

DECEMBER 2023

Vol. 20 Issue 2

CREDIT UNION LiNK



JPS & PARTNERS
CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT UNION LTD.
Your Financial Partner For Life



CHRISTMAS EDITION

MERRY
CHRISTMAS
& HAPPY NEW YEAR



President's *Christmas Message*



Social media has changed the way in which we view and interact with the world. With the simple touch of a device, lives can be changed as news spreads around the globe in a matter of seconds. People seem to be hungry for the “new hype”, the current news that has everyone buzzing. Social media has caused our world to be exposed to things that previously one could only imagine. Our digital world has become so fast-paced and expectant, and JPS & Partners recognizes the need to not only keep up with the demanding nature of technology, but to stay ahead of the game.

Our 2023 Theme “Navigating the Digital World” speaks to our commitment to providing the very best to our members, enhancing convenience with the use of the JPS & Partners Mobile App, allowing our members to conduct transactions upon demand. Our digitization project continues to be of top priority as we recognize the demand to remain relevant in a space that offers choices; we sincerely thank you our members for making JPS & Partners your Credit Union of choice.

The Christmas Season is dubbed the “silly season”, as we get busy with gift purchases for friends and family. Now more than ever, JPS & Partners wants you to remain safe – not just physically safe, but financially safe as well. Be on the alert for mischievous individuals who prey on the unsuspecting and vulnerable. I also encourage you to make your financial health

a priority in 2024. Create budgets; save, and make use of the myriad of financial products and services that we have right here for you at JPS & Partners.

The Jamaica Data Protection Act came into effect on December 1, 2023. As a Data Controller, JPS & Partners is already taking the necessary steps to ensure that the Personal Data of our members is processed lawfully, transparently and in full compliance with the law.

The year 2023 is drawing to a close, and we can pause and reflect on different happenings in Jamaica that made the news: Reggae Girlz making history; record tourist stop-overs; heinous acts of crime; political uproars; increase in cybercrimes; the pervasiveness of artificial intelligence; intense earthquakes – and these only name a few. What remains true is that Jamaica is still a blessed nation.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish our members, staff and stakeholders a safe and loving season as we reflect on the significance of Jesus’ birth, and the HOPE that his message of salvation gives us in this ever-changing and dynamic world. Have a beautiful Christmas. See you in 2024!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.

Kim Robinson
President

KICKSTART the Christmas Season the Right Way! Start **SAVING** now!

Christmas Savings

Christmas Savings is BACK! Start saving for Christmas 2024. With a whopping interest of 4%, you can save towards your 2024 holiday plans. Sign up by December 29, 2023.



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GET A HEAD START!

Open your JPS & Partners **CHRISTMAS SAVINGS ACCOUNT!**

Enjoy an attractive return of **4%**

START SAVING NOW TO MAKE CHRISTMAS 2024 MERRY & BRIGHT!

You decide the monthly amount. Start saving today.

Applications are available via our website www.jpescu.com and close on December 29, 2023.

Conditions apply.

JPSP Credit Union
876-881-8807, 876-383-8026 | wecare@jpescu.com | 876-968-3700/1115 | www.jpescu.com
HALF WAY TREE ROAD • KIRKVINE • EWARTON



Life Long Savings Account

Start saving for your retirement! Save up to a maximum of \$1M per calendar year for up to five (5) years and earn up to 3.85%. TAX-FREE! Let us help you save for that rainy day as this option allows you to withdraw up to 75% of interest.



Open a Partner PLAN

With our Partner Plan you achieve your short-term savings goals with contractual period options of sixteen (16) weeks, twenty-four (24) weeks, thirty-six (36) weeks, or forty-eight (48) weeks. Simply open your partner plan with a minimum amount of \$500 weekly (throw) and earn up to 125% of your weekly throw.



