

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 24, 2015



### **VOLUNTEERS HONOUR CREDIT UNION BOARD ORIGINAL**

**Bowen Island, BC** – April 24, 2015 – First Credit Union Branch Manager, Kevin Manning is joined by volunteers to construct the Dick Van Aelst Memorial Welcome Gazebo and honour a Bowen resident who contributed much to the community and Credit Union.

The new structure, located on the municipal wharf, will serve as a ferry shelter for high school students, commuters, locals and tourists alike. It will also be a bandstand for Steamship Days Festival, a bar or ticket booth for the Dock Dance and act as an info and welcome centre as it will house maps of popular Bowen Island sites and trails and information on commercial centres and local businesses.

“Dick was a member of the original Bowen Island Credit Union Board and contributed many hours and immeasurable positive energy and guidance into the branch in the formative years”, shares Manning, “this type of community hub is an ideal way to honour the memory of him.”

“On behalf of First Credit Union, I wish to thank the volunteers and the Bowen Building Centre for their kind support of this project,” says Manning. Among the volunteers were Alec Pelzer of Valek Fine Homes, Andy Rainsley of Bowenshire Stoneworks and Landscaping and Dave Atkinson of Kore Residential.

Funds for the project were donated to the community by First Credit Union in 2013 when the Bowen Island membership of First Credit Union voted to eliminate the unique to Bowen E-shares and switch from the Community Partnership Branch model to being a standard branch under the First Group of Companies umbrella.

Construction of the Dick Van Aelst Memorial Welcome Gazebo commenced April 18<sup>th</sup> and is scheduled to be complete by May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

For more information or with questions about the project, please contact:

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First Credit Union is a community-based financial co-operative serving the needs of more than 10,000 members, 30,000 insurance clients, and their communities. First Credit Union and Insurance operates in Powell River, Texada, Comox Valley, and Bowen Island with 5 credit union branches and 5 insurance offices. As the longest-running credit union in BC, First Credit Union uses its \$270 million in credit union assets *‘to strengthen the well-being of our member-clients and make a meaningful community impact.’*

First Credit Union gives back to members through dividends and patronage, and to communities through community impact programs, donations, sponsorships, and events.

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For more information:

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