



NEWS FROM BELGIAN-ALLIANCE CREDIT UNION

Board announces \$40,000 patronage payout

It pays to be a BACU member

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased and honoured to report that 2018 was another successful year for Belgian-Alliance Credit Union.

Back in 2014, your board embarked on a five-year plan to make BACU an even better credit union. This plan included balanced growth, increased profit, new technology and, most importantly, the best possible service for you, our members. As 2018 draws to a close, we remain on target, as we have been in each of the last four years.

I am also pleased to announce **a patronage distribution of \$40,000** for 2018 — \$5,000 more than in 2017. Since our merger in 2008, BACU has returned **more than a million dollars** to the members who have supported our credit union by using our services.

The tradition of returning a portion of our profits to members goes back to 2008, when the Belgian and Alliance Credit Unions merged to create Belgian-Alliance Credit Union (in fact, the practice was introduced by our founding credit unions well before then). In addition to this patronage distribution, BACU is paying **a dividend of 3.35%** on every share held by our members as a way of saying ‘thank-you’ for your support over the years.

Towards the end of 2018, we introduced some significant technological changes that will provide expanded account services. Some of these changes will take effect immediately, with others being added in 2019. Be sure to check out the articles inside for more information.

This February marks a very special event as we will be celebrating the **80th anniversary** of one of our founding credit unions. This celebration is only possible thanks to the continuing support of our members, the great service given by our dedicated staff and the oversight and guidance provided by our Board of Directors. We wish you all the best in 2019!

Remi Brengman

Remi Brengman • Chair, Board of Directors

How do BACU shares work?

At Belgian-Alliance Credit Union, we operate with two classifications of shares: common shares and surplus shares.

A Common Share is the share each individual purchases when they become a member of the credit union. Common shares are priced at \$5.00 each, in accordance with our by-laws. Each account must maintain one share; however, each member has one vote, regardless of how many accounts they have (one member, one vote is an important cooperative principle).

Surplus Shares are priced at \$1.00 each, and are deposited to members’ accounts by the credit union as patronage allocations and dividends.

How do BACU’s dividends work?

1. When you open an account with our credit union, you are required to purchase a minimum of one common share (\$5), which in turn makes you an owner.
2. When BACU declares a dividend on these common shares, or pays a patronage rebate (also called “surplus shares” — see description above), you essentially receive a portion of the credit union’s profits, based on the services you’ve used in the past year.
3. The more surplus shares you have, the more dividends you receive when your credit union makes a profit.

Variable Rate • No-Fee

TFSA **2.00%**
APR • Subject to change

Automatic transfer available!

Belgian-Alliance
Credit Union 



Making a difference in the communities we serve

Year after year, Belgian-Alliance Credit Union works hard to maintain and strengthen the foundation our financial cooperative was built upon, with generous contributions to the neighbourhoods and communities that surround our branches. And every year, our staff and directors commit countless volunteer hours to community initiatives and events. These are just some of the groups and events Belgian-Alliance Credit Union supported in 2018:

- **United Way** • **Winnipeg Music Festival**
- **Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada**
- **Diabetes Canada** • **OHEYS Autism Programs**
- **Belgian Club** • **Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League**
- **Ralph Maybank School** • **MS Society of Canada**
- **Winnipeg Sikaran Arnis Academy** • **Invis Inc.**
- **Winnipeg Hot Shots Basketball Club Inc.**
- **Winnipeg Harvest** • **Siloam Mission**
- **Shock Trauma Air Rescue Service (STARS) Foundation**

BACU employees and directors are enthusiastic supporters of community causes and events all year round. Pictured, from top: the Lace Up for Diabetes run in Assiniboine Park on April 29; the West End BIZ Street Sweep Off community clean up, just a few days earlier on April 26; and BACU's own annual Family Shred Day on September 22, where we raised \$1041.30 and collected 377 pounds of food for Winnipeg Harvest.



WEALTH MANAGEMENT



Erin Fitzgerald

Wealth Management Advisor

In 2013, Belgian-Alliance Credit Union expanded our member product offering to include a Wealth Management Department, offering a service which is available to all our members, free of charge. Since then, our experts have met with many of our members and, as a result, the credit union has seen assets under management grow by an impressive 9 million dollars.

While offering regular investment products such as RSP, RRIF, TFSA, and open products, we also are proficient in pension transfers, pension one-time unlocking, and severance payouts. Registered Disability Savings Plans and Registered Educational savings plans are offered as well.

