

We're exploring the first-ever interprovincial merger!



Innovation 2024 New Year Recap Contents:

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Like-Minded Credit Union Partners

The Boards of Innovation and ABCU Credit Union (ABCU) are excited to announce they are exploring a merger. The partnership would bring groundbreaking changes to the credit union landscape, being the first-ever interprovincial merger.

This announcement follows preliminary discussions between the two organizations to evaluate the potential strengths and benefits that could be realized through a merger. Both credit unions have signed a Memorandum of Understanding which allows further evaluation of the partnership.

“One of the many benefits of becoming a federal credit union is the opportunity to partner with like-minded credit unions across Canada,” says Innovation Board Chair Russ Siemens. “It became

apparent early in our conversations with ABCU that our organizations shared the common desire to provide values-based co-operative banking services to our members in an innovative and member-focused manner.”

“Innovation is very proud of its strong dedication to the Co-operative Principles through our commitment to Responsible Banking™,” adds Innovation CEO, Daniel Johnson. “We are thrilled by the prospect of bringing free banking to ABCU members and providing additional in-person access to existing members with two new Alberta locations.”

The credit unions will now enter enhanced due diligence and stakeholder consultations to assess the merger opportunity. The decision to merge is subject to satisfactory due diligence, stakeholder consultation, regulatory approval, and member approval at both credit unions.



New Advice Centres

La Loche, SK - Innovation, in partnership with the Town Council, community organizations, local Nations, and businesses in the area, is working to establish financial services in the northern village of La Loche in 2024. The advice centre will have on-site advisors, a video-capable ATM, and video conference technology providing members direct access to any Innovation experts without having to travel.

We are working to determine and finalize the ideal location for the advice centre. In the meantime, our Mobile Advice Centre will be deployed to La Loche starting in the Spring.

Saskatoon, SK - Saskatoon will soon enjoy an advice centre on College Drive, right across from the University of Saskatchewan. Visitors will have access to free meeting spaces, an ATM, and Innovation staff who can answer any financial questions they have.

NEW! Monthly Transaction Rewards

Earn even more rewards simply by doing your everyday banking with us! You'll earn cash rewards for:

- Making a pre-authorized deposit.
- Making a pre-authorized payment.
- Paying a bill online.
- Depositing a cheque using our app.
- Subscribing to receive e-statements.

To learn more about the addition to our program, visit our website > About Us > Responsible Banking > Rewards.



You'll automatically receive cash rewards at the end of every month for banking digitally with us. View your Member Rewards Account to see what you've earned so far!



Member Rewards

Members earned about **\$1.15 million** in February including a youth cash dividend of **\$10!**



New Digital Loan Application

Our purpose is to simplify banking for you. That means adding new services and implementing new features to make banking easier. Introducing our new digital loan application! Now you can apply for a personal loan, line of credit, and mortgage or HELOC - coming soon!

How does it make applying easier?

- You can enter all your relevant information online 24/7.
- You choose the loan type, amount, and payment schedule that works best for you.
- You can easily scan or upload documents.
- You can save your application and return to it at a later date.
- You can track the status of your application.
- There are tool tips to help with any questions you have.

Where can I find the loan application?

- Log into online banking or your app.
- Choose More > Loan Applications

Refer to win a \$2,500 winter getaway!*



Refer a friend to Innovation. If they open a No-Fee Bank Account, you get \$50, they get \$50, and you're both entered to win a \$2,500 winter getaway!*



Offer deadline: March 31, 2024
Visit our home page to learn more!

**Terms & Conditions apply.*

2024 Ag Outlook

Innovation and Stark & Marsh were thrilled to host Ag Outlook on January 23rd at the Event Centre in Swift Current, SK. The event was attended by 115 in-person attendees and 140 virtual attendees from three different countries, and 13 states and provinces.

Thank you to our keynote speakers Brad Magnusson and Lesley Kelly who shared valuable insights on the world, cattle and commodities outlooks, and the importance of mental well-being.

To view a recording of the event, please scan this QR Code.



2023 Community Investment

As part of our Responsible Banking™ movement, we give 2% to 4% of our pre-tax profits back to our communities. In 2023, we donated a total of \$1,116,394 to community development!

2023 Staff Donations

Innovation staff members also contribute part of their paycheques to community organizations that matter to them. In 2023, they donated \$21,422 to CMHA Saskatchewan. We thank them for their generosity!



Responsible Banking™ Alert:
Our USD Account now has no transaction fees!





Community snapshot.

CCAB Membership

We are honored to now be a member of the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB). The CCAB is committed to promoting a prosperous Indigenous economy by fostering business relationships and opportunities for all its members. We look forward to working with the council and our Indigenous partners to create a more inclusive and equitable future for all!



Family Skate

Thank you to everyone who could attend our free Family Skate event in Swift Current on February 19th! The enjoyable day featured free skating, a charity lunch, and prize giveaways. Special thanks to Pioneer Co-op, our event partner, for making the afternoon such a tremendous success.

Indigenous Women's Empowerment Summit

We are honored to be a \$10,000 Gathering Circle Sponsor at the Indigenous Women's Empowerment Summit taking place March 9, 2024, in Saskatoon. This year's theme is Transforming Trauma Into Triumph.



For more information about the event, visit:

<https://www.kendraweenie.com/indigenous-womens-empowerment-summit>

Scholarships

Remember to apply for our No Essay Scholarships! You can win a monthly draw of \$1,000 or if you're an Innovation member, a \$10,000 scholarship!

Deadline to apply for \$1,000 scholarship: the 15th of every month

Deadline to apply for \$10,000 scholarship: March 31, 2024

