



**TAKING CARE OF OUR OWN**

# PASS IT ON

*Hot Tips and More from Your Credit Union*

Fall 2011

## INVITE SOMEONE IN AND GET REWARDED

**\$25**  
REFERRAL  
REWARD

**Remember when you first joined *the Police Credit Union*?** How good it felt to know that your money was in safe hands? Think about the great service you've had over the years and how confident you feel, knowing that your Credit Union is always there for you. Well, now, you can share that wonderful peace of mind with the people you care about. Your police service co-workers and your family are all eligible to become members and we'd be delighted to welcome them into your Credit Union. All you have to do is tell them about us and we'll take care of the rest!

Every time you refer someone who joins the Credit Union, we'll thank you with a \$25 gas or grocery gift card\*. It's a special **REWARD** to let you know how much we appreciate your pride and trust in *the Police Credit Union*. And we'll return the favour by giving your colleagues and family access to all the wonderful benefits that you already enjoy. Here's a sample of what we offer:

- ✓ *Free, unlimited online banking*
- ✓ *Our highest returns on investments and term deposits*
- ✓ *Loans and mortgages with flexible terms and rock-bottom rates*
- ✓ *Access to over 2,300 full-service ATMs across Canada – at NO extra charge*
- ✓ *Personalized financial advice from our experienced professionals*
- ✓ *And REWARDS members receive much more!*

It's easy to make a referral – just phone or visit your branch or talk to your Member Service Officer. So don't wait – spread the good news about *the Police Credit Union* today!

\*Youth accounts (less than 18 years) not eligible for offer.

### CALL FOR BOARD NOMINATIONS

*Have you got what it takes?*

If you're a champion of the Credit Union philosophy, and a community-minded individual looking to make a difference in your Credit Union, then you're just the kind of candidate we're looking for!

As a member, you have a voice in how *the Police Credit Union* is run. You can strengthen your voice and expand your participation in the democratic process by joining the Board of Directors. Do you have what it takes? You know you do. Review the eligibility criteria and obtain your application for nomination at your local branch or online at [www.tpcu.on.ca](http://www.tpcu.on.ca).

Candidate applications will be accepted up until 90 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Completed applications can be delivered to any branch or must be received at the address below no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 24, 2012:

**Chair – Board of Directors**  
**The Police Credit Union**  
**3650 Victoria Park Avenue, Suite 303**  
**Toronto, Ontario M2H 3P7**

**ESCAPE YOUR MONEY WORRIES.**

SAVE AN EXTRA **3%\*** ON ALL CONSOLIDATION & VACATION LOANS

With holiday season right around the corner, it makes sense to lower your debt load **NOW**. A low-rate consolidation loan is the perfect way to eliminate expensive credit card debt and dramatically lower your monthly payments. Starting November 1st, we're offering consolidation loans at rates that will definitely arrest your attention. Stay tuned for more information and plan to capture some incredible savings!

**ESCAPE THE WINTER BLUES.** We're offering an extra 3% off all our vacation loans too! Just think how much easier it will be to get through the winter when you've got a fabulous vacation to look forward to. Watch for more news on our super-low rates...coming soon!

# WHY WAIT? ENJOY THE PRIME OF YOUR LIFE!



**PRIME  
-1%!\***

**Winter is coming.** Wouldn't you love to spend those snowy evenings curled up by the fire in your brand new home? If you act now, you can make that dream a reality! **We're offering incredible PRIME -1% rates on our variable mortgages,** with the added benefit of flexible payments to suit your budget. Best of all, if interest rates go up substantially, you'll have the option of locking in a fixed rate and payment schedule anytime within the closed, 5 year term of your mortgage. It simply doesn't get better than that!

## Not planning to move right away?

Don't let that stop you from taking advantage of this great borrowing opportunity. Use your mortgage money to make your other dreams come true. You can:

- Give your house a renovation makeover
- Take a vacation someplace warm and "beachy" this winter
- Advance your career by going back to school

With interest rates this low, the possibilities are endless. Let us help you live your dreams. We'll show you how to pay off your mortgage quickly and save thousands of dollars in interest payments. If you're a **REWARDS** member or qualify for the government's Home Buyers' Plan or First Time Home Buyers Tax Credit, we'll help you save even more.

