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## PRESS RELEASE

### **CCEC Credit Union (CCEC), Vancouver Firefighters' Credit Union (VFCU) and Slovenia Credit Union (SCU) All Sign Agreements to Convert to **smartsolution™'s Universa™ Premier Core Banking Suite** **smartsolution™'s flexible, feature rich and cost effective state of the art suite of products will enable and fully support changing member service strategies****

**Aurora, Ontario, Canada.** – “We were off to a great start this year, signing three clients within the first five months of 2015 and with more prospects in the wings in this second half of the year!” **smartsolution™**, a leading provider of financial management solutions, announced recently the successful signing of binding Agreements to convert CCEC Credit Union, Vancouver Firefighters' Credit Union and Slovenia Credit Union from their existing banking systems to **smartsolution™'s Universa™ Premier Core Banking Suite**. **Universa™** is a state-of-the-art, browser-based banking platform, written from the ground up, using the latest industry standard technologies. Once the installations at CCEC and VFCU go “live”, it will firmly establish **Universa™** as a leading contender in cutting-edge banking platforms in the province of British Columbia where **smartsolution™** already services several other clients. And with SCU's conversion to **Universa™**, will add yet another limb to its ever-growing customer tree in Ontario.

All three credit unions are moving to **smartsolution™'s** “SAAS – Software as a Service” bureau solution, and away from running their own in-house systems due to the increased complexity of keeping their systems and third party interfaces up and running 24/7. This is a business solution in which **smartsolution™** specializes. **Universa™'s** modular architecture allows the client to tailor an overall banking solution that best fits the current and future needs of its organization. **Universa™'s** agile, rapid release development process enables **smartsolution™** to translate client business needs or new ideas into customizable system functionalities that are fully under the client's control through **Universa™'s** security framework. The possibilities for customization are endless and new additions are seamless.

All three credit unions had expressed concerns about how they were positioned to meet the future challenges of the ever-changing financial services marketplace. CCEC and SCU, both already clients of **smartsolution™** running on the legacy SmartCUT platform, discussed those concerns with **smartsolution™** and were presented with various **Universa™** options. VFCU, a new client, had expressed similar concerns. All three were not only intrigued by **Universa™'s** possibilities but also delighted by how easily it would enable them to enhance member services.





In 2016, CCEC (originally formed by “The Lower Mainland Community Congress for Economic Change Society”) will be celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. “It’s the perfect time to migrate to a new, up-to-the-minute banking solution like **Universa™**,” said Ross Gentleman, General Manager, CCEC.

“Our aim has always been to serve Vancouver’s firefighters and their families; this switch to **Universa™** will allow us to serve them even better now and in the future. Just like a fire can change its direction at a moment’s notice, **Universa™** will allow us to adapt quickly to any market changes,” stated David Meers, General Manager of VFCU.

Since its inception in 1957, Slovenia Parishes (Toronto) Credit Union Limited, “SCU”, has employed the credo of “people working for people”. “This conversion to the **Universa™** platform is wholly in line with our mission, which is to be a financial co-operative that provides superior services and advice and which improves the economic and social environment of its members within the Slovenian Community in Ontario,” commented Peter Markes, CEO of SCU. He added further [that]: “This new banking platform will enable SCU to become the preferred financial institution to all within our field of membership”.

“We were pleased and excited when these three Credit Unions chose to convert from their existing banking systems to our **Universa™** platform to support their individual focuses on customer service over the coming years,” said Iean Tait, President and CEO, **smartsolution™**. “With these three Credit Unions agreeing to join our ever growing **Universa™** client list, we are confident in inviting any financial institution looking to upgrade to a modern, flexible and robust core banking platform at a competitive price, to join our team.”

For more than 38 years, **smartsolution™** and its group of companies has provided innovative core banking systems and financial management solutions to financial institutions worldwide. **smartsolution™** supports a client base of more than 40 financial institutions, including some of the top Canadian and Caribbean Credit Unions.

#### **About **smartsolution™****

As a privately owned Canadian company, **smartsolution™** provides core banking systems and financial management solutions to Credit Unions, Banks, Trusts and other financial institutions across Canada and the Caribbean. We pride ourselves on our attention to detail and on our team of qualified experts focused on providing exceptional service and support. Our strengths lie in our efficiency, our understanding, and our expertise.

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