

# COMMUNICATOR

Spring 2024

## 2023 In Review

### Profits returned to members

Creston & District Credit Union is pleased to report another successful year of operation and we present the results to our members. In 2023, we experienced persistently high inflation, higher interest rates, and the labour market remained strong. Despite the challenging economic environment, our Credit Union continued to perform well. The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the following dividends and patronage for the year ended December 31, 2023:

- 6% equity dividend on Class C Equity Shares and Class C RRSP Equity Shares

- 6% patronage refund on loan interest paid
- 6% patronage premium on deposit interest earned
- 12% service charge refund

All patronage and service charge rebates were paid as cash to members' accounts. The equity share dividend was added to the member's equity share balance. All transactions were processed to member's accounts in January of 2024. In total, \$543,982 of our operating income has been returned to our members, which is an increase of 33% over the prior year.

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Creston & District Credit Union will be held in-person on Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 7:00pm at the Creston & District Community Complex in the Creston Room. Doors open at 6:30pm.



Judy Kriese photo

### Director Elections

At the close of this year's Annual General Meeting, the terms for current Directors Carole Materi, and Don Tarrant will expire. A call for Director Nominations was mailed to the membership on January 19, 2024.

The Nominating Committee has received and accepted qualified nominations for Keith Goforth, Carole Materi, and Don Tarrant. As there are three candidates seeking two Director positions, and Election of Directors will take place at our Annual General Meeting on April 25, 2024. Voting will also be available in-branch on Thursday, April 18th, Friday, April 19th, and Saturday, April 20th during regular business hours at 140 - 11th Avenue North.

To be eligible to vote, members must be 19 years of age or older and must be a member in good standing at least 90 days prior to the commencement of voting. Each person shall present proof of age, identity, and membership when voting. Each member may only cast one ballot and each ballot must contain votes equal to or less than the number of persons to be elected, any ballot indicating otherwise is void.

# Meet the Candidates



## Keith Goforth

My name is Keith Goforth. My wife, Joy, and I have lived in the Creston Valley for over 20 years . We raised 8 children and have had several businesses, mostly in the service and construction industries. I am currently retired and now have more time to pursue personal interests and community service. A huge interest I have is in finances and educating the public on how to become better managers. In today's economy, I see many individuals and families struggling with finances, paying high interest on credit cards and other loans. I believe the Creston Valley and District Credit Union can be a catalyst for developing and promoting education programs here in our community, by offering membership incentives, especially to the youth and running mini classes that teach fiscal literacy. It's a positive way to give back to the community and assist the many people struggling with higher interest rates, inflation and increased taxation.

When the Credit Unions in Canada were developed, it was on “cooperative principles and strong ethical values such as honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.” ([ccua.com](http://ccua.com))

The original intents of Credit Unions were to reinvest any profits earned back into the Credit Unions or to direct the profits to support members and the community. As director, I will work hard to serve, increase, and educate our members while keeping our institution strong, growing, and fiscally sound.

Directors play a vital role in implementing the goals, values, and direction of the Credit Union, yet less than 5 % of our members voted in the last election. I need your help. I need your vote. Your best effort to get out and vote will allow me to give my best effort to serve you in return. Know that we are stronger together.



Anna Vondrousova photo

# Meet the Candidates



## Carole Materri

I am a Director with the Creston & District Credit Union. I have lived in Creston for 35 years and I am an active volunteer in the community. I have volunteered with the local MS Society, Creston Army Cadets for 14 years, Rotary, and currently with the RCMP as Coordinator for the Restorative Justice Program for over 20 years.

