



# Sunshine Coast CREDIT UNION

*Together, we enrich lives.*

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Sunshine Coast Credit Union Hosts International Women's Mentorship Program Visitor from the Philippines to Share Collaborative Expertise**

**Sunshine Coast, B.C. September 30, 2017** – Sunshine Coast Credit Union is privileged to host Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) Women's Mentorship Program visitor Eleonor Santiago-Dillena, General Manager, Micro Entrepreneurs Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MEMPCO) from September 21 to 30, 2017.

Ms. Santiago-Dillena has been in various leadership roles with MEMPCO for the past 15 years including her General Manager role for the past 10 years. She joined the CCA Women's Mentorship Program to gain fresh insights from program participants and her host country, with a focus on best practices.

"I've been enriched through this opportunity with Sunshine Coast Credit Union and am inspired by my experiences with senior leaders and women mentors," Ms. Santiago-Dillena said. "I learned many things. CEO Shelley McDade shared her strategic processes and how vital team trust is to engagement and accountability. I'm encouraged to bring these learnings back; MEMPCO leaders will appreciate new ways to make performance improvements that can benefit our members."

"It's an honour to share our co-operative leadership experiences through this program," Shelley McDade, Sunshine Coast Credit Union CEO said. "As credit union operating environments become more complex, so does the need to collaborate across borders. When we come together with our talents and expertise, we innovate and build strong networks for the future of collaboration."

Ms. Santiago-Dillena is among women credit union leaders from Kenya, Uganda, Ghana, Swaziland and the Philippines attending the Women's Mentorship Program organized by the Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada. The participants are paired up with 10 host Canadian credit unions to learn about day-to-day operations, policies and services. Since 2002, 219 women leaders from 19 countries in Africa and Asia have improved their knowledge and skills through the program.

#### **About Micro-Entrepreneurs Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MEMPCO)**

Micro-Entrepreneurs Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MEMPCO) was registered with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) in February 2002 with GRAMEEN Bank Methodology as its main/core program, providing financial services to women members only as a tool to augment household income and uplift family living conditions. CDA.MEMPCO began with 583 members with assets close to ₱ 79,000.00 (\$1,960.00 Canadian) and 10 fulltime employees. Today, MEMPCO's assets are ₱ 425,000,000 (\$10.5 million Canadian) with 34,000 men and women members and 250 full time employees.



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## **About Sunshine Coast Credit Union**

With over \$550 million in assets, Sunshine Coast Credit Union is a full-service cooperative financial institution serving over 16,000 members through three locations and mobile service. Employing more than 80 people, SCCU is a recipient of CoachingWise, an International Coach Federation designation. Neighbours helping neighbours is how we began 75 years ago, a vision that remains true today. Together, we enrich lives & community on the Sunshine Coast. Learn more at [www.sunshineccu.com/OurStory](http://www.sunshineccu.com/OurStory).

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