



BECOMING A DIRECTOR
Stride Credit Union Board of Directors
(December 2020)

History of Stride Credit Union

Stride Credit Union was founded January 1st, 2017, after a successful amalgamation between Austin Credit Union and Portage Credit Union. Intentions to amalgamate were announced at each credit union's Annual General Meeting in April of 2016. Members of each credit union then voted on the proposal to amalgamate in June 2016; results were overwhelmingly in favour of the amalgamation with a fantastic positive response.

On January 1st, 2020, Stride Credit Union officially amalgamated with Beautiful Plains Credit Union. Members of each credit union voted overwhelmingly in favour of this proposal in August 2019.

Today, Stride Credit Union is a co-operative financial institution, operating in the best interests of our members and our communities. With each member having one SHARE and one VOTE, and a Board of Directors elected from the membership, we can react to the wishes and needs of our members quickly and efficiently. We are proud to be locally owned and operated.

Stride Credit Union operates nine branches across eight communities in the Central Plains region: Austin, Gladstone, Glenella, MacGregor, Neepawa, Oakville, Plumas and Portage la Prairie. We offer a complete line of financial products and services for any and every kind of member, from personal (new and experienced) to business owners and the agricultural community. Our primary objective is to provide friendly, personalized, professional financial services and fair pricing to our members at all times.

Mission, Vision, Values

Mission

To foster meaningful relationships with our members and the communities we serve by listening to their needs and supporting their goals.

Vision

At Stride Credit Union, it is our vision to grow our organization by continually strengthening our offering, delivering leading edge services and creating long-term value for our staff and shareholders.

Purpose

To expand our presence beyond our branches into the hearts and minds of the people we serve.

Brand Promise

Where **Exceptional** is **Expected**

Values

Support:

We stand shoulder to shoulder with our community because we're not just a credit union, we're also your neighbour. If there's a way to bring people together to build a better place to live you'll find us.

Service

We continually evaluate our offering to ensure we're always meeting the diverse and evolving needs of our members. If there's a way to better serve the people who trust us with their finances, we'll take it.

Co-operative Principles:

We adhere to the seven cooperative principles for credit unions, including voluntary membership, democratic member control, members' economic participation, autonomy and independence, education, training and information, cooperation among cooperatives and concern for community.

The Seven Co-operative Principles

The co-operative principles are guidelines by which co-operators put their values into practice.

1st Principle: Voluntary and Open Membership

Co-operatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political, or religious discrimination.

2nd Principle: Democratic Member Control

Co-operatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary co-operatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote), and co-operatives at other levels are also organized in a democratic manner.

3rd Principle: Member Economic Participation

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their co-operative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the co-operative. Members usually

receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their co-operative, possible by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the co-operative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

4th Principle: Autonomy and Independence

Co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their co-operative autonomy.

5th Principle: Education, Training, and Information

Co-operatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public - particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of co-operation.

6th Principle: Co-operation Among Co-operatives

Co-operatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the co-operative movement by working together through local, national, regional, and international structures.

7th Principle: Concern for Community

Co-operatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

Role of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Stride Credit Union should, in general, reflect the composition of the membership. The Board of Directors provides leadership to ensure the day-to-day business conducted by Stride Credit Union reflects the values on which Stride Credit Union established, all in the interests of serving our members and our community. Other general responsibilities unique to the Board of Directors:

- The function of the Board is to direct management, not to manage. Work closely with the CEO and Executive Management team, who carry out the operational elements of the strategic plan.

- Protect and enhance Stride Credit Union's assets in the interest of members and stakeholders.
- Stride Credit Union's Board of Directors consist of a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of eleven (11). Currently eleven (11) seats on the Stride Board of Directors. Directors serve a term of three (3) years, at which time they may run for re-election.
- Directors can expect to attend up to twelve (12) monthly Board Meetings each year plus the Annual Meeting of Members held in April, and a planning session that is normally held in the fall.
- Directors are encouraged to ask questions and obtain further information from management at any time either prior to the board meeting or during the meeting.

Role of Individual Directors

An effective director must understand Stride Credit Union's strategies, plans and policies and acquire skills for decision making, planning, and policy making and provide oversight of the Stride Credit Union's performance.

In addition to monthly Board meetings, Directors also serve on one or several of the following sub-committees:

- Audit & Risk Committee
- Governance & Conduct Review Committee
- Nominations Committee

The Audit & Risk Committee

The credit union environment is complex, and our regulatory environment requires increased attention and diligence in the area of corporate governance and accountability. The Audit & Risk Committee of the credit union's Board of Directors plays a key oversight role. While management is responsible for the daily operations of the financial reporting, control environment and technological infrastructure, the Committee is responsible for the oversight of management for these activities.

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee consists of a minimum of three (3) directors who are appointed by the Board each year following the Annual Meeting of Members. The Committee consists of the Board Chair, 1st Vice Chair and 2nd Vice Chair/Corporate Secretary.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee consists of three (3) directors whose term will not be expiring in the following year and are appointed by the Board each year following the Annual Meeting.

Nomination Process

The Stride Credit Union Board of Directors are elected by the members in a democratic onemember, one vote system. The term commences immediately following the Annual Meeting of Members.

KEY ACTIVITIES	DATES
Call for Nominations	December 17, 2020
Deadline to submit the Official Nomination Form	January 22, 2021
Formal Candidate Interviews	Early February
Nominating Committee confirms candidates	Early February
Each candidate will send his or her biography and photo to elections@stridecu.ca	February 12, 2021
Notice of elections posted on Stride Credit Union's website, local newspapers and at the branches	February 22, 2021
Candidate photo and biography posted on Stride Credit Union's website	February 22, 2021
Electronic voting	February 22, 2021 – March 19, 2021
Annual Meeting of Members <ul style="list-style-type: none">Announcement of election results	April 14, 2021

Director Candidates

a. Qualification of Candidates

A member in good standing may stand for election as a candidate for the position of director on the Board of the Stride Credit Union.

b. Selection Criteria

All candidates for the position of director must commit to the following:

- Understand and accept Stride Credit Union's mission, vision, and values.

- Prepare for and attend board/committee meetings in accordance with the time requirements identified above.
- Have a general understanding of corporate governance and the role and responsibilities of being a director.
- Comply with Stride Credit Union's policies, code of conduct and regulatory requirements.

Deadline and Submission

Please return your completed form and supporting documentation by 5:00pm on Friday, January 22, 2021.

Your material may be sent by the following methods:

- E-mailed to elections@stridecu.ca
- Mailed to: Stride Credit Union
19 Royal Road North
Portage la Prairie, MB R1N 1T9
Attention: Brent Budz, CEO