U-Gain SAVERS Account

Start the U-Gain Savers account with a lump sum and pay a minimum of \$1000 monthly. With a competitive interest rate and two saving periods, earn 3% on your savings. Enjoy the Insurance benefits too.

68th Annual General Meeting

On Thursday, November 9, 2023, the Credit Union held its 68th Annual General Meeting at the Summit Kingston (formerly the Knutsford Court Hotel).

Over one hundred and fifty (150) members attended the hybrid meeting.

The meeting was led by the President, Donovan Cunningham. He reported on the performance of the Credit Union during 2022.

The Credit Union experienced a 58.06% decrease in net surplus. This decrease was primarily influenced by the 2021 revaluation of the 'Fair value gain on Investment Property' of \$55.1M which was recorded in the prior year.

Mr. Donovan Cunningham retired from the Board of Directors having reached his term limit. Mr. David Fleming was elected to serve on the Board.

2023-2024 Board Executive



Kim Robinson
President



David Fleming
Vice President



Natalie Sparkes
Treasurer



Patrick Davidson
Asst. Treasurer



Tricia Robinson
Secretary



Clive Segree
Asst. Secretary

Unaudited 2023 Financial Performance as at October 31, 2023

	2023 (\$M)
Shares	1,424.41
Deposit	2,584.06
Loans	3,352.66
Total Assets	5,942.87



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It is time to
OWN YOUR OWN HOME!

Borrow up to \$20M
Up to 20 years to repay

CONDITIONS APPLY

HOME EQUITY LOAN
Unlock the value of your property

Borrow up to \$10 Million
Up to 15 years to repay!

CONDITIONS APPLY

- ✓ Upgrade
- ✓ Renovate
- ✓ Refurbish
- ...and more!

MOTOR VEHICLE LOAN RATES
have been

SLASHED

COMPETITIVE INTEREST RATES!

CONDITIONS APPLY

For more details, visit our website www.jpscu.com

MEET THE MANAGEMENT TEAM



Chad LaRonde
Credit Manager
Fun Fact: Loves Zouk music.

Marjorie Richards-Johnson
Branch Manager, Ewarton
Fun Fact: Loves gardening.

Marie McNamee
Acting Branch Manager, Kirkvine
Fun Fact: Loves arts & craft, and sewing.

Camille Archibald
Business Development Manager
Fun Fact: Loves a good suspense movie.

David Goodlitt
Operations Manager
Fun Fact: Loves to go fishing.

Judith Umrah
Human Resource Manager
Fun Fact: Loves to laugh.

Joydene Jarrett
General Manager
Fun Fact: Loves to exercise.

Karleen Brown
Information & Communication Technology Manager
Fun Fact: Loves to eat.

Nassalie Brown
Legal, Risk & Compliance Manager
Fun Fact: Loves to go hiking.

MASTER YOUR DAY with JPS & Partners Debit MasterCard!



Sign up NOW for the AccessPlus® Debit Mastercard for FREE!

Enjoy the new and improved features:

- ✓ Use Globally
- ✓ Tap & Go
- ✓ Shop Online
- ✓ Pay Your Bills Online
- ✓ Pin & Chip Protected
- ✓ Low Fees





FI MI CREDIT UNION.. FI MI FAMILY!



The month of October is celebrated as Credit Union Month. During this period JPS Partners showed appreciation to members and our partner schools.

Corporate Social Outreach has been a part of the Credit Union Movement since its inception and each year it tries to contribute to the advancement of the lives of the people in the communities that it serves. During Credit Union Week we donated items such as a projector, printer, and television. Fruit trees were also planted by the JPS & Partners team at our sponsor schools.



JPS & Partners donates a projector to one of its partner schools, The Queens School, during the 2023 Credit Union Week of Activities. From left to right: Armani Forrester - Deputy Head Girl, The Queens School, Martena Wright - Head Girl, The Queens School, Trudi Morrison-Reid - Vice-Principal, The Queens School, Jennifer Williams - Principal, The Queens School, Nakia Gordon - Deputy Head Girl, The Queens School, Joydene Jarrett - General Manager, JPS & Partners, Sueann Hartley - Marketing Officer, JPS & Partners.



