

2020 Community Investment Report



Since our inception in 1939, we've played an active role in our local communities; we're rooted within the fabric of the towns and cities we call home.

Our cooperative values drive us to look for opportunities to create partnerships and make a difference. After all, we're only as strong as the members and communities we serve. When they thrive, we thrive. And this is why local matters.

Interior Savings Credit Union endeavours to fund an amount equal to 3% of operating earnings, averaged over three years, in community investment spending. Together we're helping to build and support communities where people are welcomed, encouraged, supported and cared for. Where everyone can find the connections, confidence and skills to not only enjoy life, but fulfill their potential too.

We've set our sights on making an impact in four key areas:

- Empowering parents with young children
- Supporting mental wellness through all stages of life
- Maintaining social connection with age
- Supporting a strong cooperative local economy

For more information on our Community Investment program or to apply for funding, visit our website.



GIVING HIGHLIGHTS

Our members help create local money that stays local – supporting the local economy, local initiatives and positive local change.



\$543,871

In bursaries awarded to local students



\$3,444

Value of staff volunteering during work hours



2,123

Hours volunteered by our employees



\$542,938

The total value invested in community programs¹



\$99,400

Invested in sustainable programs through our Community Investment Fund



\$8,969

Donated by our employees to the United Way



¹ Including paid time for our employees to volunteer and program management costs such as our community events team, and community tent program.

MEMBER REWARDS



\$29.3 Million

Returned to our members
over the last 10 years



\$2.98 Million

Earned by members in
2020 through bursaries,
dividends and our
Member Rewards



22%

Of operating income
returned to members
in 2020



SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES

To say that 2020 was an unprecedented year feels like an understatement. It presented many challenges, and tested all of us in ways that were unexpected.

The pandemic has highlighted the importance of community, lending a hand, and rallying together when times are difficult. It has offered us the opportunity to look beyond ourselves and see how each and every one of us is connected to the well-being of our communities. As a cooperative we take this to heart, and know that we're only as strong as our members and the communities we serve.

The financial health of our members continued to be foremost in our minds and visible in our day-to-day interactions. We know this has been a difficult year for many and we stand steadfast in our commitment to sharing our knowledge, providing guidance and helping our members plan for, and weather, whatever may come.

In our communities, we continued to play an active role and focused our support on the organizations who do so much for our collective well-being, and who were, and continue to be, greatly impacted by the pandemic. Here are some of the ways we helped our communities navigate these uncertain times:

- Through our **Community Relief Fund and Community Impact Term Deposit**, \$150,000 was awarded to help 45 local non-profits address unprecedented needs related to the pandemic.
- In partnership with others, we awarded **Sustainable Recovery Grants** to 10 non-profits across Kamloops, and the Okanagan, to overcome challenges, innovate and pursue new opportunities.

- We contributed \$20,000 to the community relief efforts of the **United Ways** in our region.
- On **Credit Union Day** we gave out \$15,000 in the form of donations, free coffee for healthcare workers, paying for people's grocery bills, and much more.
- We expanded the **MUSIC & MEMORY® Program**, having now sponsored its launch in 11 care homes in our region, and through our **Care Home Connection Contest** we helped 12 care homes purchase tablets and accessories to keep residents connected to loved ones.

All of these initiatives are fueled by the support of our members. It is because of you that we have the ability to support our communities, especially in the most difficult of times. Thank you for continuing to choose Interior Savings.



INVESTING IN LASTING IMPACT

In 2020, we provided \$99,400 in seed funding to help local non-profits launch important new programs and services in our communities. Here's a look at a few of the initiatives that were funded.



Inclusive recreation builds sustainability

With support from Interior Savings, Community Recreational Initiatives Society (CRIS) launched a social enterprise that leverages their expertise and custom adaptive equipment while also creating another source of revenue that will be invested back into their programs and services. Adaptive Rentals will allow people wanting to enjoy independent, non-guided experiences of cycling, hiking or kayaking, to have access to adaptive equipment that is very costly and not accessible to many.

Keeping elders connected

The local chapter of Métis Community Services Society of BC identified a critical need exasperated by the pandemic: keeping their elders socially connected. With support from Interior Savings, they created the Little Elders Workshop: an opportunity for small groups of elders to come together (COVID guidelines in place) to learn about and make traditional crafts. Led by Métis artists in a train-the-trainer style workshop, elders will gain cultural knowledge and skills, and then play an important role in sharing traditional culture with younger generations in early years programming, schools and special events.



Nourishing families

The Kamloops & District Elizabeth Fry Society is launching a new initiative with support from Interior Savings to provide families with the knowledge and skills to nourish themselves and their children. The Family Gardening Project is a new addition to the Family Stepping Stones program and will teach participants how to grow and preserve food, as well as learn about healthy eating habits, meal preparation and budgeting. It will promote bonding between mothers and their children, and contribute to lower stress and improved mental health.



Interior Savings

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