



STRATHCONA CREDIT UNION

NEWSLETTER

October 2003



DECEMBER 2ND AT 4:30 P.M.

Once again you have a chance to participate in the running of your financial institution. Strathcona will hold its Annual General Meeting for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2003 on the date shown above. All members are invited to attend.

At the AGM President David Oram will present his Annual Report and the Report of the Board of Audit and Ethics will be received by the members. In addition, the audited financial statements for the past fiscal year will be presented.

The Board of Directors has already indicated its intention to recommend to the AGM that as much as possible of the surplus of the past year be rebated to the members. The details of this motion will be finalized when the audited statements have been produced.

You will be receiving an announcement of this meeting in the mail along with the proposed agenda shortly. The meeting will be held at:

**QPAT Building Conference Room
17035 Brunswick Boulevard
Kirkland, Quebec
H9H 5G6**

The QPAT building is where our Kirkland office is located. There is free parking available behind and beside the building. Join us and participate in the running of your Credit Union.

SERVICE CHARGE

It is a policy of Strathcona Credit Union to provide all our services for a monthly service charge of \$1.25 per member. Unfortunately, adjustments are sometimes required. The cost to the Credit Union for clearing Money Orders and Bank Drafts with foreign financial institutions has become significant and the Board of Directors made the decision to remove these instruments from the monthly service charge umbrella.

There is now an additional service charge of \$1.25 to be paid by the member for each Money Order or Bank Draft issued.

GO FULL SERVICE WITH SCU

Strathcona Credit Union is promoting new memberships in the organization. The first 100 individuals who join SCU before November 30, 2003 and sign up for direct deposit of their salary or pension will receive a \$50 credit to their account in time for the holiday season.

Current members can win too! Simply arrange with your employer or pension fund to have your salary or pension deposited directly into your Strathcona Credit Union account before the end of November. If you are within the first 100 mentioned above you will find \$50 deposited to your account in December.

The change to automatic payroll deposit is not easily displayed to our staff, therefore current members must also notify the Credit Union of the change. To do this simply telephone, fax or e-mail either office mentioning your employer's name and your folio number..

AccèsD "PAY YOUR BILLS" CONTEST

Pay a bill over the internet or by telephone using AccèsD and you may be a winner. The *Fédération Desjardins* is electronically choosing one bill payer each day for a prize equal to the amount of the bill paid to a maximum of \$200. In addition there is a grand prize of \$7,000 for a member chosen from amongst those who have added at least one new organization to their AccèsD bill payments file and made a payment to that account. The contest ends on December 13, 2003.

Please read the article entitled "Internet Warning" on the following page.

CURRENT RATES

PERSONAL LOANS	8.75 %
CONSOLIDATION LOANS	10.75 %
LINE OF CREDIT	7.25 %
MORTGAGES	
1 year term (open)	5.50 %
2 year term (closed)	4.25 %
3 year term (closed)	4.35 %
4 year term (closed)	4.75 %
5 year term (closed)	5.00 %
TERM DEPOSITS *	
6 months	1.75 %
1 year	2.50 %
2 years	2.75 %
3 years	3.25 %
4 years	3.50 %
5 years	4.00 %

* \$2,000 minimum. Rate subject to change without notice.
Monthly interest payment less 0.25 %. (103)

WRITING A WILL WON'T KILL YOU

Strathcona Credit Union will be present at the Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers (QPAT) Teachers' Convention this year. We will have our regular booth and will be sponsoring a session too. Make plans to join us.

Your Credit Union will have its booth set up in the Exhibitors' Hall. When you drop by you will be welcomed by staff members and volunteers. We will probably have a small gift or two for you.

This is a good opportunity to introduce a colleague (new or old) to your Credit Union. We will be happy to guide them through the sign-up procedure. Remember that the first 100 individuals who join before November 30th and opt for payroll deduction or direct deposit of salary will receive a cash reward of \$50 in December.

Even if you don't have someone to introduce to us come on by and renew acquaintances. Get your questions answered, fill out a new payroll deduction card, or just say "Hi". We will be watching for you.

Strathcona Credit Union will be sponsoring a session on wills, power of attorney, and mandate. Our speaker will be Notary France Sauvé. She says:

"Writing a will won't kill you! In fact, it is the only smart thing to do. In this day and age legal documents are

part of our daily life. Who does not need a will, a power of attorney or a mandate? These documents will give you peace of mind knowing that your wishes will be expressed if you die or become incapacitated.

"When one dies without a will it can create expensive and time consuming problems for family and loved ones. As well, the deceased's wishes are not considered. Without a will the estate will be distributed according to rigid set of rules laid down by the law—and the results may not be what one would expect.

"Life is complicated and so is the law, so don't let the law alone decide the disposition of your life's possessions. Find out about wills, powers of attorney, and mandates and the importance of having them." The session will held at:

QPAT Teachers' Convention

Palais des Congrès

Room 523-B

Thursday, November 13, 2003

6:30 to 7:45 p.m.

Join us before going to hear John Ralston Saul give the Plenary Address at 8:00p.m. First come, first seated.

INTERNET WARNING

Desjardins' Electronic Services Division is warning of the circulation of a fraudulent e-mail. The message, which is in English only, concerns an on-line contest supposedly organized by the *Mouvement des caisses Desjardins*. In the message the member is asked to connect to an unsecured, fraudulent website which is in no way connected with Desjardins or Strathcona Credit Union.

This email is **not** generated by the legitimate AccèsD "Pay Your Bills" contest described on page one of this newsletter.

If you have received such a message, **erase it** immediately **without** opening it.

If you have opened this message but not responded to it, you should be aware that there is a risk that your computer has have been attacked by a virus. In this case, you should run an up-to-date version of a virus scanning program. The particular virus to search for is **win32.myss.a**. Report the event to either office of Strathcona Credit Union.

If you have opened this message and responded to it giving any of your account information, call either office of Strathcona Credit Union or (outside of our business hours) call the Desjardins Technical Services at (514) 253-7350 (Montreal area) or 1-887-253-7350 (toll free in Canada).

The best way to protect oneself from a virus attack such as this is to have an up-to-date virus scan program running at all times along with a firewall system if you are using a high-speed internet connection.

To protect yourself from unauthorized access to your financial information and/or fraud, never give sensitive information over the internet or the telephone to anyone you do not **know** to be trustworthy and in need of such information regardless of how they may have identified themselves. Desjardins will never ask you for information over the telephone unless you initiated the call or over the internet unless your are connected to a secure Desjardins site with encryption. **No Desjardins employee will ever ask you for your PIN.**

Regardless of what you may have read in the press this event **never** compromised the Desjardins AccèsD system.

E-scams, viruses, identity thefts, and cloning of ATM cards are now risks of daily life. Next month we will give you a few tips on how to avoid them.