

KCCU Continues its partnership with the City of Kingston to Support Local Climate Action

For immediate release – 2024 Kingston Community Climate Action Fund kicks off and selected project announced.

(December 1st, 2023- Kingston, Ontario)

Kingston Community Credit Union (KCCU) joins the City of Kingston to support the fourth year of the Kingston Community Climate Action Fund (KCCAF) with a new project announced earlier today at a kick-off event.

The Kingston Community Climate Action Fund was developed by the City of Kingston to support local charities and notfor-profit organizations and their initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) and/or air emissions, increase energy conservation or efficiency, reduce, or divert organic waste, or to assist with Climate Change adaptation and technology innovation.

"It's been so great seeing incredible projects made a reality through the Kingston Community Climate Action Fund," says Mayor Paterson. "This fund is a great example of working together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and with the support of the community and the generosity of the Kingston Community Credit Union, we can make another climate action project possible!"

All Our Relations Land Trust project was selected as the focus of the Kingston Community Climate Action Fund (KCCAF) in 2024. The project will allow All Our Relations Land Trust to curb greenhouse gas emissions by installing solar panels and a new rainwater collection structure.

"Your support allows us to honour all our relations by restoring forests and habitats in urban spaces," explains Dr. Kaitlyn Patterson of All Our Relations Land Trust. "The work begins with an understanding that the ecological web of life is also a web of Kin. Land stewardship is done by all ages, in many ways and with love. Chi miigwetch for your support."

The project, situated on a 2.86-acre pasture on Hwy 15 in Kingston, will provide essential power and water resources, supporting the Indigenous food sovereignty garden, medicine gardens, a pollinator garden, and little forests. All these initiatives are carefully stewarded by All Our Relations Land Trust, in collaboration with members of the urban Indigenous community, allies, and partner organizations, including Little Forests Kingston.

All Our Relations Land Trust fundraising goal is \$27,179.

In 2024, a licensed electrical contractor with a specialty in remote off-grid agricultural sites will install solar panels on a south-facing 300 sq foot shade structure roof and a 60 sq. foot shed roof. The roofs also double as a 3000-litre rainwater collection structure and will have the capacity to increase the volume of water storage.

The panels will provide power for:

• A solar powered irrigation system that will draw from either stored rainwater or from an existing in-ground 100-foot well

- Recharging stations for electric batteries.
- Lighting and other outdoor electric chargers and receptacles
- The system will be 100% grid connection ready

The project site is located on the traditional lands of the Huron Wendat, Anishinaabe, and Haudenosaunee peoples, now known as Kingston, Ontario. All Our Relations Land Trust recognizes the Land as Kin – a beloved relation. The Land Trust will continue to practice good governance, build knowledge, and care for the land in a good way.

"All Our Relations Land Trust can through indigenous knowledge teach us all about the inter-connectedness of all forms of life on earth. It is fantastic that the City of Kingston Community Climate Action Fund can support their land stewardship work," says Jon Dessau, CEO of KCCU. "At Kingston Community Credit Union, it our co-operative vision to grow the health and wellbeing of the community we work in, and it was a natural decision to support the Fund for the fourth year in a row, in helping our community become climate resilient, and net-zero. People Helping People is our

motto, and together we can reach the fundraising goal for All Our Relations Land Trust 2024 project."

KCCU has supported the promotion and fundraising of the fund since its inception and has agreed to match donations made at their branches up to \$5,000 again this year.

Kingston Community Credit Union invites Kingston residents to support the project by donating at any of their three branches (18 Market Street, 795 Gardiners Road, and 1201 Division Street). Gifts of \$20 and more made at a KCCU branch are eligible to receive a tax receipt, issued by the City of Kingston.

To learn more about the fund, and the projects, or to donate online click here.

About Kingston Community Credit Union:

KCCU, a member-owned, democratically operated financial co-operative is open to those who work or reside in the greater Kingston area, KCCU strongly believes in building co-operative relationships with their members and community. For over 65 years, KCCU has made a positive impact on our local community with charitable giving, volunteerism, and financial education. They have a proud tradition of co-operative business ethics and continue to demonstrate their values: Co-operation, Integrity, Community, Sharing, Financial Strength, Education, and Respect for All. As part of the credit union philosophy of People Helping People, KCCU is committed to building, strengthening, and enhancing the lives of those in our community.

To find out more about KCCU visit us at <u>www.kccu.ca</u> or f 🔘 У

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