



Serving Police Communities Throughout Ontario



Winter 2008

PASS IT ON

Hot Tips and More from Your Credit Union



**“I DID IT.
AND I CONFESS IT WAS A LOT
EASIER THAN I THOUGHT.”**



“I walked into the branch at 10:23 a.m. I left the scene at 10:47 a.m. And it was all done.”

Admit it. It's a crime not to contribute to your RRSP. According to Statistics Canada, Canadians used up only 7% of the room available in 2006. However, the good news is the number of tax-filers making contributions to registered retirement savings plans increased, and the amount they contributed increased for the third year in a row. In fact, nationally, the average contribution was \$2,730 in 2006, up \$100 from 2005.

There are so many reasons to contribute as much as you can to your RRSP every year, including greater tax savings and a larger retirement fund. Plus, remember, there are added benefits like using RRSPs as a down payment on your first home through the Home Buyers' Plan or to further your education through the Lifelong Learning Program.

That's why your Credit Union makes it easy. We offer some of the best rates around, a wide range of investment options, expert advice and fast service. Whatever you choose to do, it's always quick and easy with the help of your Member Service Officer and the expert assistance of our Credential Securities Inc. Investment Advisors.

| TERM | PCU REWARDS | PCU REGULAR | ROYAL BANK | SCOTIABANK | TD CANADA TRUST |
|--------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1-year | 4.60% | 4.15% | 3.00% | 2.85% | 2.90% |
| 5-year | 4.65% | 4.20% | 3.35% | 3.25% | 3.35% |

*Posted term deposit rates as of December 14, 2007; subject to change without notice. Some terms and conditions apply.

“I hit them up for some extra cash. They gave me the maximum.”

Don't have an extra stash of cash to contribute this year? No problem! Your Credit Union makes it easy with RRSP loans starting at PRIME. We'll tailor the payments to suit your comfort level so you can contribute as much as you can.

Remember, the easiest way to contribute each and every year is through automatic payroll deductions. It's out of sight and out of mind, and saves you the hassle of coming up with a big chunk of cash when the deadline rolls around. If you've already got automatic deductions, why not consider increasing it this year?

Do it today! Come in, call or apply online. Our RRSP and RRSP Loan Applications provide you with the fastest, most convenient way to complete your 2007 contribution.



MEMBER NOTICE

Make a date to get up to date!

THE POLICE CREDIT UNION'S 62ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Mark your calendars for our most important gathering of the year. This year it is more essential than ever that you plan to attend our AGM. Recent changes to the Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires Act have necessitated changes to our by-laws affecting how we elect directors. It is very important that our members have a vote in this change in governance.

The following by-law changes will be brought forward for the membership to vote on:

- QUALIFICATION**
4.02: No person shall be qualified for election as a director if he/she is less than 18 years of age; if he/she is not a member of the Credit Union; and shall be a Canadian citizen or a person lawfully admitted to Canada for permanent residency who is ordinarily resident in Canada. No director who is disqualified under the Act shall be qualified for election as a director. In order to qualify for election, any member wishing to stand for election must notify the Board of Directors of their intention to run at least 90 days prior to the annual general meeting.
- ELECTION & TERM**
4.03: At every annual general meeting of the Credit Union, after the first election of the board, an election shall be held to fill the places of members of the board whose terms of office have expired, and the members so elected shall hold office for three years, or until their successors in office are elected or appointed. The maximum number of terms a person elected may serve is 5 consecutive terms (15 years).

Enjoy an evening of good food and conversation with members and staff while hearing about your Credit Union's successes, challenges and future plans. Same great location as last year!

Monday, April 28, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.
Grand Baccus Banquet & Conference Centre
2155 McNicoll Avenue, Toronto, Ontario

MEMBER BELIEVES IN AN EARLY START TO RRSP SAVING

He says he joined the Credit Union because “it was easy” and he’s stayed because of the great staff. A member for seven years now, Steve Carlton, a constable at 31 Division, has made smart financial moves right from the start with automatic deductions from his paycheque into a savings plan. So he is already taking full advantage of the many benefits RRSPs have to offer.

Explains Steve, “When I started investing about six years ago, I think I had \$50 or \$100 deducted per pay. At first, I was thinking about saving on my taxes and saving for retirement. Then when I started thinking about buying a house and taking advantage of the Home Buyers’ Plan, I increased my monthly deductions. I just went in and talked to Adele and we figured out what I could do.”