This low rate is available only to our Credit Union members and will expire very soon. So don't delay. Talk to your Member Service Officer today and start enjoying the prime of your life!

# CAPTURE GREAT SAVINGS! CONSOLIDATE YOUR DEBT TODAY



**A recent national poll found that 72% of all Canadians are carrying some type of debt.** And 40% of those surveyed said their debt is keeping them from achieving their financial goals. While there are plenty of good reasons to borrow money – to pay for school, buy a house or take a holiday, for example – too much debt can create long-term problems that are difficult to overcome.

## High interest payments restrict cash flow

Credit card debt and high interest loans are the worst culprits. Those expensive monthly payments can limit your lifestyle and stop you from enjoying the things you love. It's tough to get ahead when a large part of your cash flow is committed to paying off debt.

## Consolidate and save!

A low-interest consolidation loan from **the Police Credit Union** can open the door to financial freedom. Use the money you borrow to pay off expensive loans and credit card debt and replace them with one low monthly payment. A consolidation loan will substantially reduce your borrowing costs, saving you thousands of dollars

in interest. You'll get out of debt faster and find it easier to budget when you just have one payment to make each month.

## Reward yourself

With more money in your wallet, you can enjoy life on your terms. Use the extra cash to reward yourself with something special – like a relaxing holiday in the sunny south. Or, invest the money you save in an RRSP or high-interest savings plan and build your nest egg for the future. A consolidation loan helps you get your finances under control and gives you the freedom to choose how to spend your money.

## Capture even MORE savings!

**The Police Credit Union** already offers great rates on consolidation loans and we'll soon be offering a special deal that will reduce interest rates by an unprecedented 3%! Watch for more news coming soon and get ready to escape the pressure of high-interest debt.



See how much your 3% off consolidation loan can save you on a \$10,000 balance

Department store charge card*		Credit cards* (i.e. Visa, MasterCard)		the Police Credit Union*			
				REWARDS		Regular	
RATE	INTEREST	RATE	INTEREST	RATE	INTEREST	RATE	INTEREST
28.8%	\$2,880	19.5%	\$1,950	5.00%	\$500	6.00%	\$600
<b>YOU COULD SAVE OVER \$2,300 EACH YEAR!</b>							

\* Rates subject to change.

## MEMBER TESTIMONIAL

## HELP IN A HURRY *Sheri Chapman*

When Sheri Chapman needed money in a hurry, she knew **the Police Credit Union** would help. An administrative error had left her with only a few days to buy out her car lease, so she had to arrange financing fast. Her parents had always banked at the Credit Union and her father, a 33-year veteran of the Toronto Police Service, had opened Little Tykes accounts for Sheri, her brother and sister when they were all quite young. With a financial crisis on her hands, Sheri naturally turned to her Credit Union for support.

"I met with my Member Service Officer, Elizabeth Georgousakis, on Friday morning," explains Sheri, "and she had a cheque ready for me by Friday afternoon! Elizabeth understood my situation right away and was very helpful, efficient and sympathetic. It was so comforting to have her working on my behalf – she saved me a lot of trouble and expense. I was able to deal directly with the Credit Union, rather than with the leasing company, and Elizabeth made sure that the funds went to the right leasing office in time to meet the deadline." Happy to have this headache behind her, Sheri is delighted with her new car and looking forward to continuing her long and happy relationship with **the Police Credit Union**.

*Sheri Chapman has been a civilian member of the Toronto Police Service for 12 years.*

## FROM THE DESK OF ADAM MEDEIROS: TIME TO TUNE OUT THE NOISE

**We live in an age of constant information.** We're bombarded 24/7 by economic news — much of it confusing and contradictory. All this news can easily raise your anxiety level as you worry about how it might be affecting your investments.

