



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2021

The year in review

2021 was a year of success and co-operation for Noventis.

2021 marked the 11th year since the original merger of four local credit unions (Gimli, Arborg, Riverton and Eriksdale) to become Noventis. In 2015, Starbuck Credit Union joined the family to make Noventis what it is today. Since then, we have successfully adapted to changing regulatory, technological, and social environments.

And, in 2021, we were proud to have achieved a new milestone: reaching over \$1.15 billion in assets! For that, we thank you, our members, for your loyalty.

As we moved forward, it became evident that if we were to remain competitive and be able to best support our communities, we needed to consider another partnership.

Early in the year, the boards from Noventis, Sunova and Access Credit Unions started discussions around a possible merger. In September, these discussions were announced to our membership. Thanks to a shared vision and collective commitment to growth and sustainability between all three organizations, our boards were happy to make the recommendation we move forward with merger plans. Throughout the third quarter of 2021, our team shared the benefits of the planned merger with our membership and prepared for a vote to be held in 2022.

We love to watch our membership and community thrive and prosper, and to join in the celebrations when they do. So, we will be here for our members again this year; supporting them, giving back to them and finding solutions with them.

Striving, as always, to be
North of Ordinary.

Overview of giving



Noventis gives back.

In 2021, due to COVID-19, most of our community hamper-coordinating groups were unable to fundraise, making their momentous annual task more difficult than usual. COVID also changed the contents of those hampers - with most groups purchasing and distributing grocery and retail gift cards instead of accepting physical donations of food and toys.

Noventis wanted to make sure that each of their initiatives was a successful one, so the decision was made to proactively reach out to each of them to make a contribution. We pledged \$10,000 to local Christmas hamper groups, to help make everyone's Christmas a merry one.

7 Do you know the cooperative principles?

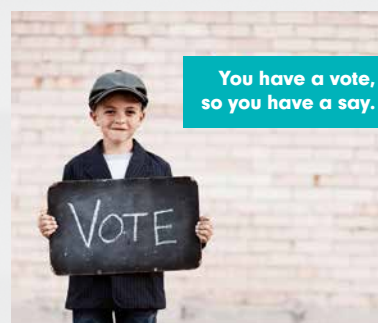
Credit unions are financial institutions which provide the same services as banks; The main difference being that we are owned by our members. Unlike banks, credit unions are independent, locally controlled financial institutions, connected by a set of international co-operative principles.

The seven co-operative principles are:

1. **Voluntary & open membership**
2. **Democratic member control**
3. **Members' economic participation**
4. **Autonomy & independence**
5. **Education, training & information**
6. **Cooperation among cooperatives**
7. **Concern for community**

We value the seven co-operative principles and try our best to invest in our communities wherever and whenever we can.

Together, our members have a strong voice that advocates for a better, fairer way to bank. We will always strive to provide financial service to members and to contribute to the economic, social, and environmental well-being of our communities.



Did you know?

At their core, credit unions are local, community-based financial institutions. Credit unions help keep their members' money local. They support small and medium-sized enterprises and provide loans to farmers, benefiting members in communities large and small.

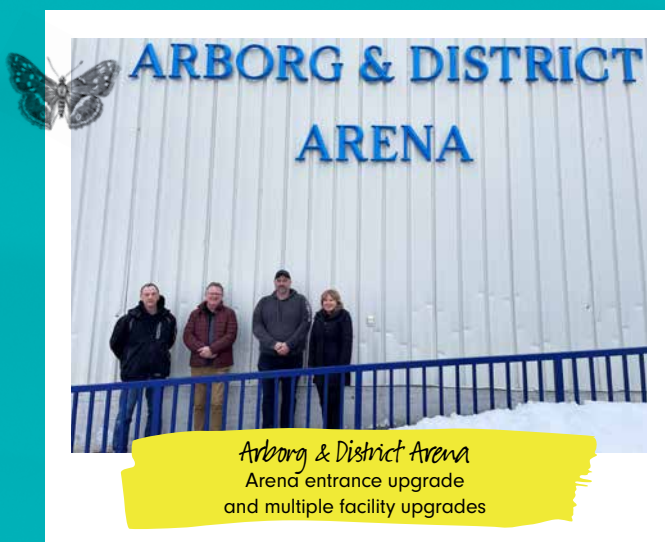
Noventis gives back.



Johnson Hall at Betel Home
Replacement of the community event hall chairs.



Lundar Community Recreational Park
Construction of new shed and sidewalk.



Arborg & District Arena
Arena entrance upgrade
and multiple facility upgrades

Here at **Noventis**, we know how important the local recreation centres, arenas, park and playgrounds are to each of our communities. They are the places where we gather to be entertained, to socialize, to exercise, to celebrate and to catch up with our friends and neighbours.

