

Comox Valley, BC, January 2, 2014: First Insurance recently donated \$1,500 to Unit 59 Lighthouse Country Marine Rescue Society for the Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue (RCM SAR). The donation was used to buy new safety vests, which are a new equipment requirement.

Unit 59 Lighthouse Country Marine Rescue Society serves Union Bay down to Qualicum Bay and has 16 active members. Treasurer Phil Dyke says he loves being a part of Unit 59 for the “camaraderie, invaluable training, [and] being able to give back to the community.” The tight-knit members look forward to training each week so that local residents of Vancouver Island can feel protected.

With two days a week of training, Phil says they’re “ready for any emergency on the water.” They practice “man overboard training, towing distressed vessels, firefighting, first aid training, basic boating skills of navigation radar,” and many other training drills. The safety vests are a critical piece of equipment, and the volunteers are grateful for First Insurance’s \$1,500 donation.

“These vests are actually our toolkit,” Phil says. “They’re the ones that...carry our radios, our strobe lights, first-aid kit, knife, whistle, mirror, [and] respirator for reviving people that are in distress. It’s something that is very much worn every time we go on the boat.”

First Insurance is equally excited to provide the donation, especially with one of their staff being an active member of Unit 59 RCM SAR. First Insurance marketing coordinator Pamela Jolin says, “We are proud to support such an incredible organization. They do so much for our communities, so we’re happy to provide them with the safety gear they need.”

First Insurance’s history spans more than 40 years on Vancouver Island; as a wholly-owned subsidiary of First Credit Union, their corporate philosophy sets them apart from any other insurance provider. Every year, profits from First Insurance are re-invested back into the community to impact the lives of thousands of residents who are involved with sports, culture, education, and community events.

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