



For Immediate release

Alterna grants \$25k to deserving community organizations

TORONTO, ON (March 31, 2016) – Alterna Savings has announced its Community Grant recipients for spring 2016, receiving a total of \$25,000. Houselink Community Homes and Options Bytown are two of the organizations receiving support for their awesome efforts.

Twice a year, Alterna Savings considers grant requests from community organizations and projects that require small donations to fulfill worthy missions in the Greater Toronto Area, the National Capital Region, Peterborough, Kingston, Pembroke, North Bay.

One of the grant recipients, Alterna Member, Houselink Community Homes, works to improve the quality of life of those living with mental health challenges and/or addiction issues; including those who are homeless or marginalized, by providing permanent affordable supportive housing and employment programs in Toronto. Alterna's \$5,000 grant will support Houselink's employment programs, which helps to support those struggling with persistent mental health challenges to find employment.

A second grant recipient is Alterna Member, Options Bytown, who provides supportive housing to Ottawa's most vulnerable citizens. Alterna's \$5,000 grant will support this member in the expansion of a Foot Care Program for people who have been homeless and require diagnosis and treatment of foot maladies. A successful 2015 pilot program found that the foot care program was tremendously successful and a means to break down barriers and connect tenants to other needed health care services.

"One of the fundamental principles in co-operative banking is reinvesting our profits into the communities we serve," says Alterna Savings President and CEO, Rob Paterson. "We're always happy to witness the impactful results that develop within communities from just a little bit of help."

For a complete list of recent Alterna Savings grant recipients, visit alterna.ca.

About Alterna Savings

As Canada's first co-operative financial institution outside of Quebec, Alterna Savings and Credit Union Limited has operated as a full-service, member-owned credit union for over 100 years. Alterna Savings is committed to helping our more than 100,000 members achieve their financial dreams, while at the same time supporting vibrant, local communities. Alterna Savings offers a full suite of financial services online, by phone, by mobile and through a network of 24 branches. Alterna members also have access to THE EXCHANGE® Network, with thousands of surcharge-free ATMs across Canada and 500,000 ATMs in the United States.

For more information please visit www.alterna.ca



For media inquiries:

Adrienne Finlay - Manager, Corporate Communications

Alterna Savings

416.213.7900 ext. 7655

adrienne.finlay@alterna.ca