So, when we are approached by the boards of our local communities' facilities with requests for funding, we are always proud to be able to help.

In 2021, several groups in our communities had projects on the go, including; **Gimli's Johnson Hall** within Betel Home, the **Lundar Community Recreational Park**, the **Arborg Arena** and the **Icelandic River Heritage Site**, to name a few. The work to be done for each project was extensive; from replacing a hall's worth of chairs to building new sheds and sidewalks to upgrading washroom facilities.

The Noventis vision of **building strong community** inspired us to help get these projects completed. And, now that the work has been finished, the folks who use these facilities will be able to stay busy and connected to their friends and neighbours for years to come.



The Icelandic River Heritage Site
Construction of new sidewalk and
renovations to porch and roof.

Message from the CEO

It has been a privilege to serve the members going into my tenth year as CEO for Noventis Credit Union.

With the global pandemic that began in March of 2020, continuing in 2021, we were challenged to be flexible in meeting member needs as we shifted to creative service options to maintain services.

At Noventis we measure our success through our members' success as they reach their financial goals. We are proud to assist members, and this is accomplished only through the **dedication and hard work** of every member on our team.

Operational accomplishments in 2021 included a **8.3% level of asset growth** driven by the increase in deposits held by members and **loan growth of 15.4%**. Our strength allows us to continue to support our communities by maintaining services, funding projects and sponsoring community activities.

We recognize that an **investment in our online and digital services** is key to the future as we evolve to meet the needs of members. We embrace technology such as online banking, mobile phone app., cheque picture deposit, interactive teller machines, contact centre, video conferencing and electronic signing.

A tight financial margin environment will continue to be a challenge in 2022 as credit unions rely on margins for profitability. Investments in other business lines such as **Interlake Insurance and Real Estate** have allowed us to diversify and maintain much needed services in our communities.

We have achieved a level of **\$1.15 Billion in assets** in 2021. We operate twelve branches and in eight of those locations we are proud to be the only financial institution in the community maintaining services.



Kevin McKnight

With the recent member vote approving a merger with **Access and Sunova Credit Unions**, it is exciting to see what the future holds as part of Access Credit Union for our members.

I thank the Noventis team for all of their hard work and the Board of Directors for their support.

Kevin McKnight, **CEO**
CPA, CGA, MBA, CCD



Message from the BOARD

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the Noventis Credit Union 2021 Annual Report to our membership and communities. 2021 was another challenging year for many of our members due to Covid 19. The Board expresses our condolences to those who may have suffered hardships or have lost a loved one to the virus.

2021 was another successful year at Noventis because of the collective efforts of our Board, management, staff and you, our members. Our credit union continues to grow and provide excellent financial services to our members in these rapidly changing times.

At Noventis, we are guided by the 7 cooperative principles and the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others. As Directors, we are elected to govern the Noventis Credit Union to ensure its strength and prosperity to achieve our vision of Building Strong Community.

The Noventis Board of Directors is committed to giving back to our members and our communities. In 2021, we redeemed a cash payout on surplus shares to members of \$211,458. Our Community Connections program, donations and sponsorships reflect our level of commitment to grassroots initiatives in building strong communities. We commit 5% of pre-tax income to philanthropy and are proud to have supported local organizations with \$124,928 in 2021.

Our Board is continually strategizing regarding differentiated service models based on member needs

and our continued presence in the communities we serve. We are proud that we are the only financial institution in 8 of the 12 communities where we have branch locations. This extensive branch network challenges us with maintaining our profitability in today's financial services environment of lower margins, investment in new technologies and increasing regulatory requirements.

As a result of these continuing challenges, we initiated an exciting new venture for our credit union in 2021 as we engaged in merger discussions with Access and Sunova Credit Unions. We are pleased that we received 86% support from our membership in the merger vote and will become Access Credit Union as of July 2022. We are confident that this merger will provide long term sustainability for our credit union, providing our members with competitive rates, access to new technologies and services and increased patronage, while at the same time providing the exemplary service you expect from your credit union. In addition, we are committed to providing ongoing community support through donations and sponsorships.

On behalf of the Board, we thank the management and staff for their dedication to our members and communities and we thank you, our members, for your continued support of your credit union.

