

# News

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **BMO Financial Group Contributes \$50,000 to Gibsons Public Market Project**

**GIBSONS, B.C., October 2, 2015** - BMO Financial Group today announced a \$50,000 contribution to the Gibsons Public Market capital campaign, to create a vibrant year-round public market and community hub for the Sunshine Coast that will help build a stronger and more sustainable community.

BMO Financial Group's donation will be an important show of support to the Gibsons Community Building Society ("the Society") in their goal to raise \$3 million for the construction of the Gibsons Public Market. BMO is Gibson's first bank, with a long history of service to the Sunshine Coast.

The Gibsons Public Market will be a new gathering place that will host a year-round farmers' market, a marine education centre, a café, food producers, entertainment, and public amenities including meeting spaces and a community kitchen.

Pat Dejong, Regional Vice-President, Bank of Montreal said, "This will be a real boost to local businesses and enhance marine education and the lifestyle of citizens and visitors from Gibsons to Sechelt and beyond." BMO has education and life-long learning as one of its pillars of community investment support, and this community hub will help build a stronger and more sustainable community through marine education. BMO's gift will go towards the campaign in general and the Nick Sonntag Marine Education Centre.

"We are very grateful for this generous donation from BMO," said Pam Robertson, Co-chair of the Gibsons Public Market Capital Campaign. "It's extremely meaningful and encouraging to see this level of interest and support in making the project happen."

"BMO's contribution to the Gibsons Public Market demonstrates the company's commitment to the livability of our community and a recognition that the time is right to invest in initiatives that will contribute to our local economy and bring lasting benefits to residents and visitors of the Coast and neighbouring islands," said Bill Humphries FCA, CPA and Chair of the GCBS Board of Governors.

The Gibsons Public Market Capital Campaign is more than half way to reaching its goal to raise \$3 million. Construction is expected to begin in early 2016, with completion projected in the summer.

### **BMO in the Community**

Established in 1817 as Canada's first bank, BMO has been serving customers in British Columbia since 1887 when the first Bank of Montreal branch opened. Since the beginning, BMO has been providing donations and sponsorships to support families in neighbourhoods and cities where we work. By helping to create vital and healthy communities, we best serve our customers and employees. At BMO we bring a human touch to everything we do. We're people first, bankers second and above all, we're here to help.

### **Gibsons Community Building Society**

The Gibsons Community Building Society (GCBS) is building a vibrant year-round Gibsons Public Market—and community hub and learning destination that will foster sustainability for the Town of Gibsons, neighbouring islands and Sunshine Coast residents and visitors of all ages. The facility will feature a marine education centre, a public market; a community kitchen; a rentable commercial kitchen for new incubator businesses, a café and an attractive community amenity space for performances by various artists and entertainers. More than 70% of the 13,500 square foot building will be dedicated to community amenities. The GCBS has mobilized hundreds of volunteers with an outstanding Board of Directors and Governors and continues to attract financial, material and in-kind donations to build the "Public Market."

-30-

### **Media Contacts:**

Laurie Grant, BMO Bank of Montreal, Vancouver, 604-318-0735 (M) [laurie.grant@bmo.com](mailto:laurie.grant@bmo.com)  
Nancy Grenier, Gibsons Community Building Society, 604-741-3421 (M), [ngrenier@telus.net](mailto:ngrenier@telus.net)

Contact Nancy Grenier for high-resolution images and event photos.

**Internet:** [www.bmo.com](http://www.bmo.com) [www.gibsonspublicmarket.com](http://www.gibsonspublicmarket.com)

**Twitter:** @BMOmedia @gibsonsmarket