

2023
Fall • Volume 48 - Member Newsletter

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# **Board of Directors Nominations Invited**

Being a director requires study, time and commitment to actively participate in making decisions relating to the credit union's current and future operations, goals and strategies.

Any GVC member in good standing for 12 consecutive months preceding the close of nominations, who is qualified under the legislation governing GVC and the rules of GVC and who is willing to serve as a director is eligible to be nominated.

In 2024, elections will be held to fill four positions, three positions for a three-year term and one position for a two-year term of office. Persons wishing to nominate a candidate should contact the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Sarin Raj at: sarinrajcga@gmail.com with "GVCCU Nomination" in the subject line or contact Victoria Kowalski, Administration & Marketing Manager at vkowalski@gvccu.com or by calling 604-238-4338. Nominations close at 5 pm on November 13, 2023.

# **Prospective Candidates Meeting**

If you are interested in becoming a director and would like to learn more, we invite you to attend our "Prospective Candidates Meeting".

The meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, November 8, 2023 at 5:30pm. Please RSVP to Amber Marcheen, Corporate Secretary at 604-238-4338 or email: amarcheen@gvccu.com by Monday, November 6, 2023.

# New Online Banking Experience Coming Soon!



We are excited to share that our online banking, mobile app and website will be getting a refresh this fall. This refresh includes a new look, more intuitive navigation, and the ability to add new features in the future.

Members will automatically transition when they login to online banking after the refreshed system is live. Mobile app users will need to update their apps. Current login and password information will remain unchanged.

We do not anticipate any service interruptions when we launch our new website and mobile app but it is a good idea to have your Login ID available and know your Password (Personal Access Code / PAC) when logging in.

## Interested in learning more about our refreshed mobile and online banking?

Please refer to our website for more information, and updates on the launch of this refresh at www.gvccu.com.



# Safeguarding Against Cyber Scams

In the digital age, technology has opened up new opportunities and convenience, but it has also given rise to cyber threats and scams. Cyber scams are increasingly prevalent in Canada, targeting individuals and organizations across the country. We are dedicated to the financial well-being of our members, we understand the importance of educating and empowering our community to protect themselves from cyber scams.

### **Types of Cyber Scams in Canada**

### 1. Phishing Scams

Phishing scams involve deceitful attempts to obtain sensitive information such as passwords, credit card numbers, and social insurance numbers. Scammers typically impersonate legitimate entities through emails, phone calls, or text messages.

### 2. Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone steals personal information to commit fraudulent activities, often for financial gains. This can lead to unauthorized transactions, fraudulent loans, or damage to credit scores.

#### 3. Ransomware Attacks

Ransomware is malicious software that encrypts a victim's files or systems, demanding a ransom to restore access. These attacks can be devastating for individuals and businesses, causing financial loss and data breaches.

#### 4. E-commerce Fraud

E-commerce fraud involves fraudulent transactions on online platforms. Scammers may use stolen credit card information to make purchases or exploit vulnerabilities in online payment systems.

### 5. Tech Support Scams

Scammers pose as tech support agents, claiming issues with your computer or software. They trick individuals into granting remote access or paying for unnecessary services, potentially compromising personal data.

#### **6. Romance Scams**

Romance scams prey on emotional connections, with scammers building relationships online and then requesting money for various reasons. Canadians have fallen victim to these heartless schemes, resulting in financial losses and emotional distress.

# Protecting Yourself from Cyber Scams

#### 1. Educate Yourself and Others

Stay informed about the latest scams and educate your family, friends, and colleagues. Awareness is the first line of defense against cyber threats.

### 2. Use Strong and Unique Passwords

Create complex passwords for each online account, using a mix of letters, numbers, and special characters. Avoid using easily guessable information like birthdays or names.

# 3. Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

Implement MFA wherever possible, adding an extra layer of security by requiring at least two forms of identification before granting access.

## 4. Verify Requests for Personal Information

Be cautious when asked for personal or financial details via email, phone, or messages. Verify the request through a trusted and official communication method before providing any information.

# 5. Regularly Update and Patch Software

Keep all software, including operating systems, browsers, and antivirus programs, up to date with the latest security patches and updates to minimize vulnerabilities.

## 6. Use Reputable Antivirus and Anti-Malware Software

Install and regularly update reputable antivirus and anti-malware software to detect and remove malicious programs that could compromise your devices.