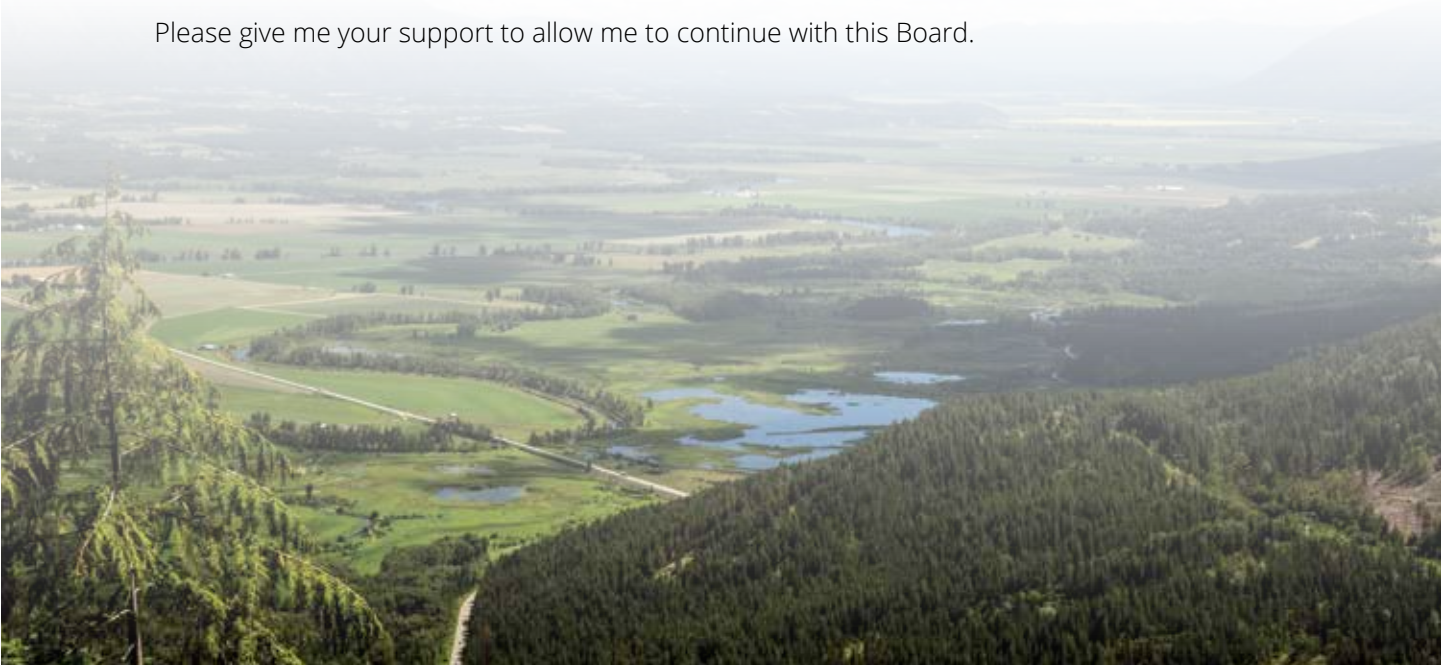
I studied Secretarial Sciences at Red River College. I worked as an Executive Assistant at an engineering firm in Winnipeg and Vancouver. I owned a wedding shop in Kelowna. In Creston, I worked at the Library for 4 years, and as a part-time prison guard at the RCMP Detachment for 4 years and served in the Army Reserve for 11 years.

As a Credit Union director, I have taken more than 50 courses, have sat on literally every committee, and held all of the executive positions.

I thoroughly believe in our Credit Union and feel a great pride in what we do for our community and the donations we make. I enjoy working on the board, whether it be serving coffee and cake on Credit Union Day, helping to plan our anniversary celebrations, taking courses, attending meetings, or making decisions as to how our Credit Union can best move forward.

I look forward to continuing on this board. I am trained, qualified, experienced and consistent. I will put in the time and work to do what is best for our Credit Union and our membership.

Please give me your support to allow me to continue with this Board.



Irene Dubeau photo

# Meet the Candidates



## Don Tarrant

For the past 15 years I have had the pleasure of serving you as your director for your credit union. I have put in my best efforts to serve you.

