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## Chair's Report



On October 19 along with Tony Niessen, Executive Director, I was pleased to receive on behalf of the staff and Board of OCUCF the Ontario Co-op

2011 Distinguished Co-operator Spirit Award. Our Foundation was recognized at the Ontario Annual Co-op Conference and Gala in Burlington. We appreciate this award and our partnership with On Co-op. As we approach the International Year of Co-operatives in 2012, your Charitable Foundation is planning some special initiatives. New ways to increase our membership and to continue our outreach to credit unions and other partners will unfold in the next few months.

Once again, on October 13, the staff and Board members participated in a strategic planning day facilitated by Denyse Guy, recently appointed Executive Director of the Canadian Co-operative Association. Your Foundation continues to strengthen governance and find new ways to be YOUR GIVING PARTNER. OCUCF partners with credit unions to support their communities. Two thirds of the funds distributed by the Foundation are directed to education, healthcare and poverty relief in Ontario while one third is assigned overseas. Through its international alliances, the Foundation funds disaster relief and credit union development initiatives.

I am pleased to report that there are many entries on the Foundation's 2011 Wall of Achievement including:

- Received the 2011 On Co-op Spirit Award
- Implemented an internal audit policy and procedures
- Strengthened our risk management policy and procedures
- CUMIS became a title sponsor for the Foundation's Annual Golf and Culinary event and our newsletter publication
- Initiated the development of a new website with a Facebook link
- Completed of a Board Group Assessment
- Sponsorship for funding the IYC 2012 youth program (CROCS) to select a start up co-operative which will create jobs
- Launched the most diverse number of CanHelp fundraising programs for disaster relief in Japan, Horn of Africa and Goderich
- Continued support of Ontario related International Women's Mentoring Program in partnership with CDF
- Achieved first ever corporate lifetime memberships from Everlink and Concentra.

Preparing to celebrate IYC 2012 your staff and Board members will continue our efforts to be transparent in the way we do business and will maintain our focus on our three strategic directions:

1. Mission clarification and achievement
2. Financial performance and
3. Effective and accountable governance.

Thank you for your continuing support of the important work of the Ontario Credit Union Charitable Foundation. Together we can continue to make a world of difference.

**Earl G. Campbell - Chair of the Board**

Issue No. 8 • December 2011

## Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays

The Board and Staff of OCUCF Would Like to Wish Joy and Peace to All this Holiday Season.

## MISSION

Partnering in the support of education, healthcare and poverty relief. Providing international development and disaster recovery.

## Events Supporting the Foundation

**Central 1 AGM  
April 19-21, 2012**

Harbour Westin Hotel, Toronto

**Foundation AGM, Silent Auction and Travel Draw  
April 19-21, 2012**

Harbour Westin Hotel, Toronto

**Foundation Golf and Culinary Classic  
June 11, 2012**

Royal Niagara Golf Club

Proud sponsor of this newsletter:

**CUMIS**



## If You've Supported the Foundation in 2011 You Can Take Some Credit

Funds we receive from you, go to many quality charities throughout Ontario. Here's what you can say in your annual report, newsletters or marketing materials to take some credit: *'In 2011, we, through our support of the Ontario Credit Union Charitable Foundation supported over 25 Ontario charities (Food Banks, Hospitals, shelters, libraries, the Goderich Disaster Relief Fund) and so many other worthwhile causes plus the development of credit unions internationally!'* Should you wish to discuss the personalization of this kind of statement please contact **Tony Niessen at 289-335-1152 or through [tony@ontariocucf.ca](mailto:tony@ontariocucf.ca)**

## Corporate Achievement Award Deadline for Nominations

The **Corporate Achievement Award** has been won by both large and medium sized credit unions that have displayed exemplary service to their members and the community. It is important to acknowledge the leaders in our province and we can all learn from the example they set.

Please consider nominating a credit union for this award which acknowledges outstanding community giving and charitable works. Why not nominate your own credit union!

