



## KCCU PLEDGES A \$100,000 DONATION TO PATHWAYS TO EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND

**For immediate release** – KCCU pledges a \$100,000 donation to Pathways to Education Endowment Fund

(June 17, 2024 – Kingston, Ontario)

The Kingston Pathways to Education program was initiated in 2010 and is aimed at assisting high school students in low-income areas within our community. By breaking the cycle of poverty through education, Pathways to Education offers a blend of academic, financial, social, and personalized assistance.

This unique educational initiative equips students who may not have had the chance to pursue higher education with the necessary tools and support to become prospective post-secondary students. It also enables them to access the employment and financial advantages that stem from a quality education and supports.

The program was created following a study by the Kingston Community Health Centres (KCHC) that revealed concerning data about youth in North Kingston areas. The study highlighted that educational achievements in these neighborhoods were 15% lower than the city average, with the highest high school dropout rates.

The Pathways to Education budget enables the organization to assist students throughout high school but does not extend support into post-secondary education. A significant hurdle for Pathways students has been the shift to post-secondary education. Regrettably, the funding for Pathways to Education is insufficient to offer students all the necessary support for a successful transition beyond high school and into independent adulthood.

The aim, in collaboration with the Community Foundation for Kingston & Area (CFKA), was to establish a \$1 million endowment fund. This fund will generate ongoing revenue to sustain a Facilitator of Alumni Relationships position, supporting Pathways to Education Alumni throughout their post-secondary education journey.

Kingston Community Credit Union (KCCU) has committed to backing the endowment fund with a \$25,000 donation annually for four years which commenced in 2023. These funds from KCCU will provide crucial support to the endowment fund, ensuring its sustainability and impact of the Facilitator of Alumni Relations role for years to come.

“Many thanks to the Kingston Community Credit Union for generously contributing to the Pathways to Education Kingston Fund. Through your caring and generosity, Pathways Kingston is now in a position to continue providing support for high school graduates to successfully transition to their postsecondary lives and achieve social and financial independence, contributing to the economic wellbeing of the Kingston community.” said Jo-Anne Brady, Fundraising Cabinet Co-Chair.




As a cooperative, KCCU emphasizes the importance of possessing the necessary skills and knowledge to make well-informed and impactful decisions. KCCU is dedicated to enhancing the welfare of our community and supporting initiatives that foster the growth of valuable skills.

“KCCU shares the values of KCHC and believes strongly in the educational inclusivity Pathways to Education provides. KCCU, its Board, staff and members are very proud to play a part in promoting educational opportunities for everyone in our community. It strengthens us all and is a part of the credit union’s philosophy of people helping people.” said CFO of Kingston Community Credit Union, David Bull.

To learn more about Pathways to Education or the endowment fund, 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 [www.kccu.ca](http://www.kccu.ca) or   

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