



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Dean Walde honoured with Lifetime Co-operative Achievement Award

Lloydminster, Sask. - Synergy Credit Union is proud to congratulate Dean Walde, a Synergy Board of Directors, on his Lifetime Co-operative Achievement Award. Dean was recognized from the Saskatchewan Co-operative Association in October, celebrating 30 years of service to the credit union system and the community.

Dean's had an incredibly productive career in the co-operative system. He has been a credit union board member since 1987, including serving as President from 2002 to 2009. Throughout his tenure, he has actively served on numerous committees, including 22 years as a delegate to Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan. He was elected to the SaskCentral board of directors in 2006 and served for nine years, including a stint as board Chair when he was instrumental in guiding SaskCentral through a significant restructuring of its governance framework.

A highlight of Dean's co-operative career was becoming actively involved in the development of the credit union tax advocacy program. He provided SaskCentral's Public Policy Committee with direction to adopt an aggressive advocacy platform. The campaign was very successful and achieved the greatest participation ever from the system and its members.

He was awarded the SaskCentral Order of Merit in 2013.

Dean was also a board member for Concentra for six years and has been a director of the Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation since 2013.

With his accumulated years of board experience, Dean has gained many insights necessary to move forward with organizational change and growth while still maintaining focus on serving the membership.



“Having leaders like Dean on our team makes the credit union better for its members, staff and board,” said Don Wheler, Synergy’s Board of Directors President. “He brings so many qualities to the table and his experience and expertise help form the vision of Synergy Credit Union’s future.”

A lifelong learner, Dean is a graduate of the Credit Union Directors’ Achievement Program and leads by example through mentoring, continuing education and credit promotion of co-operative principles.

Dean is a leader outside of the financial sector as well. He served on the Saskatchewan Co-operative Association board and the Saskatchewan Agricultural Council, was a delegate for Federated Co-operatives Limited and the Canadian Co-operatives Association.

Dean also believes in building strong communities. He was involved in renovating the local hall, curling and skating rinks as well as the construction of the Legion Memorial Park. Dean also served on the Community Hall Board of directors.

About Synergy Credit Union

Synergy Credit Union is a member-owned financial institution serving more than 27,000 members from 10 communities within west-central Saskatchewan. Synergy Credit Union is the fourth largest credit union in the province of Saskatchewan and is one of the leading credit unions in Canada, with more than \$1 billion in assets. Synergy Credit Union provides core banking services through the traditional branch network, the Canada-wide AccuLink ATM network, online banking, automated telephone banking, mobile web banking, as well as through the Member Contact Centre and by SMS texting. More complex and advanced services, such as financial advice and analysis, are delivered by specialists who may be located in select branches or available to meet in a location of the member’s choice, by request.