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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIRST CREDIT UNION RECEIVES WYTH FINANCIAL "EMPOWERING YOUR COMMUNITY" GRANT TO SUPPORT LET'S TALK TRASH EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE AT RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE

qathet Regional District, BC – On Tuesday, April 5, Wyth Financial awarded a \$5,000 grant to First Credit Union and the Let's Talk Trash Team to develop educational signage at the qathet Regional District's Resource Recovery Centre through the "Empowering Your Community" grant program. In addition to the \$5,000 Wyth grant, First Credit Union has committed up to \$7,000 for a total of \$12,000 to allow for the full realization of the signage project.

The sign categories will focus on three key areas: depicting waste management practices of the past, present and future, identifying waste materials found on-site during the landfill closure phase that have been repurposed to provide a new function and providing native plant species identification along the trail network.

Since 2011, Wyth Financial has been partnering with credit unions to invest in community projects nationwide. Credit union partners are invited to apply for grants on behalf of their community. This project is one of just two successful proposals in British Columbia.

"Our purpose at First Credit Union is to empower through knowledge, and we are grateful to the Let's Talk Trash Team for the many community projects they have executed to support environmental sustainability education in our region," said Caitlin Bryant, Social Impact Specialist at First Credit Union. "We are so happy that Wyth saw the value in this project and we look forward to seeing it come to life at the new Resource Recovery Centre."

"qathet Regional District is committed to working towards the goal of Zero Waste and we are thrilled to receive this funding to highlight innovative and creative uses of on-site waste material and encourage the repurposing and diverting materials from the landfill," said Abby McLennan of the qathet Regional District's Let's Talk Trash Team. "Learning about our past and present waste practices helps us envision sustainable waste management practices for the future."

Through this additional signage, visitors will be encouraged to creatively re-think waste and view it as a potential resource while enhancing environmental stewardship through greater understanding of the local natural environment.

To learn more about the Let's Talk Trash Team please visit <u>letstalktrash.ca/</u>. To learn more about the qathet Regional District Resource Recovery Centre project, please visit <u>qathet.ca/current_project/resource-recovery-centre/</u>.

CONTACTS:

Caitlin Bryant, Social Impact Specialist First Credit Union caitlin.bryant@firstcu.ca
604-834-4238 firstcu.ca

Abby McLennan Let's Talk Trash Team letstalktrash@gmail.com 604-485-2260 ext. 308 letstalktrash.ca