Yet much of what you hear is just "noise." Focusing too much on it can detract from your long-term investment strategy and cause you to consider moves that might be harmful to your portfolio. Here's why it's wiser to tune it out:

- *Knee-jerk reactions to temporary economic news can lead to the wrong investment moves. Making decisions based on short-term events is a form of market timing, an ill-advised strategy that seldom produces satisfactory results.*
- *Stick with a strategy based on sound fundamentals and a longer-term time horizon that smooths out the temporary ups and downs.*
- *A number of factors determine investment success. It isn't about forecasting the economy; it's about finding high-quality companies with long-term potential.*

Successful investing is also about creating and maintaining a diversified portfolio with the right mix of safety, income, and growth to help you achieve your long-term goals, while weathering all kinds of economic climates. We can help you filter the "noise", discern what's pertinent and keep your investment plan on track so you can have peace of mind. **Feel free to contact me at 416.224.6708 or [amedeiros@tpcu.on.ca](mailto:amedeiros@tpcu.on.ca).**

*Mutual funds are offered through Credential Asset Management Inc. The information contained in this newsletter is provided as a general source of information and should not be considered personal tax advice, investment advice or solicitation to buy or sell any mutual funds. © Credential is a registered mark owned by Credential Financial Inc. and is used under licence.*



**MISSED THE DEADLINE?**

**Activate your CHIP card today!**



**Have you activated your new chip Member Card yet?** We are now deactivating all old cards and you must use your chip Member Card and PIN for every debit and ATM transaction.

Activating your chip card is easy, so take time to do it today. That hard-working little computer chip has been specially designed to protect you from theft and fraud. We're proud to offer you one of the most secure ATM cards available, so put your chip card to work and take advantage of the extra financial protection.

**ACTIVATE YOUR CHIP MASTERCARD, TOO**

Don't forget that your non-chip Global MasterCard is also going to expire soon. *The deadline is November 1st* — after that, your regular card will stop working. Why wait until the last second? Activate your card now and further protect yourself with one of the most advanced credit card security systems in the country.

We're always here to help, so give us a call if you have any questions. **Contact our Call Centre directly at 416.226.3353 or 1.800.561.2557.**

## CELEBRATING SUCCESS

### WINNERS OF \$500 SCHOLARSHIPS

**Devin Walker,**  
UNIVERSITY OF ONTARIO INSTITUTE  
OF TECHNOLOGY (UOIT)

**Nicole Pedder,** TRENT UNIVERSITY

**Neil Donison,**  
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

**Mathew TeBogt,** UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

#### **Congratulations to our scholarship winners!**

With so many well-qualified students applying for our scholarship program, we had some very difficult choices to make this year. Recognizing our young leaders and helping them reach their personal and academic goals is part of our on-going commitment to building strong communities. We wish all our student members every success in the upcoming school year.

#### **CYL CAMP A SUCCESS**

*"My experience was amazing! I want to keep going to CYL camp..."* says Amy. Share the excitement as two of our young members write about the fun, adventure and life lessons they enjoyed at the Co-operative Young Leaders (CYL) Camp this summer. We will be sponsoring more attendees next year for a fabulous learning experience so stay tuned to our newsletters for upcoming camp info. **Read the student letters online at [www.tpcu.on.ca](http://www.tpcu.on.ca).**



## The coverage you need, with the service and value you deserve.

Members of the **Police Credit Union** can count on superior service and exceptional coverage at preferred group rates with The Co-operators group auto\* and home insurance program. Call today for your free, no-obligation quote and reference **Group ID# 01317.**

**1-800-387-1963**  
[www.cooperatorsgroupinsurance.ca](http://www.cooperatorsgroupinsurance.ca)

This group insurance program is only available through our Contact Centre and website.



**Group Auto\* and Home Insurance**

 **the co-operators®**  
A Better Place For You®

The Co-operators® used under license from The Co-operators Group Limited. Underwritten by COSECO Insurance Company and administered by HB Group Insurance Management Ltd. Member companies of The Co-operators Group Limited. Discounts, coverage and eligibility vary by province. \*Auto insurance not available in British Columbia, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. For information on our privacy policy, please visit [www.cooperatorsgroupinsurance.ca](http://www.cooperatorsgroupinsurance.ca).

## AVOID OVER CONTRIBUTIONS TO YOUR TFSA

There is a penalty tax of 1% per month if you over contribute to your TFSA (over contributions are also known as the excess TFSA amount). The penalty tax is based on the highest value in the TFSA during the month that you over contribute and is applied every month that the excess amount remains in your account.