Steve bought a home a couple of years ago, and with all the expenses, he stopped investing regularly for a short period of time. When he was ready, he set up automatic deductions once again that would both cover the repayment of the Home Buyers’ Plan as well as continue to bulk up his RRSP savings.

“With automatic deductions it’s out of sight and out of mind. I believe if you start young, you’ll have that much more later. It’ll all add up to a better retirement. My dad has always invested in RRSPs and you know what they say, ‘the apple doesn’t fall far from the tree’. I’m hopeful I’ll have a good pension but there are no guarantees, so by contributing now I’ll be that much more comfortable later.”

Steve is a big fan of everything the Credit Union has to offer. With direct deposit of his paycheque, he is automatically a **REWARDS** member enjoying our best rates on the term deposits he invested in and receiving free transactions every month. He uses the Credit Union’s online banking to keep in touch with his accounts and pay bills. He even convinced his sister to join. “I told her how good it was, and now that she’s a member, she agrees.”

MEMBER UPDATE

Important!

As a result of CUETS Limited being taken over by MBNA Canada Bank on October 1st, the credit union MasterCard can no longer be used in Cuba, Iran, Myanmar, North Korea or Sudan.



THE SAVINGS SQUEEZE

Simple Tips To Bulk Up Your Balance

If you feel like every dollar you earn is already spent, you’re not alone. Saving money seems to have become more and more difficult over the past two decades. In the early 1980s, Canadians were tucking away 20% of their income. High rates of interest during those years motivated people to save and invest more. Since the mid-90s, Canadians have been spending almost all of their disposable income leaving very little left over for saving. In fact, by 2002 we were actually spending more than we were earning and since then the savings rate has remained below 2%.

So how can you bulk up your savings to have a buffer for emergencies and to enjoy a more worry-free financial picture in the years ahead?

Here are some simple tips that make it easier to see your savings portfolio go up, up, up.

- **TARGET 10%! You can do better than the national savings average that’s currently under 2%! Make a habit of paying yourself first and start tucking away 10%. Your Credit Union can set up transfers that automatically put it out of sight and out of mind. It’s a disciplined approach to saving that lets you reap the rewards in years to come.**

- **REDUCE HIGH INTEREST DEBT – Convert high interest credit card debt to a lower interest line of credit at the Credit Union. It can easily reduce your interest charges by up to 50% or more and save you hundreds of dollars a year.**

- **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AUTOMATION –** How easy is it to save \$1 a day? With online banking it’s easier than ever to have daily, weekly or monthly transfers into your special savings account. You’ll be surprised how quickly and effortlessly it adds up.

- **PAY OFF CREDIT CARD BALANCES COMPLETELY EACH MONTH –** If you can’t do this, then you can’t really afford what you’re buying. You’ll end up paying too much interest on your purchases, plus you’ll be paying interest on that interest!

Remember, your Credit Union is always ready to pump you full of the service and advice you need to get your savings plan set up. Plus, we have hard-to-beat rates on term deposits especially designed to optimize growth!



**STEP IT UP
WITH OUR NEW
TERM PRODUCT!**

Call your branch or check online for details.

YOU’RE ALWAYS ON GOOD TERMS WITH US!

HIGHER RATES MEAN MANY HAPPY RETURNS.

With the roller coaster ride the stock markets have been taking over the past six months, the Credit Union’s term deposits are looking even better than ever for members who only want to see their balances go up! For many members, it’s the perfect answer to investing your RRSP funds.

Your Credit Union rewards members with outstanding rates and you’ll always have peace of mind that your investment has a guaranteed return and is protected by the Deposit Insurance Corporation of Ontario.

You can choose how long you want to lock in for and then just sit back and watch your savings grow. Talk to your MSO about how our term deposits will provide you with many happy returns in years to come!



FINANCIAL PLANNING WITH PETER

WINNING THE LONG TERM INVESTING GAME

Financial markets are like wily baseball pitchers. They can throw you a curve, a change-up, and even the odd sinker. Fortunately, there's a simple investment strategy to help you develop a winning record over the long term. The strategy is dollar cost averaging, and it's one of the benefits of setting up a Pre-Authorized Contribution Plan – PAC Plan – with Credential® Select Portfolio Funds.

