



### **Community Credit Union commits to 10-year Partnership for development of Park**

**Truro, NS – July 23, 2019:** Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colchester is thrilled to announce that the Community Credit Union has committed to a ten-year, \$100,000 donation to develop a park at their new location in North River. The Park will be developed in phases and will be created with vision of becoming a free, family friendly destination for the community.

The Charity recently relocated to North River after purchasing the old site of Molly's Dairy Bar. An addition was built to house their services, and the Dairy Bar was reopened in Spring 2019 as Fundy Scoops, which now operates as a social enterprise. In addition to youth operating the Dairy Bar and gaining valuable career-building skills, any money raised goes back into programming and services for children and youth in our communities.

“Our partnership with the Community Credit Union started back in 2018 when we gained their support for our In School Mentoring Program,” said Nick Sharpe, Executive Director with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colchester. Some members of their team signed up to volunteer in the program to make a positive impact on a child's life. Through this program they were matched with a child with similar interests, and meet at the child's school for one hour a week to spend time with each other in a mentor-mentee relationship.

The Community Credit Union believes in investing in their community and local young people. For Big Brothers Big Sisters, the volunteer time donated, is just as valuable as the financial contribution. Staff members Phemie Horvath and Dave Ritcey both volunteer as In School Mentors. Community Credit Union Board Member Andre Myette is a Big Brother. Dainne Kelderman was a Big for ten years and currently sits on the Board for the Community Credit Union.

“We are extremely grateful for the financial commitment the Community Credit Union has made for a **development and naming** of a park,” said Sharpe. “We are excited for the future of what this destination will become for Colchester and beyond. What's truly moving though, is the continued volunteer time and commitment Staff and Board Members of the Community Credit Union have given to our organization. That is the real foundation of this partnership. You can't buy time spent mentoring young people.”

Dave Ritcey, Director of Community and Business Development, and an In School Mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters sees the partnership as an opportunity for the Community Credit Union to further invest in the positive future and potential of young people in the community.

“The Development of a park behind Big Brothers Big Sisters will provide children and youth with a safe and inclusive space to gather, grow, get active, and be creative. Whether it be with their friends and family, or a special mentor in their life,” said Ritcey. “Our Partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters is a part of our commitment to the young people in this community.”

Big Brothers Big Sisters hopes that some park infrastructure will be built as early as summer 2020 for their second Dairy Bar season.

**About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colchester:** Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colchester is a non-profit, charitable organization. They offer and provide mentorship programs to local children both in the community and in a school setting. They serve over 300 children annually and aim to provide services for all youth in Colchester and East Hants area who need a mentor. They believe that when a child gains a mentor, they gain a brighter future and can meet their full potential.

**About Colchester Community Credit Union:** Community Credit Union has a commitment to keep funds working locally by employing people from within the community and by providing Personal and Commercial loans to members and their small businesses. Our profits stay in our communities, reinvested in our local economies. Putting members first is our credit union's number one priority. That means that instead of looking for ways to maximize profits for shareholders, Community Credit Union is always looking for ways to help our members make the most of their finances.

**Media Contact:**

Nick Sharpe, Executive Director

902-895-4562

[nick@colchesterkids.ca](mailto:nick@colchesterkids.ca)

[www.bbbscolchester.ca](http://www.bbbscolchester.ca)