



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Community Response Fund Awards Additional \$32,000 to Local Organizations

**Friday, July 10, 2020** – The Powell River Community Response Fund has awarded an additional \$32,000 to be distributed to five different projects affected by COVID-19, bringing the total amount donated to local community organizations to over \$93,000.

“We are grateful to have the ability to support these local organizations and we’re impressed with the variety of services being offered to our more vulnerable neighbours in this community,” says Cathy Fisher, Powell River District & United Way.

The most recent round of funding was awarded to the following organizations:

- Powell River Community Radio Society (\$1,000) – to support local community programming
- Malaspina Art Society (\$4,000) – to purchase art supply care packages for children and seniors who have been particularly affected by COVID-19
- Bike Lund, Lund Community Society (\$5,000) – to provide free refurbished bicycles to low-income individuals living in qathet Region to meet their transportation needs during COVID-19
- Lift Community Services (\$12,000) – to purchase basic hygiene, first aid, personal care, and food supplies for vulnerable members of the community.
- Powell River Model Community Project (\$10,000) – to support the K-Lumet Pilot Project to train and employ people with high barriers to employment in manufacturing fire starters.

“These not-for-profit organizations have been greatly impacted by COVID-19,” says Shirley Court, Powell River Community Foundation. “It’s been exciting to see the community come together to support them and the important work they do.”

The allocated funds provide support to frontline services to vulnerable populations affected by COVID-19. Services could include: food security; financial wellness; health and hygiene; home care or personal support services; information and navigation; legal supports; mental health and wellness; shelter; safety; social inclusion and learning, and transportation.

“This fund is helping local not-for-profit organizations meeting the urgent needs of vulnerable people affected by COVID-19,” says Tara Chernoff, VP Community and Marketing at First Credit Union. “We encourage local organizations delivering this type of support to apply for the next round of funding.”

Next funding deadline date is Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. To apply for funding or donate to the fund, visit the [Powell River Community Foundation website](#).

*The Powell River Community Response Fund is a special fund to rapidly deploy essential relief to organizations providing frontline services to those disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. The partnership is led by Powell River and District United Way, Powell River Community Foundation, and First Credit Union, with support from the Regional Social Planner, representing the City of Powell River, qathet Regional District, and Tla’amin Nation.*

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