



Media Release

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Aldergrove Credit Union and G&F Financial Group make joint donation to BC Children's Hospital

Lower Mainland, BC: Aldergrove Credit Union and G&F Financial Group* are pleased to announce a joint gift of \$32,500 to the BC Children's Hospital Foundation (BCCHF).

BC Children's Hospital is the only hospital in the province that is dedicated exclusively to the care of children. The hospital helps more than 90,000 patients each year and has one of the best childhood cancer survival rates in Canada. While the hospital receives government support on an annual basis, it relies on the generosity of donors to deliver a higher level of care to its young patients. The funds donated by our credit unions will help purchase life-saving equipment and will support research on the treatment and prevention of childhood diseases. In addition, the funds will help the hospital be better prepared to respond when urgent needs arise.

Over the last 30 years, Aldergrove Credit Union (ACU) and G&F Financial Group (G&F) have donated an accumulated \$600,000 to the BC Children's Hospital, with ACU initiating the fundraising campaign in 1991 and G&F joining in 2001. Every year, employees rally to raise funds for the hospital. They are passionate about the campaign as many have a personal connection to the hospital which has provided their family members with medical care in the past.

This year, concurrent fundraisers were led by Anita Jensen, Corporate Governance Manager at ACU and Jesse Nakatsuru, Senior Manager of Business Transformation at G&F. Anita and Jesse sit on the BCCHF Credit Union Committee as Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively. Through the committee, they collaborated with five other credit unions to plan for fundraising efforts under pandemic restrictions. Due to physical distancing protocols, virtual games and activities took the place of in-person events such as the popular credit union softball tournament.

Powered by employee "superheroes", ACU and G&F held a variety of fundraising activities from April through May—including raffles, 50-50 draws, jeans days, bingo games, and wine draws. ACU members donated gifts to be raffled off and G&F members were happy to support the cause by purchasing Purdy's chocolates.

"Together with our members, employees and friends at G&F and in light of challenging times, we accomplished incredible fundraising goals that will ensure children and their families across BC get the care and support they need during the most difficult times of their life. We are beyond grateful to everyone involved, and look forward to raising the bar even higher in 2022," says Gus Hartl, CEO of Aldergrove Credit Union.

"G&F is proud of the success we've had with our peer, Aldergrove Credit Union, in raising funds for the BC Children's Hospital," says Bill Kiss and Jeff Shewfelt, Co-CEOs of G&F Financial Group. "Our employees get a huge sense of pride knowing their efforts have a lasting effect on children in need of the advanced medical care they can only find at BC Children's. We want to continue supporting this annual fundraiser in recognition of the vital work that the doctors, nurses and researchers are doing for children in our province."

*G&F Financial Group is the operating trade name of Gulf and Fraser Fishermen's Credit Union



About

Aldergrove Credit Union is a financial service cooperative located in the heart of the Fraser Valley. They offer personal and commercial banking, insurance and financial planning solutions to members and clients in the communities of Langley, Aldergrove, Abbotsford and Mission. www.aldergrovecu.ca

G&F Financial Group provides a full range of personal and business banking, investment and insurance solutions to their credit union members. With a passion for educating and empowering others to achieve their financial goals, they focus on providing advice tailored uniquely for each member and have supported members and invested in local communities for 80 years. www.gffg.com

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