



STRATHCONA CREDIT UNION

NEWSLETTER

September 2003



IMPORTANT ATM CHANGE

YOUR ADDITIONAL PIN

In the interest of increasing security and avoiding fraud at ATMs Desjardins is putting a new procedure in place on September 14, 2003.

As of that date whenever a deposit of \$1,000 or more or a withdrawal of \$400 or more is made, an additional identification confirmation will be required of the member.

Note that the deposit and withdrawal amounts are per day, per card. When the maximum amounts are met or surpassed within the day on any one card (regardless of the number of folios represented on the card and regardless of the number of transactions made during the day) the new identification confirmation system will be instituted.

In the case when this additional confirmation is required, the member will be asked to enter the month and day of their birth. This is the only change in the ATM deposit and withdrawal procedure—all other operations remain the same.

This system, which requires information on file with your Credit Union but *not* encoded on your Desjardins Multiservices card, is an attempt to make the use of "cloned" or stolen ATM cards more difficult. Be certain NOT to mark the numbers of your birth month and day on your card.

TIMES, DATES, AND PLACES

Strathcona Credit Union ended its summer office hours at the beginning of September. Both offices are now open from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm. Remember, if you want to visit and your business will take more than a few minutes, give us a call first so that we can plan to have a staff member available to serve you without delay.

The West Island Office. Our West Island office is located at

17035 boul. Brunswick, suite 3
Kirkland, Quebec
H9H 5G6

We share the building with the Quebec Provincial Association of Teachers and the Pearson Teachers' Union. There is free parking available behind the building and on its east side.

The telephone number is 514 426-5111. The fax number and the number to call from a Montreal suburb (a location from which you can call free to

Montreal but pay long distance charges to the West Island) is 514 856-5703. **The Sherbrooke Street Office.** Our downtown Montreal office is located at:
1980 Sherbrooke Street West
Suite 270
Montreal, Quebec
H3H 1E8

There is metered parking on the streets surrounding this office building. In addition, there is relatively inexpensive off-street parking in a lot just a little to the west of the building on the north side of Sherbrooke. Watch for the sign and enter through the gate in the grey stone wall.

The telephone number downtown is 514 937-5515 and our fax number there is 514 937-9073.

All Strathcona Credit Union members can visit or phone either of our offices—whichever is most convenient. If you are calling in Canada from outside the Montreal and suburban area use our toll-free number: 1-888-350-5111. You will reach the Kirkland office, but even if you usually do business at the Sherbrooke office, a staff member will be able to help you. Remember that we are on-line at

www.strathconacu.ca

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)	5.10 %
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 %. (083)

SOUTH INTERLAKE CREDIT UNION IN MANITOBA

The first credit union in Canada was started by Alphonse Desjardins in Lévis Quebec. The federation which bears his name today is by far the largest grouping of cooperative financial institutions in Canada; nonetheless there are many credit unions outside Quebec. This is the story of one of them.

We will introduce you to others in some of our future issues--watch for Prince Edward Island next.

Manitoba's first credit union was founded in 1937 by a Roman Catholic parish priest, Father Benoit, in the farming community of St. Malo.

By 1939 there were 19 credit unions in that province with assets of \$49,000 and 2,406 members. Today, there are 57 credit unions in Manitoba serving more than 450,000 members at 172 branch locations. The assets of the credit union system exceed \$7 billion.

The South Interlake Credit Union was started by a group of farmers outside of Stonewall Manitoba in the mid-1950s. It had one volunteer staff person and assets of less than \$100. Today SICU is one of Manitoba's largest rural credit union networks. It has over \$250 million in assets, 115 employees, over 18,000 members and serves nine communities in the area north of Winnipeg to the southern shores of Lake Winnipeg.

SICU grew rapidly in the last decade as the chartered banks closed their branches in many rural communities. This growth has not led to complacency, however. An SICU publication states, "Rather than differentiating ourselves from other financial institutions based solely on our rates, our technology, or our locations, we have opted to ensure that all of our products and services live up to our mission of providing superior financial service. . . Even though SICU is an organization of change, we have never lost sight of the concept which helped bring South Interlake Credit Union to life so many years ago--'people helping people'. . . We are more than just a financial institution--we are part of the community."

SICU presently serves the Manitoba communities of Beausejour, Inwood, Lac du Bonnet, Pinawa, Pine Falls, Selkirk, Stonewall, Teulon, and Whitemouth. Demonstrating its commitment to becoming a permanent part of the communities where its members live, the Credit Union has launched a program of constructing new branch buildings and opening new locations.

The Lac du Bonnet building pictured on this page is an example of the simple, but welcoming architecture that this program has produced. A new branch building in Whitemouth will be opened soon.



SICU's new building in Lac du Bonnet



SICU members Jackie Sturton and Mike Attas wait to see the manager in the members' lounge of the Lac du Bonnet branch.