Paul Cuthbert

Board Chair



NOVENTIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Paul Cuthbert



Sandra Falk



Jamison Masse



Marlene Michno



Donna Roed



Nolan Sigvaldason



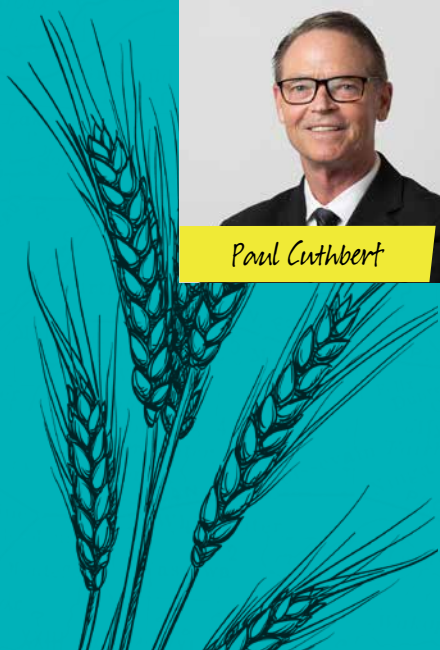
Bragi Simundsson



Lyle Stansell



Brandon Terry





Looking to our future; Connecting Manitoba

2022 update:
86%
voted in
favour of
the merger!

In September of 2021, Noventis released some very exciting news. The Noventis Board of Directors announced publicly that they had been discussing a possible merger between **Noventis, Sunova** and **Access Credit Unions** - a merger which would result in many benefits for the Credit Union.

The boards were looking at three primary groups when evaluating the benefits associated with this opportunity: our members, our communities and our staff.

First off, they recognized that our **members** would benefit from the strength of the new credit union in these areas:

- highly competitive rates and fees
- a streamlined account package selection
- a flexible patronage program designed to thank members with cash rewards for their loyalty
- advanced and secure technology
- enhanced online banking solutions
- investment in new technology

They saw that our **communities** would benefit from the merger, too. As a larger credit union, we would have:

- a larger commercial lending capacity for local businesses
- a stronger community support system
- a broader ability to provide volunteer and financial support to local charities and organizations

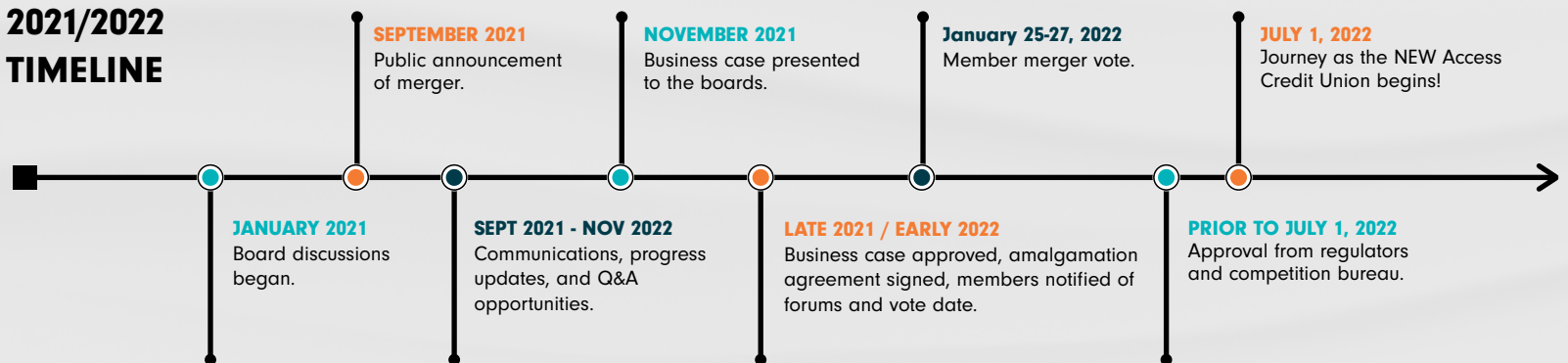
Finally, they saw that the benefits for the **staff** would also be many, starting with the most important one of all: All staff from each credit union would keep their jobs after the merger.

Access Credit Union has been included in the list of Manitoba's Top Employers for the past eight years; moving forward as the new **Access Credit Union**, keeping that title would be a priority. Access is focused on sustaining an organizational culture with empowered employees who enjoy what they do, and how they can contribute to the organization as a whole. And, happy employees provide fantastic service to their membership!

In November, the final business cases were presented to each of the credit unions' board members. And, in December, after reviewing these cases, all three boards signed amalgamation agreements and recommended that we should move forward with the merger. It was announced in these amalgamation agreements that the newly formed organization would be called 'Access Credit Union', and that if the membership vote came back positive, the merger would happen on **July 1, 2022**.

Learn more at cusuccess.ca

2021/2022 TIMELINE



Arborg 204.376.2798	Ashern 204.768.2733	Eriksdale 204.739.2137	Fisher Branch 204.372.8411	Gimli 204.642.6450	Headingley 204.953.2335	iTM's & Contact Centre 1.844.826.6500 Mon - Sat
Lundar 204.782.6550	Moosehorn 204.768.2437	Riverton 204.378.5121	Selkirk 204.785.9900	Starbuck 204.735.2394	Winnipeg Beach 204.389.2550	