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NEWSLETTER OF
Casera Credit Union | July 2019



Community Champions

At the Annual General Meeting, Casera proudly presented 2019 Community Awards to Dave Stewart for his community leadership and Dakota Collegiate's Hamper Time for its community enrichment. Their shared commitment to nurturing young people and building more engaged and caring organizations make them true champions of our communities.

For photos and stories, see page 2.

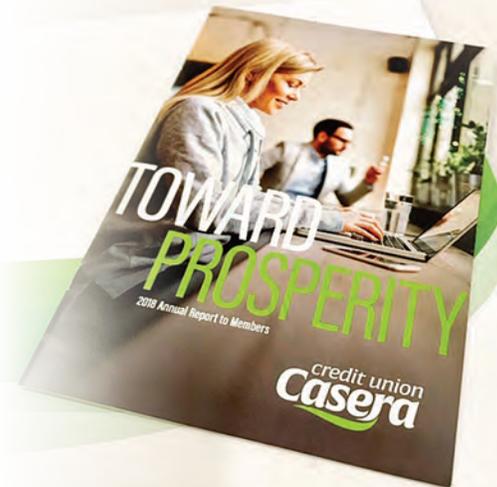
Reporting Continued Success

Members attending Casera's 67th Annual General Meeting on April 16th at Club Regent Casino Hotel heard good news about the credit union's financial growth and stability. According to Board Chair Robert Riddell and CEO Brent Thomas, Casera's assets grew to \$388 million, and its deposits increased to \$361 million. These figures are both higher than those reported in 2017.

"The results from 2018 show our continued strength in a competitive local marketplace," says Brent Thomas. "Our face-to-face service and ongoing commitment to technology and innovation are cornerstones of our success now and in the future."

Going forward, Casera is focusing on sustaining its financial strength. As a member-first credit union, we are responding to trends and creating a financial institution that fulfills its members' financial needs through trustworthy advice, new products and exceptional service.

Also making presentations to the members were the Boards of Directors of Casera's two youth branches — Titan Credit Union from Transcona Collegiate and Lancer Credit Union at Dakota Collegiate. By learning the principles of co-operation and financial management, the Directors and members of the student credit unions are helping shape the future of the credit union movement.



Own your
Dreams



5-Year Fixed
Mortgage Rate

3.35%

*Rates are subject to change without notice.

credit union
Casera



CEO's Desktop

Financial sustainability through controlled growth, improved efficiency, built-up retained earnings and operation-wide enterprise risk management has always been Casera's focus. A stable future, however, also relies on a balanced commitment to responding to our members' financial needs and monitoring industry trends.

Technology continues to drive change in our industry. In today's competitive environment, credit unions and banks, including Casera, are focused on increasing member-customer satisfaction levels by enhancing digital experiences. One trend is the ongoing development of money transfer systems that work in real time. FinTech (financial technology) companies are also playing a significant role by developing convenient and efficient ways of banking, including applying for mortgages or investing online.

Another trend to watch for is the evolution of open banking, or the ability of Canadians to be able to digitally manage their money across the online platforms of various financial institutions. While the federally-initiated development opens the door to new products and services, it also signals an industry-wide conversation about enhanced data protection and expanded cybersecurity systems to prevent hacking. Moving forward in an increasingly digital world means ensuring safe passage for our members' data and their finances.

Best Regards,
Brent Thomas
Chief Executive Officer

Our Community Champions



Above, L-R: Dave Stewart (left) receives his Leadership Award from Robert Riddell, Casera's Board Chair.

Dave Stewart 2019 Casera Community Leadership Award

Dave Stewart's tireless work behind the scenes assures the success of community organizations and neighbourhood events. Dave's community leadership included serving for over a decade as an executive member of the Transcona and District Pipe Band. During that time, Dave spearheaded the development of an endowment fund that secured ongoing funding from the Winnipeg Foundation.

Dave's leadership ensured that organizations thrived and their legacies were preserved. His work on the Transcona Centennial committee in 2012 helped bring the event to life. Dave's steady presence on the Board of the Transcona Museum also assured the heritage society's continued vibrancy.



Above, L-R: Dakota Collegiate's Hamper Time administrative representatives — Kristen Mazepa, Linda Noakes, Robert Scott, Megan Vankoughnett, Charlene Leslie, and Robert Riddell, Casera's Board Chair.

Dakota Collegiate Hamper Time 2019 Casera Community Enrichment Award

Every holiday season, the students and staff at Dakota Collegiate spend November and December collecting and buying non-perishable foods, toiletries, fresh produce and groceries, and building hampers for disadvantaged families. Known as Hamper Time, the program has made a significant impact on the well-being of the Dakota Collegiate community. Last year, nearly 40 Dakota families received hampers that also included gifts from Toy Mountain.

By participating in the hamper-building process, students are motivated to show the world what it means to take care of each other. They pitch in to ensure that families needing help during the holidays receive hampers filled with good food and goodwill.

Helping Gabby Realize Her Dream

Throughout May, Casera participated in The Dream Factory's Month of Dreams campaign. Our members, staff, and friends of Gabby, a Transcona "Dream Kid," who's battling through some serious illnesses, raised funds to help make her dream come true.

