



CEO's Desktop
Fresh Start
Win \$100 Cash!
Page 2



Elder Abuse Awareness
Ding Free Summer
Products & Services
Page 3



COVID-19 Resources
Post-Pandemic Planning
Rainy Day Fund
Page 4

credit union Casera NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF
Casera Credit Union | July 2020



SAVE THE DATE

Casera's 2019 Annual General Meeting was postponed in April due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been rescheduled as a teleconference at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2020. For more information, contact your neighbourhood branch, check www.caseracu.ca/WhatsNew, or watch for social media and email updates.

To receive regular email updates, please send your email address to talktous@caseracu.ca.

COVID-19 In This Together

In March 2020, we all faced the extraordinary prospect of a pandemic. When the Manitoba government began alerting citizens and businesses to the possibility of social and economic restrictions, Casera jumped into action. On March 16, we implemented our emergency preparedness plan to protect our staff and ensure the safe delivery of financial services.

"Our first steps increased the sanitization of our branches, initiated social distancing, and encouraged online banking," explains Casera's CEO, Brent Thomas. "We also installed temporary plastic shields at our member-facing points. When the government declared a state of emergency, we temporarily closed the St. Anne's branch and reduced our business hours at the Plessis and Kildare branches to help maintain social distancing. There was also an increase in the volume of calls from members and our staff returned many calls left on voicemail."

Over the next several weeks, our staff and members adapted to daily uncertainties and changing conditions. Canadians across the country faced job losses and financial hardships, and the federal government initiated financial support programs through the Economic Response Plan. Casera also encouraged members to reach out with questions or concerns regarding their economic uncertainties.

Thanks to Manitobans' commitment to flattening the COVID-19 curve, the provincial government announced Phase One of the economic recovery on May 4. Casera's responses included the reopening of the St. Anne's branch and the implementation of appointment-only visits. When Phase Two was initiated later in May, we broadened our service with longer hours and the elimination of appointment-only visits. We had also installed social distancing decals and sanitization towers in each branch. By the middle of June, the province's Phase Three plan was in effect, and even more in-branch services became available.

"Thanks to the provincial and federal governments for their leadership and programming, and thanks to our staff and members for making the transitions so smooth," says CEO Brent Thomas. "We also acknowledge and appreciate the essential service of all the front-line personnel whose efforts made it possible for Manitoba to weather the pandemic as well as it has."

Everyone needs a
post-pandemic plan.

See page 4 for tips on building a rainy day fund.

credit union
Casera

1300 Plessis 204-958-6300 | 8-630 Kildare 204-958-6320
720 St. Anne's 204-958-6600 | www.caseracu.ca
talktous@caseracu.ca



CEO's Desktop

The economic effects of COVID-19 have been severe in virtually every country around the world. Economic growth has shrunk, people have lost their jobs, and governments have spent unprecedented amounts of money to support those families and businesses hit hardest by the pandemic.

In Canada, unemployment rose nationally to an all-time high of 13.7 per cent in May, 2020. According to a Credit Union Central of Manitoba survey, 36 per cent of Manitobans reported that the pandemic affected their method of earning an income. The survey also noted that younger Manitobans were more likely to report an impact on their earnings than older citizens.

Despite the gloom, there are rays of light. The country's economic recovery plan is moving ahead, and a growing number of people are genuinely hopeful about the future. A study released by the non-profit Angus Reid Institute in early June reveals that Canadians' outlooks about their long-term financial security hasn't suffered, with 30 per cent saying they'll be better off next year at this time (up from 15 per cent at the end of 2018 and 21 per cent at the end of 2019). History has proven we're a resilient country; we should also be proud of our optimism.

Best Regards,
Brent Thomas
Chief Executive Officer

Fresh Start

*If spring was a time of uncertainty,
let's make summer the season of possibility.*



5% Cash Back

on new home purchases, transfers, or existing Casera refinanced mortgages*

Let's connect! Call your neighbourhood branch or apply online at www.caseracu.ca

*Some conditions apply. Contact your neighbourhood branch for details



As Low As 4.29%*

Personal Loan (up to a 7-year fixed term)

Bonus > No payments for first 4 months

Let's connect! Call your neighbourhood branch or apply online at www.caseracu.ca

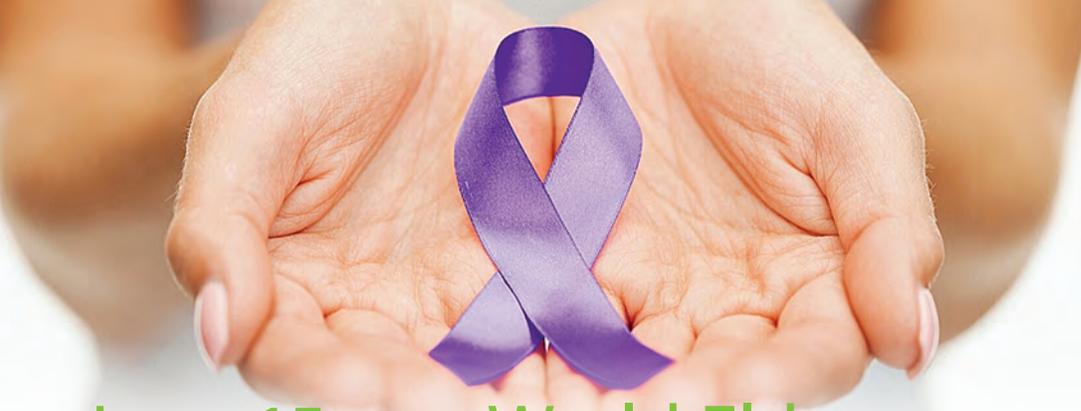
*Rate subject to change without notice

Win a Fresh Start

\$100 Cash

Qualify for a mortgage or personal loan (based on Fresh Start campaign criteria) between June 1, 2020, and August 31, 2020, and your name will be entered into a draw for \$100 cash.

