



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

\$100,000 to help our neighbours

Ontario, December 1, 2022 – Once again this year, Desjardins Ontario Credit Union is expressing the spirit of generosity that it wishes to inspire in Ontario by donating \$100,000 to community organizations and food banks across the province.

"We support the communities we're in throughout the year with donations and sponsorships, but we know that the holiday season brings additional demands for our community organizations. We're happy that we can give this extra bit of help this time of year," said Francine Côté, Chair of the Desjardins Ontario Credit Union Board of Directors.

"The trust our members placed in us once again this year, combined with our good financial performance, enables us to give back even more to the communities we serve. Making donations right before the holidays is a longstanding tradition for Desjardins in Ontario. It's just one example of the kinds of practical actions we take to improve the economic and social well-being of Ontario people and communities," said William Boucher, General Manager and COO of Desjardins Ontario Credit Union.

Lucie Régimbald, Treasurer of the Carlsbad Springs Optimist Club, emphasizes that sharing is key during the holiday season: "Santa didn't only bring gifts for the little ones. Thank you to the Desjardins Ontario Credit Union for their generous donation."

André Perras, President of the Rockland Help Centre, explained how this donation will make a difference for the people they serve, "The price of food and cost of living mean that many families need our help. Desjardins Ontario Credit Union's support will go to the families in our community of Clarence-Rockland that need food and clothing throughout the year. On behalf of our board of directors and many volunteers, thank you!"

Rising staple food prices are hitting low-income families especially hard. The coordinator of the Partage Vanier food bank, Jean-Michel Rousseau, explains that Desjardins' contribution is lending a helping hand, "Folks who were already struggling to make ends meet just can't manage right now. It's the new way things are, and you can really feel it at food banks like Partage Vanier, where we're flooded with requests, and we need to buy more food to meet our clients' basic needs. Donations like this one from Desjardins help in this new era of inflation so we can purchase foods like milk, bread and cereal."

About Desjardins Ontario Credit Union

Desjardins Ontario Credit Union is operating in 48 branches to fulfill financial needs of more than 132,000 active members in the commercial, real estate, agricultural and private sectors. It has a business volume of more than \$19 billion and assets of more than \$10 billion. This strong, high-performing organization, with rich and diverse expertise, has 800 employees, making them an important employer in Ontario. It is governed by a board of directors consisting of 17 elected directors and 2 young intern directors. This Credit Union ranks 2nd among Ontario *Caisses Populaires* and Credit Unions according to assets and business volume.

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