Set up a PAC Plan to buy the same dollar amount of Credential Select Portfolio Funds every month for your RRSP, non-registered investment account, or your child's RESP. Your money naturally buys more fund units when prices are lower, and fewer fund units when prices are higher. Over the long term, this simple strategy tends to reduce the average price you pay for fund units, so you can enjoy higher potential gains.

RULE #1: PAY YOURSELF FIRST

Once your PAC Plan is set up, you automatically pay yourself first every month. Contribute as little as \$100 per month, or as much as your budget allows. Maintaining your PAC Plan is far easier than saving for occasional lump sum contributions, and trying to guess the best time to buy. You can relax and watch your savings grow, one base hit at a time.

CREDENTIAL SELECT PORTFOLIO FUNDS – YOUR ALL-STAR LINE UP

Credential Select Portfolio Funds put a team of heavy hitters in your investment portfolio. Each fund contains an all-star line up of brand name mutual funds, blended to match your investment style. Your Credential Securities® Investment Advisor can show you which one of the Credential Select Portfolio Funds best matches your objectives.

Call Peter Gifatakopoulos at **416.224.6708** or e-mail him at peterg@tpcu.on.ca today about setting up a PAC Plan with Credential Select Portfolio Funds.

This article is courtesy of Credential Securities Inc., your credit union's partner in providing you with wealth management services.

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ATTENTION FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS:

RRSPS CAN OPEN THE DOOR TO OWNERSHIP!

This popular plan allows qualified home buyers to withdraw up to \$20,000 from an RRSP (or up to \$40,000 per couple) without penalty to use as a down payment on your new home. The money must be repaid to your RRSP over the next 15 years

or the minimum annual payment will be added to your income and you will pay tax on that amount. For more information about the Home Buyers' Plan you can visit www.cra-arc.gc.ca or talk to your Member Service Officer today.

TIP: How much can you contribute this year? Just check the Notice of Assessment you got from the Canada Revenue Agency last year. Or phone T.I.P.S. line, a free automated tax information phone service, at 1.800.267.6999. You will be asked to provide your social insurance number, your month and year of birth, and the total income you reported on line 150 of your 2006 return.

Count on us for the coverage you need. and get benefits that put you ahead of the class.

You never expect to be in a car accident or to find out your home is damaged. But at least you can expect great coverage plus exceptional benefits and discounts* that are only available to members of our group insurance plan.

For a fast, no-obligation quote on your auto* and home insurance call **1-800-387-1963** or visit www.directprotectgroup.com



Tasty treats and fun new features for Tykes AND TEENS!

Be sure to have your tykes and teens check out the newest features on our website. There are quizzes, interactive activities, contest entries, the latest winners and more. Right now, teens can participate in our Facebook poll. Answer a few questions online and see if your opinion is the same as your friends'. We'll be adding interesting stuff regularly in the months ahead.

We're always working on new ways to help you kick-start your kids' financial smarts at the Police Credit Union!

Visit www.tpcu.on.ca and click on the tykes or teen newsletter on the home page today!



Group Insurance Plans for Auto* and Home

DirectProtect Group®
from The Co-operators Group

the co-operators
A Better Place For You™

DirectProtect Group® is a registered trademark owned by The Co-operators General Insurance Company, used under license. DirectProtect Group® is administered by HB Group Insurance Management Ltd., and underwritten by COSECO Insurance Company. *Auto insurance not available in MB, SK, BC. Qualifying conditions apply and vary by province. †Discounts vary by province and eligibility. ☑ CESPIA (09/07)

Members of,
The Police Credit Union
Get great coverage at group rates!
Web ID #: 88156

ATTENTION MEMBERS NEW DAILY LIMITS PROTECT YOU



We love the convenience of our debit cards and feel safer that we don't have to carry around big wads of cash. In fact, Canadians' debit spending last year topped \$2 billion. However, a recent survey by the Interac Association, representing 95 major financial institutions, found that while 92% of those polled know they should shield their PIN at a bank machine or retail counter, one-third never bother and the rest only do so if they think someone is watching. And criminals have developed much more sophisticated technology like embossers, encoders, and decoders to read, modify, and implant magnetic stripe information on counterfeit payment cards.