The nomination form can be downloaded at **[www.ontariocucf.ca/news](http://www.ontariocucf.ca/news)** - completed forms must be returned to our Executive Director no later than March 9th, 2012.

Any questions, please contact either **Tony or Devon at 289-335-1152.**



## Foundation Honoured with Distinguished Co operator Award

On October 19th the OCUCF was honoured before 200 fellow co operators with the Distinguished Co operator Award. For over 30 years the Foundation has provided financial support for hundreds of Ontario charities in partnership with credit unions. In addition we have partnered with the Canadian Co operative Development Foundation to fund and support credit union development in third world countries. The On Co op's Conference and Gala at Burlington's Royal Botanical Gardens was a fitting venue for the presentation of a number of annual awards judged by a panel of Ontario's finest. The board and staff at the Foundation are proud to be associated with On Co op and have very much appreciated working with Denyse Guy and Mark Ventry in our support of their Co op Young Leaders program.



Second from left **Earl Campbell**, Chair with **Tony Niessen** second to right surrounded by Co op Young Leader participants at the 2011 Co op Gala



## Canada Considering a Revamp of How Charities & Not-For-Profits Are Funded

*Eighth of a series of articles by Penny Rintoul of RZCD Law LLP*

Canada will soon be considering a significant overhaul of the way it funds charities and not-for-profits. Although the first step will be a change in how grants are handled, later steps might include increasing tax credits for charitable giving, and allowing charities to operate businesses (something they are now prohibited from doing) to generate income to support their charitable objectives.

This work is inspired by the “Big Society” policy of the Conservative Party in the United Kingdom 2010 election. The plan, which is now part of the legislative agenda in the U.K., includes the establishment of a Big Society Bank and an expectation of a period of national non-military service by teenagers, with the objectives of giving communities more powers, encouraging citizens to take a more active role in their communities, transferring power from central to local governments, supporting co-operatives, not-for-profits and charities as well as social enterprises.

The Canadian Task Force on Social Finance, which was conceived by Social Innovation Generation (a partnership among various public foundations and research institutes) then issued a report in December 2010, recommending various rule changes to encourage public and private foundations to make non-traditional investments in other charities and not-for-profits to advance the missions of those foundations, to develop governmental investment funds to make social or environmental investments, to develop new bond and bond-like investment to encourage the investment of private capital in social and environmental investments, to encourage pension funds to make social and environmental investments, to develop tax incentives for social and environmental investments, and to develop charities’ abilities to operate successfully businesses to earn income to support their charitable objectives.

The federal government is now giving this report, and the ideas of the U.K. government, serious consideration. We will be watching developments in this area carefully.

## Foundation Golf and Culinary Classic

Monday, June 11th

Royal Niagara Golf Course

Please consider this event when finalizing your 2011 budgets.



*If you are interested in a sponsorship please call:*

**Tony at 289-335-1152**  
e-mail: [tony@ontariocucf.ca](mailto:tony@ontariocucf.ca)

## United Communities Credit Union Issues You a Challenge.

Recently United Communities Credit Union teamed up with the Trillium Gift of Life Foundation to help increase organ donor awareness. In Ontario only 19% of residents are registered donors. There are 1500 residents waiting for life saving organ donations and every 3 days one of them dies waiting. At a recent staff meeting, United Communities showed all their staff some compelling organ donor videos and put a challenge out to become donors. **Within 2 weeks, 47% of their staff has reported being registered donors! Each donor can save up to 8 lives and enhance the lives of another 15!**

United Communities would like to challenge other credit unions to do the same and one work place at a time we can help save lives in Ontario.

Did you know that if you have the old red & white health card and have signed the paper donor form you may not be a registered donor? To check if you are registered or to become a donor, log on to [www.beadonor.ca](http://www.beadonor.ca). All you need is your social insurance and OHIP numbers.

If your credit union would like more information on putting out a challenge contact **Liz Arkinstall** at [liz.arkinstall@myunited.ca](mailto:liz.arkinstall@myunited.ca). Also if your credit union does get involved send Liz your totals, so we can keep a tally of how many donors we have in the CU system!