For details, please visit www.caseracu.ca.



June 15 was World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Because of their role as a financial stewards, Casera's staff takes an active role in identifying and preventing financial abuse of elderly members. Our staff members complete an annual Financial Abuse of Older Adults learning module through our online training platform which helps us recognize and counteract financial abuse.

Financial abuse is the illegal or unauthorized use of someone else's money or property. It also includes pressuring someone for money or property.

If you or someone you know is a victim of abuse — financially or otherwise — contact the police or phone the confidential, 24-hour, toll-free Seniors Abuse Support Line today at 1-888-896-7183.

For more information about elder abuse awareness in Manitoba, please visit www.weaadmanitoba.ca or www.peam.ca



Have a Ding Free Summer

Are you travelling in Manitoba this summer? Why not take advantage of the ding free® network of ATMs across our province. Just check into a participating credit union (look for the ding free logo) and save money on your transactions. For more information

and to download the ding free ATM locator app, go to ding-free.ca

Changes to Products & Services

Effective August 1, 2020, Casera is making changes to its products and service packages:

- personal chequing and savings expanded to three account packages; unlimited package added
- business chequing expanded to three account packages
- non-profit chequing expanded to three account packages
- some free e-Transfers added to package accounts

For more information, visit www.caseracu.ca/WhatsNew or watch for future email messages. To sign up for our email program, please send your email address to talktous@caseracu.ca

Member News

FAT CAT® Winners

March – Declan Gower

April – Isaac Meads

May – Hunter Heilman

Congratulations to the 2020 Casera Bursary Award Recipients

College Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau
Brooke Chapko

Dakota Collegiate
Oluwatofunmi Dada

Immanuel Christian School
Benjamin Jonker

Murdoch MacKay Collegiate
Melody Hutton

Springfield Collegiate
Alicia Jost

Transcona Collegiate
Christine Kolbuck

Casera Holidays

August 1 Casera Holiday

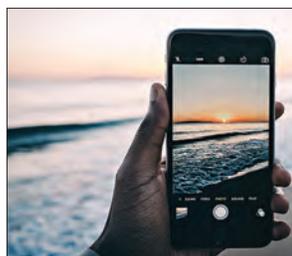
August 3 Terry Fox Day

September 7 Labour Day

October 12 Thanksgiving Day

Stay Tuned

Watch for updates about Member Appreciation Week (National Co-op Week), to be held Tuesday, October 13 to Friday, October 16. We'll also celebrate International Credit Union Day on Thursday, October 15.



Share Your Photos & Win

Enter the Real Manitoba Credit Union calendar contest — you could WIN \$100 and have one of your photos featured in the next edition.

Visit www.creditunion.mb.ca/photo-contest.html for rules and information



1300 Plessis 204-958-6300 | 8-630 Kildare 204-958-6320
720 St. Anne's 204-958-6600 | www.caseracu.ca
talktous@caseracu.ca

COVID-19 Government Resources

With many businesses laying off staff or permanently closing their doors, earning money to pay for expenses has been difficult. Manitoba's credit unions have compiled an easy-to-access, comprehensive list of government aid programs and benefits (both Federal and Provincial) and tips on fraud prevention, health and safety, and travel restrictions.

Find the list at
[creditunion.mb.ca/
covid-19-resources](https://creditunion.mb.ca/covid-19-resources)

Post-Pandemic Planning

COVID-19 has been the major challenge of our time, and while the economy has taken a hit, it will recover in time. As we move forward, there are some things you may wish to consider to enhance your post-pandemic financial situation.

Save for a rainy day fund. COVID-19 was nerve-racking for everyone, especially those without any savings.

Focus on debt. Avoiding high-interest debt is the best course of action. Things like credit cards or lines of credit can add up quickly, and therefore paying it down avoids additional interest expenses.

If you have investments, sit tight. The current loss of value is thought to be a result of market instability caused by the workforce shutdown and uncertainty about the future. Now is not a good time to sell off investments, as they are likely to recover in the long-term.

How to Build a Rainy Day Fund

A rainy day fund will get you through a sudden job loss, an injury that leaves you unable to work, or some other unforeseen expense. An ideal rainy day fund should cover costs for three to six months, including rent, cell phone, hydro, and debt payments (loans, credit cards, etc.).

We know it can be challenging to save money, but even as much as \$10 per pay period is enough to build a rainy day fund slowly. If you can afford it, save more than that, but it needs to go into a separate account from your chequing. Talk to us about opening a Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA) as these accounts allow for tax-free deposits and withdrawals.

To start saving, consider setting up an automatic withdrawal through Casera, but as always, talk to one of our financial specialists. They'll point you in the right direction and build a solid plan to change the course of your financial future.