So it's not surprising that debit card fraud has been rising dramatically. It is the reason your Credit Union is taking major steps to protect our members and protect the integrity of the financial institution in which we all share ownership.

Your Member Card is the "key" to your account. One of the most effective ways to limit losses and ensure that criminals can't drain your hard-earned cash, either through an ATM or point of sale, is to reduce ATM and POS limits. Criminals know that they can obtain thousands of dollars in withdrawals because so many cardholders have such hefty daily limits. In most cases, they're far beyond our members' everyday needs. Your Credit Union has worked very hard to establish new limits that satisfy all our members' needs so we can continue to enjoy all the outstanding benefits our Member Cards offer.

And if you do find yourself in need of a higher temporary limit for a special purchase, simply contact us at **1.800.561.2557**. We'll be happy to oblige.

BRANCH UPDATE

TORONTO BRANCH WORKS HARD TO DELIVER MORE TO OUR MEMBERS.

They are always ready to go above and beyond what any other financial institution will do for you. Delivering great value and excellent service are top priorities at our Victoria Park branch located between Finch and Steeles in Toronto, just a short hop from the 401.

Explains David Merrifield, Branch Manager, "Credit Unions used to focus primarily on friendly service and trust, expecting people to come in and sign up. Relationship building is still key, but now we have to be very competitive with our products and offer good value as well to win the business. Like our **REWARDS** program – it offers one of the best values around. So we have all the products and services our members are looking for and on top of that you get a welcoming, professional environment and a place where you can always walk in and talk to somebody."

Heading up the branch since 2002, David brings a world of expertise to the Police Credit Union. He's been in the financial services industry since 1972 starting with the TD Bank, moving on to Credit Union Central of Ontario and then the Deposit Insurance Corporation of Ontario. His wealth of experience is a valuable asset for our members, and his banking background has helped him really appreciate the Credit Union difference.

"We'll do more for our members than any bank will. I can't tell you how many times we've gone to a member's home or stayed open later just to get a member's loan signed. In that big summer power outage a few years ago, we set up chairs outside the Credit Union, so we could continue to help members in every way possible. We do special things you'll never see a bank do."

The Toronto branch is open Monday to Friday, as well as Saturday mornings. It's in the same building as the Police Credit Union's corporate offices and our call centre, and it's also where you'll find our investment advisor, Peter Gifatakopoulos, close at hand.

"The premises are beautiful with state-of-the-art technology, an ATM as well as an electronic signboard with our latest rates. Plus, there's quick and easy parking."

The Toronto branch has 8 hard-working staff, who all excel in personal service. "I have the best staff. There's not the turnover you get in other financial institutions. They have experience, know the products, and they really know and care about our members."

It all adds up to a rewarding experience for everyone who enjoys doing their business at the Toronto branch.

How to lose those winter blues by cleaning up all those "BALANCE NOW DUE" bills

Feel snowed under by post-holiday season bills and unmanageable credit card balances? There's no need to throw money out the window on high interest charges when you can pay off your balances with a line of credit from your Credit Union. You can save you 50% or more in interest charges and you'll have just one simple payment to make a month.

You can cheer up today with a quick chat with your Member Service Officer about all the advantages of a low interest line of credit! Compare interest costs on a \$10,000 balance... **YOU COULD SAVE ALMOST \$2,200 EACH YEAR!**

| DEPARTMENT STORE CHARGE CARD | | CREDIT CARDS (i.e. Visa, MasterCard) | | THE POLICE CREDIT UNION* | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|--------------|----------|
| | | | | PLOC REWARDS | | PLOC REGULAR | |
| RATE | INTEREST | RATE | INTEREST | RATE | INTEREST | RATE | INTEREST |
| 29.9% | \$2,990 | 19.5% | \$1,950 | 7.75% | \$775 | 9.25% | \$925 |

*Posted rates as of December 14, 2007; subject to change without notice.



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962 Kingston Rd.
Pickering, ON
L1V 1B3
(401 & Whites Rd.)

York

18025 Yonge St.
Unit 7
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 8C9
(at Bristol Rd.)

Peel

85 Aventura Ct.
Unit C
Mississauga, ON
L5T 2Y6
(at Hwy. 10 & Derry Rd.)



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