

COMTECH FIRE DISPATCH

Financial Tips and Community News

Welcome to Comtech Fire Dispatch! In this newsletter, you'll be able to read about the latest news, upcoming community events, interesting facts, members in the spotlight and a whole lot more. Happy reading!

What's New at Comtech Fire?

Business banking packages make their debut

In March, Comtech Fire Credit Union introduced new business banking packages designed to assist small to medium sized businesses efficiently manage their operations.

With several options available, the new package plans are ideal, as well as economical for almost any size operation, particularly for the many retail and community-based businesses in the immediate vicinities of our branch network. They are also a perfect solution for home-based businesses and not-for-profit organizations.

In addition to the banking packages, we are also offering state-of-the-art Point of Sale equipment and terminals, through our partnership with First Data as well as a full line of Business Visa options through our partner Collabria.

For more information, visit our website or contact any of our branches.

Save on bank fees with our Premier Chequing Account

Not doing all of your banking with Comtech Fire Credit Union? Did you know that we offer a banking package that can eliminate your bank fees? Sound good? If so, maybe it's time you explored our Premier Account. All you have to do is bring your pension/net pay deposit to Comtech Fire Credit Union and qualify for a line of credit (first year rate on up to \$10,000 is 2.99%), mortgage or qualifying deposit product, and you can say goodbye to bank fees for good. Contact us today and we will help you make it happen.

Which Visa Card Is Your Perfect Match?

Did you know that Comtech Fire Credit Union offers an extensive choice of Visa card options, including a generous new rewards program through our Credit Card partner Collabria. Check out all of the options on our website, or call your branch for details!



Let's get social



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Community Events

Comtech fire presents three community service awards

On March 26th at our Annual General Meeting, we will present community service awards to three of our members and member organizations in recognition of their outstanding community service. In addition to the John Ryder Award that has been presented since 1992 by the former Fire Services Credit Union, we added two new awards that honor members from the former Comtech Credit Union and Limestone Credit Union member bases. Each award includes a contribution of \$500.00 to the charity of the winner's choice. Congratulations to:

- The John J. Ryder Award: The Board & Volunteers of Camp Bucko
- The Scott Jamieson Award: Alice Gould
- The Tom Baldwin Award: Marilyn McLean

We are proud of all of our members and staff who make significant contributions to their communities.

Meet our Team



Meet Camila Arcon

Assistant Branch Manager, King

Camila started with Comtech Fire Credit Union in 2008 as an Operator in our Call Centre. Today, she is our Assistant Branch Manager at King Street. Camila

is passionate about service to our members and is driven by her personal philosophy of “treating each member as family”. Next time you are in our King Street Branch, make sure you say hello to Camila!



Meet Kathleen Vieira

Assistant Branch Manager, Danforth

Kathleen started with Comtech Fire Credit Union in 2002 and is well known with her members as a pleasure to deal with.

Kathleen cares deeply about our members and in her previous role as a Loans Officer has helped hundreds of members with their borrowing needs. Kathleen was recently promoted to Assistant Branch Manager at Danforth.

Our Long History with Bell Canada

As many of you know, Comtech Fire Credit Union has a very long history with employees of Bell Canada. What you may not know is that we are still very much “connected” to Bell employees and pensioners!

Our Creekbank branch is located inside the Bell Canada campus in Mississauga and serves the needs of many of the employees who work there. We also maintain ATMs in many Bell Canada buildings around Ontario, and even in Dorval, Quebec!

We have Bell employee representatives who continue to share Credit Union information with Bell employees at a number of their facilities. We have a strong relationship with Bell Pensioners and regularly attend their regional meetings in Ontario. We are also pleased to maintain a connection to Bell Technical Solutions, and regularly attend their employee appreciation BBQs in the GTA.

Finally, wherever we can, we use our social networks to increase the reach of Bell community programs, especially Bell Let's Talk initiatives. We are also a major sponsor of the Bell President's Hockey Tournament in Kingston, and the Marcel Vincent Slo-Pitch Tournament being held this year in Brampton, Ontario.

Branch & Community News

Credit Unions have always had strong connections to the communities where they are located. Our staff on many occasions donate their time for causes they believe in. Here are just a few of our recent activities:



Danforth Avenue

- Delivered hot bagels to Fire Fighters who attended a Five Alarm Fire on Danforth Avenue
- Collected toys for needy children and donated them to the Toronto Fire Fighters Toy Drive
- Held an open house to raise money for the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation

Danforth Branch Grand Opening

Comtech Fire Credit Union officially opened its newest, state-of-the-art branch at 531 Danforth Avenue in November, 2018.

Located in the heart of Greektown, the new branch replaces the former Avenue Road and East York Branch and has already made an impact in the local community with many new members joining our growing family from the immediate area.

Special guests at the Grand Opening included members of our Board of Directors, Senior Management, existing Avenue Road members and Toronto City Councillor Paula Fletcher.



