

## **AECU Announces 2025 Community Grant Program Winners: Five Local Projects Awarded \$8,000 Each**

**Port aux Basques, NL** – Atlantic Edge Credit Union (AECU) is proud to announce the recipients of its 2025 Community Grant Program. Five outstanding projects from across Newfoundland and Labrador have each been awarded \$8,000 to support initiatives that foster inclusion, lifelong learning, community resilience, and sustainable development.

### **The 2025 Grant Recipients Are:**

#### **Rec House Community Youth Network – Grandfriends (Port aux Basques)**

This intergenerational program connects youth and seniors through shared activities, mentorship, and cultural exchange. 'Grandfriends' aims to reduce social isolation and build empathy, leadership, and communication skills among youth, with strong support from local partners.

#### **Mary's Harbour Recreation Committee – Community Hub Sustainability Project (Mary's Harbour)**

By hosting major annual events, this project sustains the only dedicated gathering space in Mary's Harbour, strengthening social bonds, fostering intergenerational engagement, and ensuring the Recreation Center's ongoing operation through community-driven fundraising.

#### **Expertise Hub Cooperative – The Co-operative Inclusion Lab (Mount Pearl)**

This initiative supports immigrants and underrepresented groups in forming co-operatives by providing culturally appropriate incubation, mentorship, and training. The project empowers newcomers to create viable, values-driven co-operatives and fosters inclusive economic growth.

#### **Killick Ecovillage Co-op – Regenerative Agriculture Community Farming (Portugal Cove – St. Philip's)**

Killick Ecovillage is a 51-unit, mixed-income, intergenerational co-operative housing community. Residents will self-manage the community and permaculture farm, prioritizing climate resilience, affordability, and accessibility through an innovative co-operative model.

#### **Dorset Collegiate – Next Chapter: Community Skill Share (Pilley's Island)**

This weekly skill-sharing program connects students, teachers, and residents of all ages through workshops in technology and the arts. The initiative bridges generations, supports lifelong learning, and strengthens community resilience in rural Green Bay South.



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“These projects exemplify the spirit of community, innovation, and inclusion that AECU strives to support,” said Cory Munden, CEO. “We are thrilled to invest in initiatives that make a meaningful difference in the lives of our members and the broader community.”

The AECU Community Grant Program is part of the credit union’s ongoing commitment to empowering local organizations and fostering positive change across Newfoundland and Labrador.

**For more information, please contact:**

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