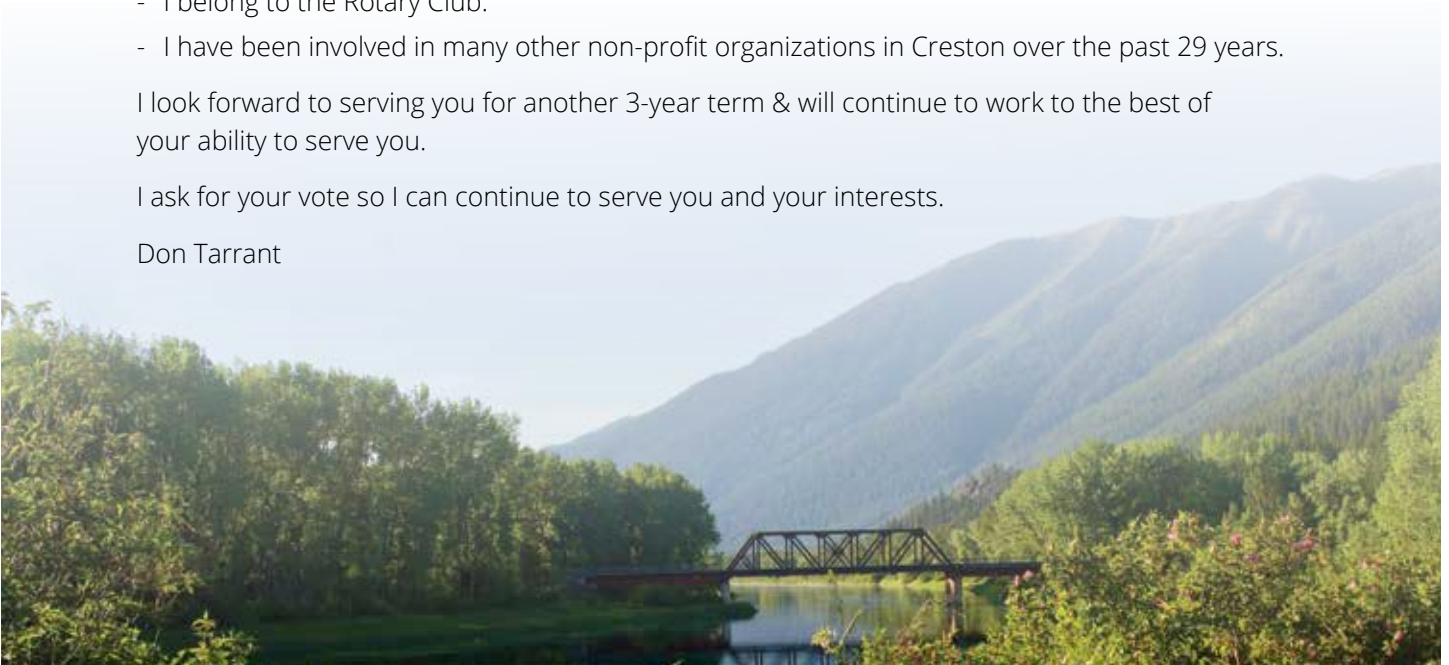
During my tender as a director of your credit union:

- I have completed 25 accredited Credit Union courses and approximately 19 webinars of various CU topics.
- In this past year I became the first & only director of the Creston & District Credit Union to become an Accredited Canadian Credit Union Director, (ACCUD). To obtain this qualification I had to take studies from Dalhousie University and write a supervised exam. This was a 2-month process, studying every day so I could improve my knowledge & skills to serve you better.
- This past year I have had 100% attendance at all board meetings & committee meetings, which shows my dedication to you, the owners of our credit union.
- I am 1 of 4 directors for Growth Financial (our insurance company)
- I am your representative for the Peer Group 3 committee which represents all the credit unions in the Kootenays
- I am Vice-Chair of the board of directors and sit on 4 different committees.
- I chair the Board of Variance committee for the Town of Creston
- I belong to the Rotary Club.
- I have been involved in many other non-profit organizations in Creston over the past 29 years.

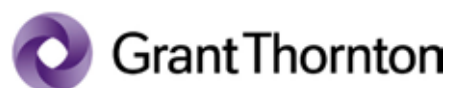
I look forward to serving you for another 3-year term & will continue to work to the best of your ability to serve you.

I ask for your vote so I can continue to serve you and your interests.

Don Tarrant



Karen Whitford photo



# Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summarized Consolidated Financial Statements

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To the members of [Creston & District Credit Union](#)

## Opinion

The accompanying summarized consolidated financial statements, which comprise the summarized consolidated statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, the summarized consolidated statements of comprehensive income, changes in members' equity, and cash flows for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of Creston & District Credit Union as at December 31, 2023.

In our opinion, the accompanying summarized consolidated financial statements are a fair summary of the financial statement, in accordance with Article 128 of the Financial Institutions Act of B.C.

## Summarized Consolidated Financial Statements

The summarized consolidated financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by International Financial Reporting Standards. Reading the summarized consolidated financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Credit Union's audited consolidated financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

The summarized consolidated financial statements and the audited consolidated financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited consolidated financial statements.

## The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those consolidated financial statements in our report dated March 23, 2024.

## Management's Responsibility for the Summarized Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited consolidated financial statements in accordance with Article 128 of the Financial Institutions Act of B.C.

## Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summarized consolidated financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements."

