

\$ 200,000 for meaningful projects in Ontario!

Ontario, April 20, 2022— The board of directors of the Desjardins Ontario Credit Union are pleased to open the call for applications under its Working together on local projects program!

This program offers organizations in Ontario the opportunity to receive financial assistance in order to develop a project that will have a positive impact on the community. A maximum of \$25,000 will be awarded to each project selected for a total of \$200,000. This amount comes from the Community Development Fund. Members contribute to this fund by agreeing to redistribute a portion of their cooperative's surpluses to the community at the annual general meeting. Through this gesture of solidarity, members contribute to the development of meaningful projects that meet the needs of their community.

"Following a needs assessment of the Ontario communities we serve, in which several local stakeholders took part, Desjardins Ontario Credit Union is launching a call for applications to support organizations, associations and cooperatives that are working on meaningful projects that will have positive impacts on their local community. These projects must fall under 1 of the 5 priorities identified in the needs assessment and outlined in the credit union's community involvement plan," said Stéphane Trottier, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Desjardins Ontario Credit Union.

To learn about the guidelines, eligibility criteria and to submit a project, organizations should visit <u>www.desjardins.com/ontario</u> during the registration period, which runs from April 19 to May 31, 2022.

About the Desjardins Ontario Credit Union

Present in Ontario for over 100 years, the Desjardins Ontario Credit Union has recorded the largest growth in Canada for the second year in a row. Member of Desjardins Group, the largest financial cooperative in Canada, the credit union offers complete banking services for all types of clients and various needs. Because of its cooperative nature and financial strength, it shares a portion of its surplus earnings with its member-owners. In 2021, over \$12 million in dividends were distributed to individuals and communities in Ontario and hundreds of projects were supported.

-30-

Source: Sophie Gingras Director, Community Partnerships and Programs Desjardins Ontario Credit Union 1-833-337-5668 ext. 7303088 sophie.a.gingras@desjardins.com