in Kelowna but our technology is now being used in several cities across the country," says Gardiner. "Initially, Volinspire began as an effort to help get youth more engaged in volunteering in Kelowna but it has grown considerably since then. With the launch of our new Do Some Good APP, we believe there is an opportunity for people from all across the country to engage and make a real difference in their home communities."

Gardiner attributes much of this success to credit unions who've supported and helped guide the development of this tool since its' inception. "I am thrilled to expand our relationship with Interior Savings and Prospera Credit Union; two companies who share our values and belief that business can be a force for good."

As a founding community partner of Volinspire, Kathy Conway, CEO of Interior Savings, says the Credit Union has seen firsthand the power of Volinspire to drive increased volunteerism.

"We have seen employee volunteerism spike since launching Volinspire as part of our volunteer program," said Conway. "We have close to 100% employee engagement and, so far this year, our employees have already reported nearly 8,000 volunteer hours. This is only the beginning; think of the impact in our communities and across our country if this tool can help unite more people and organizations in creating positive change."



*Volinspire Team along with founding credit union and community partners at the 2015 launch.*

Shawn Good, President & CEO of Prospera Credit Union, says the ability to bring together individuals, businesses, and charities via the platform presents great potential for our communities.

“The opportunity to invest in a social enterprise dedicated to strengthening the fabric of our community by engaging with people and businesses is greatly aligned to the co-operative philosophy and how we do business at Prospera,” said Good. “And in an increasingly digital age, the ability to harness the power of technology in order to inspire others to give back is compelling. Volinspire connects people who are working together for the betterment of our communities, and we believe, will be a key influencer to create positive social change.”

To learn more about Volinspire or to join the growing community of people and business working together to build a stronger community go to [Volinspire.com](http://Volinspire.com) or download the Do Some Good APP at [www.dosomegood.ca](http://www.dosomegood.ca)

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### **About Interior Savings**

Interior Savings is a member-owned, democratically-controlled credit union dedicated to creating local money while helping to build vibrant communities. Through its 21 branches, 16 insurance offices, Member Service Centre, and two Commercial Services Centres, the Credit Union offers personal and commercial banking and a full range of insurance and wealth management services to more than 70,000 members across 14 communities. Since 2002, Interior Savings has returned \$53.8 million to members through its Member Rewards Program and invested nearly \$8 million in support of community programs.

### **About Prospera**

Building on more than 70 years as a BC credit union, we are the trusted home for families and local businesses, building their financial dreams and prosperity within our communities. As a values-based financial institution, our number one priority is the financial well-being of our members and our dedicated team delivers banking, lending, investing and insurance services through sixteen branches; online and mobile banking and an alternative channel that includes a locally-based Contact Centre and Broker Centre. Making life better for everyone is important at Prospera, which has an extensive community investment program devoted to supporting the organizations, events and volunteers that make our BC communities stronger. To learn more, check out Prospera’s [Facebook](#) page or visit [prospera.ca](http://prospera.ca).

### **About Volinspire**

Volinspire is a technology company that helps to engage people and businesses with worthy local causes. Volinspire’s technology powers good companies, is building capacity with over 5,000 non-profits and charities and has a growing user base all across Canada.

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