Kelowna, Canada  
March 23, 2024

*Grant Thornton LLP*  
Chartered Professional Accountants

## Creston & District Credit Union Summarized Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

December 31	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12,031,535	\$ 9,121,525
Investments	67,123,468	72,861,241
Receivables and prepaid expenses	293,863	331,470
Loans	99,949,806	96,764,573
Property and equipment	927,049	977,118
Investment property	337,495	346,667
Investment in and advances to associates	<u>10,060,354</u>	<u>10,264,377</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 190,723,570</b>	<b>\$ 190,666,971</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Deposits	\$ 162,391,866	\$ 164,492,088
Payables and other liabilities	1,202,057	1,156,335
Income taxes payable	156,390	94,257
Deferred income tax	<u>1,000</u>	<u>29,000</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b><u>163,751,313</u></b>	<b><u>165,771,680</u></b>
<b>Members' equity</b>		
Retained earnings	23,570,921	21,564,298
Members' shares	3,451,974	3,574,585
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	<u>(50,638)</u>	<u>(243,592)</u>
<b>Total members' equity</b>	<b><u>26,972,257</u></b>	<b><u>24,895,291</u></b>
	<b>\$ 190,723,570</b>	<b>\$ 190,666,971</b>

On behalf of the Board



Director



Director

## Creston & District Credit Union Summarized Consolidated Statement of Earnings and Comprehensive Income

Year ended December 31	2023	2022
Financial income	\$ 7,121,999	\$ 5,053,397
Financial expense	<u>1,610,027</u>	<u>779,219</u>
Financial margin	5,511,972	4,274,178
Other income	<u>1,396,546</u>	<u>1,342,879</u>
Operating income	6,908,518	5,617,057
Operating expenses		
Salary and employee benefits	2,187,569	1,830,407
General and administrative	1,284,717	1,168,184
Occupancy and equipment	449,508	311,253
Distributions to members	<u>543,982</u>	<u>408,573</u>
Earnings before income taxes	2,442,742	1,898,640
Income taxes	<u>436,119</u>	<u>427,892</u>
<b>Net earnings</b>	<b>\$ 2,006,623</b>	1,470,748
Other comprehensive gain (loss), net of tax		
Items that will be reclassified to net income	192,954	(186,066)
Items that will never be reclassified to net income	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b><u>2,199,577</u></b>	<b><u>1,284,682</u></b>

## Creston & District Credit Union Summarized Consolidated Statement of Changes in Members' Equity

Year ended December 31, 2023

	Members' Shares	Retained Earnings	Accumulated other comprehensive income	Total members' equity
<b>Balance on December 31, 2021</b>	<b>\$ 3,900,494</b>	<b>\$ 20,093,550</b>	<b>\$ (57,526)</b>	<b>\$ 23,936,518</b>
Net earnings		1,470,748	-	1,470,748
Unrealized loss on debt securities, net of tax (\$68,819)	-	-	(186,066)	(186,066)
Change in members' shares, net	(325,909)		-	(325,909)
<b>Balance on December 31, 2022</b>	<b>3,574,585</b>	<b>21,564,298</b>	<b>(243,592)</b>	<b>24,895,291</b>
Net earnings	-	2,006,623	-	2,006,623
Unrealized gain on debt securities, net of tax (\$71,366)	-	-	192,954	192,954
Change in members' shares, net	(122,611)	-	-	(122,611)
<b>Balance on December 31, 2023</b>	<b>\$ 3,451,974</b>	<b>\$ 23,570,921</b>	<b>\$ (50,638)</b>	<b>\$ 26,972,257</b>

## Creston & District Credit Union Summarized Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31	2023	2022
<b>Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Operating activities	\$ (3,671,916)	\$ (1,315,980)
Financing activities	(122,611)	(325,909)
Investing activities	<u>6,704,537</u>	<u>(7,980,022)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>2,910,010</u>	<u>(9,621,911)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	<u>9,121,525</u>	<u>18,743,436</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 12,031,535</b>	<b>\$ 9,121,525</b>

A full set of consolidated financial statements are available from the Credit Union

## Creston & District Credit Union

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## Board of Directors

**Don Low**  
*President*

**Don Tarrant**  
*Vice President*

**Rob Simpson**  
*Secretary*

**Carrie Czar**  
*Director*

**Carole Materi**  
*Director*

**Rick Minichiello**  
*Director*

**Jim Ryckman**  
*Director*

## Management

**Lawrence Makortoff**  
*CEO*

**Kelly Marshall**  
*Manager, Retail & Administration*

**Farrah Boychuk**  
*Manager, Commercial Lending*

## Mission Statement

Creston & District Credit Union is and will continue to be a sound, profitable, independent, progressive, service-oriented financial institution. We are dedicated to serving our member's needs and committed to contributing to the well-being of our community.

Follow us on Facebook for news, information and stories about your credit union and community.