*The excess TFSA amount is calculated as follows:*

- The total contributions made to all of your TFSAs (\$5,000 maximum per year starting in 2009)
- > LESS: The unused TFSA contribution room at the end of the prior calendar year
- > LESS: The total of all withdrawals made in the prior calendar year
- > LESS: The TFSA dollar limit for the calendar year
- > LESS: The total of all withdrawals made from all TFSAs this year

### How to calculate your TFSA contribution room

The amount of contribution room that you have in your TFSA is calculated differently than the contribution room for your RRSP. The process is more straightforward. *Your TFSA contribution room is calculated as follows:*

- The unused TFSA contribution room from last year
- > PLUS: TFSA withdrawals from last year
- > PLUS: The new TFSA dollar limit from the current year
- > LESS: Contributions to the TFSA in the current year



# YOUR MONEY... ON THE MOVE

**Always on the run? Your Credit Union is keeping pace!** Our exciting new services let you manage your money no matter where you are. We're hard at work, making your life easier – just take a look at some of our new member benefits that are coming soon:

### • ANYTIME, ANYWHERE MOBILE BANKING.

Designed specifically for your Smartphone (iPhones, iPod Touch, Blackberry and more), MemberDirect® Mobile Services gives you freedom, flexibility AND convenience in one easy package – and it's FREE!

Nothing to download or install – simply register your phone and you're ready to go. With so many services at your fingertips, managing your cash flow has never been easier.

- **Check your account balance before making a purchase**
- **Track your account history and activities**
- **Pay your bills (and avoid late fees!)**
- **Transfer funds between your accounts**
- **Find your closest Credit Union branch/ATM**
- **Send or receive INTERAC® money transfers via e-mail**

• **THE EXCHANGE® NETWORK HAS GONE MOBILE, TOO!** Your Member Card gives you direct access to over 2,300 ATMs across

Canada through the rapidly expanding EXCHANGE Network. And now you can locate each and every one of those ATMs just by using your Smartphone.

Just search for the Police Credit Union's free iPhone and Blackberry apps that help you find

the closest ATM in seconds, anywhere in Canada or the USA. It's fast, convenient and absolutely indispensable when you need cash in a hurry.

• **HEADING SOUTH?** Whether you travel to the U.S. for work or play, you'll love our new ACCEL® Point of Sale (POS) program. ACCEL POS lets you use your Member Card to shop at any U.S. retailer participating in the EXCHANGE Network – without paying expensive surcharges. It's a free service that debits money directly from your account, so you can even use it to get cash back! Just swipe your card, enter your PIN and you're good to go. Perfect for travelers, ACCEL POS saves you money every time you cross the border.

### What is Interac® e-Transfer?

It's a simple, convenient and secure way to send and receive money directly from one account to another. It's just like sending cheques or cash, only easier!

All you need is access to online or mobile banking through a participating financial institution. You can send money to anyone with an e-mail address or mobile phone number and an account in Canada – without sharing any personal or financial information. The person receiving the money will be notified by e-mail and/or text message when the transfer has been sent and you will be notified when the transfer is accepted. All funds are transferred using established and secure banking procedures.



SCAN THIS QR CODE WITH YOUR SMARTPHONE!

All our new services are safe and secure, just like your online banking. Even if you lose your mobile phone, there are options available to help protect your financial data. Mobile services for your busy lifestyle – another great way *the Police Credit Union* takes care of its own.

## HOLIDAY HOURS

**Thanksgiving** Monday, October 10 – Closed

**Training Day** Friday, November 11 – Closed

**Christmas/** December 25 to 27 – Closed

**New Year's** Monday, January 2 – Closed

Regular business hours resume Tuesday, January 3



### Corporate Office

3650 Victoria Park Ave.  
Suite 303  
Toronto, ON M2H 3P7  
General Inquiries 416-226-3353  
toll-free 1-800-561-2557  
ExpressLine 416-223-8728  
toll-free 1-800-360-8728

### Toronto

3650 Victoria Park Ave.  
Suite 103  
Toronto, ON M2H 3P7

### College

Toronto Police Headquarters  
40 College St. Room 101  
Toronto, ON M5G 2J3

### Durham

962 Kingston Rd.  
Pickering, ON  
L1V 1B3

### York

18025 Yonge St.  
Unit 7  
Newmarket, ON  
L3Y 8C9

### Peel

85 Aventura Crt.  
Unit C  
Mississauga, ON  
L5T 2Y6



the  
**Police**  
Credit Union

www.tpcu.on.ca