

## **COAST CAPITAL SAVINGS CELEBRATES BC YOUTH WEEK** ***Surrey youth says giving back is paramount to being a better person***

**Surrey, BC** – Coast Capital Savings, Canada’s largest credit union by membership and one of Canada’s most significant corporate community investors, is recognizing BC Youth Week (May 1-7) by shining the spotlight on some of the amazing young people who are making a difference in their communities.

Coast Capital’s commitment to youth in the communities where they live and work is a key component of the credit union’s ethos. Each year, Coast Capital invests ten per cent of its bottom line into programs that help young Canadians achieve financial independence, including initiatives that deepen money management skills and habits.

In addition to the monetary support it offers community organizations, Coast Capital Savings runs a suite of signature youth programs that help build community connections, develop leadership skills and fund post-secondary education. These include the *Coast Capital Youth Community Councils*, a group of young people who are tasked with making granting decisions; *Coast Capital’s Youth Intern program* that provides unique work experience for students in branches and as Coast Capital ambassadors at community events and initiatives, and; *Coast Capital Youth Education Awards* that help support young people who have faced adversity in pursuing their post-secondary education goals.

Nikita Sharma, a Member of Coast Capital Saving’s Youth Intern Program says she is privileged to be involved with an organization for which community service is so important. “Community service is a value that my parents have always held in high esteem and one that has been a big part of my upbringing,” said Nikita. “The opportunity to serve my community as a member of the Coast Capital Youth Intern program has allowed me to gain both meaningful work experience and the chance to connect with my community.”



Nikita is involved in a number of volunteer activities, including the Canucks Autism Network. In school, she is Vice-President of Student Council and Senior Advisor of Outreach Charities – both of which involve community initiatives that support others.

A number of Youth Week activities are taking place in Surrey including a Subling and Me Drop-in on May 1<sup>st</sup>, Spikeball tournament on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and Youth Art Jam, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. For a full listing of activities, visit: <https://www.bcyouthweek.com/events>

“Youth Week is a terrific opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the amazing young people in our communities,” said Maureen Young, Coast Capital’s Director of Community Leadership. “It may seem cliché, but our youth are the leaders of tomorrow and its imperative that we offer them the opportunity to participate, develop and excel.”

### **About Coast Capital Savings**

Coast Capital Savings is Canada’s largest credit union by membership and B.C.’s first credit union to become a federal credit union. Owned by its 572,000 members, Coast Capital offers banking and investment services digitally and through its 52 branches in the Metro Vancouver, Fraser Valley, Okanagan, and Vancouver Island regions of British Columbia. An Imagine Canada Caring Company and a Certified B Corporation in recognition of its social performance, Coast Capital invests 10 per cent of its bottom line in youth focused community organizations, programs, partnerships and events. The credit union has been recognized as one of Canada’s Most Admired Corporate Cultures™, and holds a Best Managed Companies Platinum Club designation. Coast Capital has a history of introducing innovative products to help their members achieve financial wellbeing including Canada’s first free chequing account from a full-service financial institution and Help Extras®, enabling members to invest in their future. To learn more, visit [coastcapitalsavings.com](http://coastcapitalsavings.com).

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