Bank Street

- Attended the grand-opening of the new Firehouse Subs franchise in Barrhaven
- Arranged meeting with Ottawa Champions Baseball Club to explore partnership opportunities for a First Responders Night
- Wrapped Christmas gifts with employees from Alterna Savings for the Ottawa Boys and Girls' Club
- Supported a charity drive for cystic fibrosis on Bank Street, provided refreshments and made a donation on behalf of the Credit Union.
- Sponsored Fire & Ice festival via prizes and Instagram competition with the Bank Street BIA (expected Feb, 2019)

Amhertsview

- Sponsored the Loyalist Township Annual Bonfire and served hot chocolate to all the attendees

King Street

Our King Street Branch is spearheading an expansion of our Instagram presence with fun and informative monthly themes throughout 2019. Led by Xi Wu, our objective is to connect with the millennial market that are dedicated users of Instagram and other social media platforms. You can connect with our Instagram page by scanning the QR code below, or by liking us on Instagram @comtechfirecu.



Did you know?

Credit unions put people before profits

Each year, credit unions give back on average 5.4 per cent of pre-tax profits to local community organizations; well above the recognized industry standard of giving one per cent. On top of this, credit unions' missions include providing members with innovation in financial literacy education, alternatives to payday lending, and social finance.

Branch & Community News

Princess Branch

Princess Branch Hosts Student Financial Skills Workshop

As part of our Student Financial Skills Workshop, an initiative to reach out to high school students to provide “Financial Literacy” skills, on November 1, 2018 we hosted our first student, Karleen Espinal-Rivera, a grade 11 Co-op student from Regiopolis-Notre Dame Catholic High School. Karleen spent the day in the branch, job shadowing and gaining knowledge of the financial skills workshop presented by the Branch Manager. On December 14, 2018, Bob Belzile, Chair of our Community Advisory Committee and Gisele Godfrey, Branch Manager had the pleasure of attending Karleen’s excellent presentation to her Co-Op class, sharing the knowledge she learned about Credit Unions, products and services offered by Comtech Fire Credit Union, and the foundation of financial literacy skills she learned. Gisele Godfrey presented her with a Certificate of Achievement, along with a \$200 student bursary awarded by Comtech Fire Credit Union Ltd. Which was deposited in her newly opened account at Comtech Fire Credit Union. Thanks to Linda Lott, her Co-Op teacher for helping us launch this program. We look forward to continuing this learning initiative in 2019.



The Salvation Army, 98.3 FlyFM and 98.9 THE Drive partner to provide toys to less fortunate children.

The Comtech Fire Princess St. Branch contributes every year to this initiative and accepted cash donations and unwrapped toy donations from November 17 to December 14, 2018 at our branch.

Through the generosity of our members and staff, on December 14, 2018 our Princess St. branch

delivered a generous amount of toys, and a cheque in the amount of \$432.70, payable to the Kingston Toy Drive to the Cataraqui Centre Court Toy chest.



Upcoming 2019 Event

Every year our Credit Union has proudly supported the Special Olympics Kingston (a charitable, non-profit organization) through a monetary donation of \$500.00 for the year and by staff members volunteering their time to curl with the Shot Rock Curling team. The Shot Rocks Curling team have been operating in Kingston for 19 years and have athletes who complete in all levels of play. On Sunday, February 24, 2019, Conner Brash, FSR and Gisele Godfrey, Branch Manager (Princess St.), along with the curling skills of Mike Fleurie (former CEO) and Terry Godfrey (member) had the honor this year to curl with the Shot Rocks, and Comtech Fire Credit Union will once again be presented a cheque for \$500.00. Our generosity continues to make a life-changing difference in these athletes’ lives.



Comtech Firefighter News



Comtech Fire Announces Partnership with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF Canada)

This past November, Chief Marketing Officer Kevin Connolly visited the IAFF offices in Washington, DC, to finalize the transfer of their Canadian Banking to Comtech Fire Credit Union. IAFF Canada represents close to 30,000 Professional Fire Fighters in Canada.

Comtech Fire is the largest provider of banking services to Professional Fire Fighter Associations in Ontario. We currently serve the needs of over 40 Association partners, including the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association.

We welcome the IAFF Canada to our growing family!



Do you have a suggestion for us for future content in our newsletter?

Send your input to:
marketing@comtechfirecu.com

2019 Canadian Fallen Firefighters Foundation on May 27th, 2019

Mark your calendars. Comtech Fire Credit Union's 7th Annual Charity Golf Classic, in support of the CFF, will be held again at the private and exclusive Markland Wood Golf Club on May 27th, 2019. All of the information is available, including sponsorship and registration and event details, at comtechfirecu.com/golf.

Register early. The event will sell out!

Welcome to our newest Fire Fighter Associations & Other Business Partners

Chalk River Professional Fire Fighters Association

Whitby Professional Fire Fighters Association

Belleville Professional Fire Fighters Association

Sarnia Professional Fire Fighters Association

Graceview Presbyterian Church, Toronto.

M & L Supply, Ingleside, Ontario.



OPFFA Webcasts

Our partnership with the Ontario Professional Fire Fighters Association goes far beyond banking! In January, Comtech Fire Credit Union was asked to deliver a webcast to interested members of the OPFFA through their broadcast portal. The subject matter was registered products and was the first of several planned to assist OPFFA members with their finances. Thank you to Mark Train, Vice President of the OPFFA for the opportunity and also for his excellent moderating skills!