



Press release

Nominations are now open for the 24th Gary Gillam Awards for Social Responsibility

February 19, 2020

The Gary Gillam Award for social responsibility is now accepting nominations for exemplary individuals within the Ontario and British Columbia credit union system who have achievements in either promoting social responsibility and/or sustainability in credit unions; and/or promoting credit unions as a socially responsible investment alternative.

The award is jointly sponsored by Alterna Savings and Central 1 who will donate \$2,500 to a charity, organization or project as decided by the award winner.

This award was established to honour the memory and work of Gary H. Gillam. Gary was the Director of Legal, Governmental Affairs and Administration, at Credit Union Central of Ontario from 1982-1988.

Gary Gillam was one of the leading advocates for social responsibility in the credit union system. 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. Ahead of his time, this award honours fellow leaders who advance social responsibility in the credit union system.

“At Alterna, we work hard to champion the financial well-being of our members and to serve the underserved. For these reasons, we’re thrilled to be working with Central 1 to encourage individuals who are taking meaningful steps to make the world a more equitable place,” explains Rob Paterson, Alterna President and CEO.

“Central 1 is proud to once again partner with Alterna to honour credit union members who have led the way in social responsibility. I am continually inspired by the work credit union employees, members and volunteers do to advance sustainability and social responsibility; in turn, changing their communities and the world,” said Mark Blucher, CEO Central 1.

Nominations must be received by **Monday, March 23, 2020**.

The award committee will review all nominations and select the annual recipient(s). The presentation to the winner is expected to be held in late April 2020 in Ottawa. For complete details on the nomination criteria and to submit a nomination, visit the [Central 1](#) or [Alterna website](#)

About Central 1

Central 1 is a preferred partner for financial, digital banking and payment products and services – fueling the success of businesses across Canada. We leverage our scale, strength and expertise to power progress for more than 250 credit unions and other financial institutions, enhancing the financial well-being of more than 5 million customers from coast to coast. For more information, visit www.central1.com

About Alterna Savings

Alterna Savings and Credit Union Limited (Alterna) has been the Good in Banking™ for 112 years! Alterna is made up of Alterna Savings and Credit Union Limited and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Alterna Bank. Together, we have \$8.7 billion in assets under administration.

As the first full-service, member-owned co-operative financial institution outside Quebec, Alterna Savings shares its expertise with more than 169,000 members through a network of 35 branches across Ontario, that includes partners Toronto Municipal Employees' Savings, City Savings, and Peterborough Community Savings; as well as call centre and digital channels. Members and customers also benefit from industry-leading online brokerage, investment management services, and have access to the largest surcharge-free ATM network in Canada through THE EXCHANGE® Network, with over 3,700 ATMs to serve them.

For more information please visit www.alterna.ca and connect with us on <https://twitter.com/alternasavings>.

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