

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 1, 2024

Stride Credit Union Announces Neepawa Salvation Army as the Successful Recipient of a \$10,000 grant from EQ Bank

[Manitoba] – With the support of Concentra and EQ Bank’s Empowering Your Community grant program, Stride Credit Union is excited to announce that the Neepawa Salvation Army is the successful recipient of a \$10,000 grant.

Each year, Concentra and EQ Bank collaborate with Canadian credit unions through the “Empowering Your Community” grant program which selects deserving initiatives to improve mental health, housing, Indigenous resurgence, and food security. Since 2011, it has awarded over \$2 million to credit unions, significantly impacting communities across Canada. This year, Stride Credit Union submitted a nomination of Neepawa Salvation Army, brought forward by current Stride CU employee, and former Neepawa Salvation Army employee, Amanda Lodge.

“I nominated the Salvation Army because I had the joy of working there for four years and saw first hand the great things they do for our community and the people they help.” -Amanda Lodge, Stride Credit Union.

This grant will support the Salvation Army in relocating to a larger, street-front space, allowing them to expand their essential services. From a new grocery-style food bank that improves access and dignity for clients to a Community Kitchen that will teach valuable food literacy skills, this expansion is set to address the growing challenge of food insecurity in the region.

As food insecurity continues to rise, the need for community support is greater than ever. Stride Credit Union employees Michelle Gilmore and Amanda Lodge, Stride Credit Union Board Member Keith Jury joined Colin Lewis from EQ Bank to tour the Salvation Army's current location and see where the new space will be. After learning about the impactful programs and the plans for this exciting expansion, they were honoured to present the \$10,000 cheque to Neepawa Salvation Army Community Director Amanda Naughton-Gale.

At Stride, supporting our communities is at the heart of what we do. Whether it's through giving our time, donations or spreading awareness, every effort makes a difference. Let's come together to build stronger, more resilient communities.

About Stride Credit Union:

Stride Credit Union was formed on January 1, 2017 and proudly serves our members through our branches in Austin, Gladstone, MacGregor, Neepawa and Portage la Prairie. Supporting the communities where we live and work is an important part of Stride Credit Union's foundation.

Contact:

Nancy Funk

Manager, Marketing and Communications, Stride Credit Union

Phone: (204) 385-6194

Email: nancy.funk@stridecu.ca

Website: stridecu.ca