*Wealth Management Advisor **Erin Fitzgerald** has over 30 years of industry experience. Whether you're ready to begin planning for retirement, want to see if you are on track, or simply require a second opinion on what you currently have, Erin would be pleased to meet with you at any of our three branches to discuss your needs or concerns.*

You can reach Erin directly at **204-293-0179**

Exciting new services made 2018 a year of achievements

BACU Member Card® with Interac Flash®

Earlier this year, members received BACU's newly-designed **Member Card debit card** with **Interac Flash functionality** that makes everyday purchases a breeze— fast, convenient, and more secure than ever, too.

Just hold your card over the merchant's contactless payment terminal and your purchase is automatically paid for, directly from your account. **Interac Flash** uses EMV-based secure chip processing, protecting against skimming, counterfeiting, and other types of fraud. It's never been easier to 'tap and go'!

New ATMs

Have you noticed that **our new BACU ATMs don't need envelopes?** Deposits have never been so easy... and so environmentally friendly! Just stack your cash and cheques together and the ATM will sort and count it all out for you. Scanning technology reads each bank note and cheque individually to properly credit each item to your account. Want an image of the cheque you just deposited? Just request a receipt at the end of your transaction and the ATM will print a copy of any deposited cheque.

New Website and On-Line Banking Platform

In mid-December, BACU launched a brand new website and online banking platform. The address is still www.belgianalliancecu.mb.ca but, as well as a fresh new user-friendly look and feel, the new site is enhanced with the latest security measures. The site is optimized for viewing on virtually any device: desktop, laptop, tablet, iPhone, Android smart phone... and our new online banking platform is easy and intuitive to navigate.

Coming to BACU in early 2019

'My BACU' Mobile Banking App

Available for all iOS and Android devices. Our new mobile app lets you **access your accounts from anywhere**, using your smart phone or tablet. With 'My BACU' you can send an **Interac e-Transfer**, deposit a cheque, transfer funds, check account balances and activity, pay bills and much more.

Deposit Anywhere™

Gone are the days of having a cheque to deposit but not having the time to do it. With the Deposit Anywhere feature, our new 'my BACU' app lets you **deposit a cheque just by snapping a picture of it** with your smart phone or tablet. The digital image is processed and the money is deposited securely into your account, all at no charge.



introducing... BACU's new suite of personal and business cards from Mastercard®

...including Cash Back, No Fee, Student, Travel Rewards, U.S. Dollar and more!

Your card. Your rewards. Your way.

- Flex Rewards – Cash Back, Hotel, Travel
- Purchase Protection & Extended Warranty
- Zero Liability Fraud Protection
- Mastercard Contactless Payment
- Mastercard SecureCode®
- Mastercard Global Services
- 24/7 Online Access



APPLY TODAY in branch or at belgianalliancecu.mb.ca

Do you have RSPs, TFSA's or RIFs with BACU?

Designation of Beneficiary

Your designation of beneficiary by means of a designation form will not be revoked or changed automatically by any future marriage or divorce. Should you wish to change your beneficiary on your registered products in the event of a future marriage or divorce, you will have to do so by means of a new designation.



Credit Union Holidays 2019 **All Branches Closed**

Tuesday, January 1	New Year's Day
Monday, February 18	Louis Riel Day
Friday, April 19	Good Friday
Monday, May 20	Victoria Day
Monday, July 1	Canada Day
Monday, August 5	Terry Fox Day
Monday, September 2	Labour Day
Monday, October 14	Thanksgiving Day
Monday, November 11	Remembrance Day
Wednesday, December 25	Christmas Day
Thursday, December 26	Boxing Day

All branches will **close at 1:30 pm** on
Christmas Eve Tuesday, December 24 and
New Year's Eve Tuesday, December 31



Surcharge-free cash
withdrawals available
365 days a year at more
than 200 credit union
ATMs in Manitoba!

**ding
free.**

Don't forget...

The deadline to contribute
to your RRSP for the 2018 tax year is

Friday, March 1, 2019

Visit belgianalliancecu.mb.ca for the latest rates!



Save the date!

Belgian-Alliance Credit Union
Annual General Meeting

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2019

Norwood Hotel • 112 Marion Street
Registration 6:30 pm Meeting 7:00 pm



Belgian-Alliance
Credit Union 

The **Member Advantage** newsletter is published to inform members about financial matters and the credit union's activities.

Your comments and story ideas are welcome.

Send or bring them to any branch, or e-mail to:
info@bacumail.ca

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Martin Trudeau

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

David Domes

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CORPORATE SECRETARY

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Marc Lemoine

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