

Announcing the 2016 Gary Gillam Award Recipient

For Immediate Release

TORONTO, April 29, 2016 – Alterna Savings and Central 1 Credit Union (Central 1) are pleased to announce that the recipient for the 2016 Gary Gillam Award is Scott Windsor, Vice President, Corporate Communications at Meridian.

Jointly sponsored by Alterna Savings and Central 1, the Gary Gillam Award for corporate social responsibility is presented annually to individuals who promote credit unions as socially responsible alternatives to banks. Up to two awards may be presented each year; one to a credit union employee and/or one to a credit union volunteer.

Scott has been a champion for involving Meridian – and the co-operative sector generally – in community programs that further economic development and social development, where gaps exist,” said Wade Stayzer, Vice President, Sales & Service at Meridian. “Under his leadership, Meridian has made great strides since 2013 in expanding its Commitment to Communities to create a tremendous amount of shared value for employees, Members, not-for-profits, charities, governments and the Canadian public.”

Notably, Scott established a cross-functional CSR committee of Meridian leaders that set goals for the social, environmental and business impact Meridian will create through operational and community investment initiatives.

Alterna Savings and Central 1 will contribute a total of \$2,500 to be donated on behalf of Scott to a charity, organization or project of his choice. Scott has asked that his award of \$2,500 go to the Ontario Credit Union Foundation, which has been supporting credit unions and co-operatives since 1979.

The award ceremony will be held on **Friday, April 29 at 12:15 p.m.** at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto.

About Gary Gillam

The Gary Gillam Award was established to honour the memory and work of Gary H. Gillam. Gary was the Director, Legal, Governmental Affairs and Administration, at Credit Union Central of Ontario (now Central 1) from 1982 to 1988.

In 1988, Gary became CEO of Unicoll Credit Union (now Alterna Savings), where he worked until illness forced his resignation in 1993.

Gary Gillam was one of the leading advocates for social responsibility in the credit union system, long before it became popular within organizations. He vigorously promoted the concept of social investment, calling on credit unions and their centrals to use social as well as financial criteria for their investment portfolios. He supported the development of community loan funds to provide assistance to socially and economically disadvantaged

individuals. At CUCO and his own credit union, he initiated social audits to measure the social performance of the organization, as a complementary process to the financial audit.

The Gary Gillam Award was established in 1996 and is awarded annually.

About Central 1

With offices in Vancouver, Mississauga and Toronto, Central 1 holds on balance sheet approximately \$14.9 billion in assets. We provide wholesale financial products, trust services, payment processing solutions and direct banking services to more than 300 credit unions and institutional clients from coast to coast.

In addition, Central 1 is the primary liquidity manager, payments provider and trade association for our 42 member credit unions in B.C. and 75 Ontario member credit unions. Our members represent a consumer-oriented, full-service retail financial system that serves 3.3 million members and holds more than \$106.3 billion in assets. For more information, visit www.central1.com.

About Alterna Savings

For more than 100 years, Alterna Savings and Credit Union Limited has been charting new directions to help Ontarians achieve their financial dreams and build strong, vibrant communities. The first full-service, member-owned co-operative financial institution outside Quebec, Alterna Savings shares our expertise with more than 100,000 members. Holding over \$4 billion in assets under administration, we offer a full suite of financial services online, by phone, by mobile and through a network of 26 branches across Ontario. Our sister company, Alterna Bank, operates digitally across Canada and through branches in Hull and Gatineau, Quebec. Alterna Savings' members also have access to the second largest financial institution ATM network in Canada with THE EXCHANGE® Network. It offers surcharge-free access to thousands of ATMs across Canada and the United States. For more information please visit alterna.ca

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