Thanks to everyone. Your generous and big-hearted support aided our branches in surpassing the campaign's goal.





Casera at the Tri-School Career Fair

Once again, Casera staff members attended the River East Transcona School Division's annual Tri-School Career Fair, held this year at

Collège Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau. Hundreds of students, and their parents, from Murdoch MacKay Collegiate, Transcona Collegiate, and Collège Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau, as well as community members, visited 47 career and post-secondary education booths set up in the gym. Our staff took the time to talk to students about career opportunities at Casera, the benefits of banking at the credit union, and the advantages of joining Titan Credit Union at Transcona Collegiate.



Have a Ding Free Summer

If you're travelling this summer, take advantage of the ding free® network of ATMs. Across Canada, credit union members have access to about 4,500 surcharge-free ATMs — a bigger system than most

Canadian banks. 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: <https://ding-free.ca>.

Calling All Photographers!

You could WIN \$100 by having a photo featured in the 2021 edition of the Real Manitoba Credit Union calendar. Photographs may be of any subject but must appear in a horizontal format and have been taken in Manitoba. Deadline for submissions is December 1st, 2019.

Visit www.creditunion.mb.ca > Real Manitoba Photo Contest for more information.

We're Helping Prevent Elder Abuse

On June 15th, Casera recognized World Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Because of our important role as financial stewards, it's vital that Casera's staff takes an active role in identifying and preventing abuse of our elderly members.

Casera, along with other Manitoba credit unions, works with Prevent Elder Abuse Manitoba (PEAM) to develop new policies and training programs. These measures help us recognize and counteract financial abuse.

Financial abuse is the most common abuse of elders. It is defined as 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 being abused, financially or otherwise, contact the police or phone the confidential, 24-hour, toll-free Seniors Abuse Support Line today at 1-888-896-7183.



Member News

FAT CAT® Winners

March – Helena Daciuk-Vlahos

April – Sophia White

May – Liam Colucci

2019 Bursary Recipients

Calvin Christian School

Janessa Haaksma

Collège Pierre-Elliott-Trudeau

Shayla Lower

Dakota Collegiate

Dario Duque Giraldo

Immanuel Christian School

Sierra Schriemer

Murdoch MacKay

Grace Minsky

Springfield Collegiate

Talia McMurchy

Transcona Collegiate Institute

Marielle Leyva

Casera Holidays

August 3.....Casera Holiday

August 5.....Terry Fox Day

September 2.....Labour Day

October 14.....Thanksgiving Day

Watch for Updates

Stay tuned for news about Member Appreciation Week (National Co-op Week), to be held Tuesday, October 15th to Friday, October 18th. We're also celebrating International Credit Union Day on Thursday, October 17th.

100% Deposit Guarantee

At Casera, member deposits are guaranteed 100% by the Deposit Guarantee Corporation of Manitoba.



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720 St. Anne's 204-958-6600 | www.caseraacu.ca
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Enhanced Buying Power

An equity line of credit is ideal for essential purchases such as investment opportunities, RRSP contributions, home renovations, or taking those overdue vacations. It allows you to borrow money on the equity built up in your mortgage without arranging for individual loans.

There is no yearly fee. Interest rates are lower than most credit cards, and no interest is charged if the line of credit is not used. If a balance is owed, interest is calculated on the daily outstanding balance and charged at month's end. When you pay down the line of credit, it is available to you again without having to reapply. The borrowing minimum is \$5,000. For peace of mind, credit life, disability, and critical illness insurance are available.



An incentive for First Home Buyers

If you're looking to buy your first home, you'll appreciate the new equity-sharing homebuyer's incentive announced recently by the federal government. Administered through CMHC (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation), the First-Time Home Buyer Incentive provides funding of 5% or 10% of your home purchase price.

To assist you in managing your cash flow, no ongoing monthly payments are required — instead, you repay the incentive at resale. For example, if you purchased a \$400,000 home with a 5% down payment and a 5% CMHC shared equity mortgage (\$20,000), the size of the borrower's insured mortgage would be reduced from \$380,000 to \$360,000. This would help lower your monthly mortgage payment. The new incentive is expected to be implemented by the summer of 2019.

It was also announced that the tax-free amount that first-time homebuyers may withdraw from their RRSPs towards the purchase of their first home will increase from \$25,000 to \$35,000 (for withdrawals made after March 19th, 2019).

For more information, contact your neighbourhood branch to set up a meeting with a Casera mortgage specialist.

How a Budget Helps with Financial Planning

1. Your budget requires you to decide what your goals are and to establish priorities among those goals.
2. Your budget enables you to make better use of the money that comes into your hands.
3. Your budget also helps you to see whether all of your goals are attainable, given your current earning level and your income expectations in the long term.
4. Your budget can broaden your understanding of both the function of money and its potential.
5. Your budget tests your commitment to your goals. If your budget is well thought out and you stick to it, you will have discretionary income to use for other purposes than covering predictable expenses.

Source: *Budgeting Basics: The Workbook*. Download it at www.caseracu.ca > Personal > Investing