## 7. Be Cautious with Email Links and Attachments

Avoid clicking on suspicious links or downloading attachments from unknown sources. Hover over links to see the actual URL before clicking.

#### 8. Secure Your Wi-Fi Network

Protect your home Wi-Fi with a strong, unique password and encryption. Change default router passwords and use WPA3 encryption for enhanced security.



\*GVC Credit Union is not affiliated with this workshop however sees value it may bring to members. For any questions relating to the workshop, please visit: https://www.getcybersafe.gc.ca/

# 9. Monitor Your Financial Accounts Regularly

Regularly review your bank and credit card statements for any unauthorized transactions. Report any suspicious activities to your financial institution immediately.

#### 10. Exercise Caution on Social Media

Be mindful of the information you share on social media platforms. Avoid posting sensitive personal information that could be used by scammers.

#### 11. Backup Your Data

Regularly back up important files and documents to a secure, external location. In the event of a ransomware attack, you can restore your data without paying the ransom.

# 12. Stay Informed About Current Scams

Frequently check trusted sources like the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (CAFC) and the Better Business Bureau for updates on recent scams and fraud prevention tips.

Cyber scams continue to evolve, becoming more sophisticated and pervasive. By staying informed and adopting proactive measures, we can reduce the risk of falling victim to these scams. At GVC Credit Union, we are committed to promoting financial security and empowering our members to safeguard their lives. Stay vigilant, stay safe, and together, we can create a more secure digital landscape.

### **Discover Online Safety Workshop**

Join the "Discover Online Safety" Workshop\* and Boost Your Digital Security! As part of Cyber Security Awareness Month and Media Literacy Week 2023, the "Get Cyber Safe" initiative by the Government of Canada and MediaSmarts, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to digital and media literacy, you are invited to a practical workshop on online safety.

This workshop will equip you with the knowledge and tools to:

- create strong passwords and passphrases
- download apps safely
- help you avoid online scams

This free virtual event is open to Canadians of all ages and of all technical knowledge levels but is particularly geared to adults over the age of 50.

Date: **Tuesday, October 24, 2023** Time: 11:00 PST Location: This workshop will be presented on Zoom

To register for this workshop visit: www.bit.ly/48fwsG1

### **Prime Rate**

In the interest of our members borrowing at rates which are tied to prime, our prime rate as at September 15, 2023 is

7.20%

### **Real Savings** Term Deposit

LONG TERM (Non-Redeemable) Minimum Deposit \$5,000

1 year	4.250%
15 months	4.000%
18 months	4.350%
2 years	4.250%
3 years	4.000%

4 vears

5 years

subject to an interest penalty calculated as 1% on the original principal amount. Rates are subject to change without

\*Redeemable upon the anniversary

3.950%

3.900%

### **Mission Statement**

GVC Credit Union is a member-owned financial co-operative which was founded in 1940 by members joining together to help one another.

- To offer savings and loan facilities oriented to the needs of individuals and families in Greater Vancouver.
- To provide members with financial services at competitive rates and in such a manner as to be able to deal personally with each individual member.
- To assist members in prudently managing their financial affairs by providing timely and appropriate financial information and personal loans and deposit counselling.
- To offer other financial services if (in the opinion of the policy makers) they provide a member benefit.

GVC's objective is to achieve the above while paying competitive dividends, providing good quality working conditions, salaries and benefits to employees, and earning sufficient surplus to provide for statutory reserves and other reserves as might be deemed prudent.

#### **Board of Directors**

Elected by you, the members, representing your interests and guiding the future of your credit union are:

Chairperson	Shaun Olafson
First Vice-Chairper	sonHerb Gill
Second Vice-Chair	personSarin Raj
Director	Laurie Bachynski
Director	Doris Mah
Director	Glenn McLaughlin
Director	Elaine Schretlen
Director	Ken Sherwood
Director	Richard Thomas

**Proudly providing** financial services since 1940



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<b>f</b> 604.421.8949 Monday-Friday 8-5	<b>f</b> 604.298.3417 Monday-Thursday 9:30-5 Friday 9:30-6 Saturday 10-2	<b>f</b> 604.525.1424 Monday-Thursday 9:30-5 Friday 9:30-6 Saturday 10-2	<b>f</b> 604.584.6038 Monday-Thursday 9:30-5 Friday 9:30-6 Saturday 10-2	<b>f</b> 604.875.8591 Monday-Thursday 9:30-5:30 Friday 9:30-6 Saturday 9:30-4