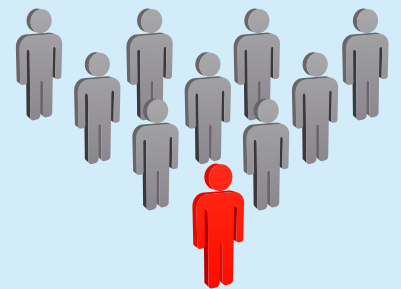


## Call for Nominations to the Board of Directors

The Foundation's Recruitment Committee is seeking nominations for election to the Board.

Foundation members are invited to submit nominations for the 2012 election to the Board of Directors which will be held at the Harbour Westin Hotel in April, in conjunction with the Central 1 AGM. Completed nomination forms must be submitted to the Executive Director by Feb 29th, 2012. Forms are available on our website [www.ontariocucf.ca/news](http://www.ontariocucf.ca/news)

If you have any questions about board responsibilities, meetings etc., please contact **Tony Niessen** at **289-335-1152** or e-mail [tony@ontariocucf.ca](mailto:tony@ontariocucf.ca)



## We Have a Model Donations Policy for You

Looking for an example of how to structure a policy around community giving and social responsibility. Visit our website at [www.ontariocucf.ca](http://www.ontariocucf.ca) for a copy of our model policy. All you have to do is customize it to your own requirements.

## In Memoriam

If you have experienced the passing of a loved one or close business associate, instead of sending flowers, give a more lasting gift of a donation to the Ontario Credit Union Charitable Foundation.

We'll send a letter of condolence to the family on your behalf and they'll know you cared. Just call us or send details of the address of the family member you wish to receive the card and we'll take care of the rest.



## 2012 the International Year of Co-operatives

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2012 as the **International Year of Co-operatives**, having recognized the strength and diversity of the co-operative movement around the world. On January 12th 2012, twelve regions across Canada will launch the International Year on the same day. We hope you will join by celebrating the Ontario launch which is at City Hall, 1 Carden St. Guelph starting at 11:30 A.M. If you are interested in the full celebratory arrangements including a lunch at The Co-operators, please call **On Co-op** at **1-519-763-8271** for details.



## Easy Steps to Obtain Matched Funding

The Foundation provides **funding of up to \$5000** for credit union charitable initiatives supporting your communities. Your request must support education, healthcare or poverty relief and your credit union must raise all or an important portion of the funds yourself. Your credit union must be an assessment donor corporate member as most are and we will request a cheque copy of your portion of the donation. In addition to our normal matching program we are also offering up to \$2000 to participating credit unions this winter who are raising food for their local Food Banks on a first come first served basis with an aggregate total of \$20,000.



**Next Step:** Call or email **Tony or Devon (289-335-1152)** for a matching request form...fill it out and send it in.

Since 2001 your Foundation has **donated over \$500,000** to Ontario charities supported by Ontario credit unions. We hope you will participate with us in this worthwhile program.

### Your 2011 OCUCF Board of Directors:

<b>Earl Campbell/Chair</b>	Past Chair of Alterna Savings, Past Vice Chair of Alterna Bank
<b>Guido Chezzi/Vice Chair</b>	Executive, Retired
<b>David Schurman/Treasurer</b>	EVP & COO, FirstOntario Credit Union
<b>Paul Everitt/Director</b>	Strategic Account Manager, CUMIS
<b>Liz Arkinstall/Director</b>	Manager of Community Relations, United Communities Credit Union
<b>Deanna Basso/Director</b>	Marketing Coordinator, HMECU
<b>Tim Bossence/Director</b>	CEO, Retired
<b>Mark Ventry/Director</b>	Membership & Communications Manager, On Co-op
<b>George De La Rosa/Director</b>	CEO, Luminus Credit Union

### Directors Emeritus

<b>Tim Dauphinee</b>	Retired Scientist
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### The Ontario Credit Union Charitable Foundation

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