Michael Sutherland, Principal of Central Branch All-Age School, partner school of JPS & Partners, gets "down to earth" as he plants the mango tree donated by JPS & Partners during the 2023 Credit Union Week of Activities. Looking on are students of Central Branch All-Age and Sueann Hartley, Marketing Officer of JPS & Partners.



Students from partner school, St. Mary the Virgin Basic, happily assist in planting an apple tree donated by JPS & Partners during the 2023 Credit Union Week of Activities. From left to right: Joydene Jarrett - General Manager, JPS & Partners, Cataleya Haydel, Roshni Smith, Giovanni Smith, students of St. Mary the Virgin Basic, Andrea Maxwell - Principal, St. Mary the Virgin Basic.



Students from partner school, St. Mary the Virgin Basic, are all smiles as they accept their TV donation during the 2023 Credit Union Week of Activities. Supporters include from left to right: Andrea Maxwell - Principal, St. Mary the Virgin Basic, Sueann Hartley - Marketing Officer, JPS & Partners, Joydene Jarrett - General Manager, JPS & Partners.



OUR MEMBER APPRECIATION DAYS

JPS & Partners Celebrates its Members

The Credit Union Week of Celebrations would not be complete without our Member Appreciation Days at all of our branches. At the Half Way Tree branch members were able to promote their business and showcase their products. CUNA displayed their products at the Ewarton Branch and members had their health checks done at the Kirkvine Branch. Members enjoyed refreshments at all locations, and were appreciated with gifts.



A member receives her goodies from the Kirkvine location.



Health Checks underway at the Ewarton Branch



Joydene Jarrett, General Manager, cuts the cake with members.



Businesses on display at the Head Office



Registration in full swing at the Ewarton Branch



Our Members Showing Out at the Head Office Member Appreciation Day.

FIP CORNER!

You can now choose from 11 coverage options!

Sign Up or Upgrade Today!

No Medical Examination required.

PLANS	MONTHLY PREMIUM	INDIVIDUAL BENEFITS
Plan A	\$ 422.40	\$ 80,000.00
Plan B	\$ 633.60	\$ 120,000.00
Plan C	\$ 792.00	\$ 150,000.00
Plan D	\$ 1,320.00	\$ 250,000.00
Plan E	\$ 2,112.00	\$ 400,000.00
Plan F	\$ 3,432.00	\$ 650,000.00
Plan G	\$ 5,280.00	\$ 1,000,000.00
Plan H	\$ 6,864.00	\$1,300,000.00
Plan I	\$ 8,864.00	\$1,600,000.00
Plan J	\$10,458.00	\$1,800,000.00
Plan K	\$12,680.00	\$2,000,000.00



Marie Young-McNamee, Actg Branch Manager, Kirkvine, JPS & Partners, (right), and Anthony Brown, Clerical Assistant, JPS & Partners (left) presents goodie baskets to Sis. Mimi Krushling and boys from the St. John Bosco Boys Home in Manchester, during the 2023 Credit Union week of activities.

THREE IMPORTANT HOLIDAY SAVING TIPS



1. **BUDGET** - Budgeting is the most important step. Without a firm idea of your budget, it's easy to get caught up in the Christmas hype and overspend. Take a look at how much money you have coming in from any wages or benefits, and take away how much you spend on your essential bills.

2. **TRACK YOUR SPENDING** - Track your expenses as you go so you don't end up overspending and ruining this month's and next month's budget.

3. **ORDER EARLY**- Make sure you do this early enough to get the cheapest gift options - and remember shipping is taking way longer this year. The

last thing you need is a budget ruined by all those additional rush order costs and increase in prices.

Sources:
<https://www.ramseysolutions.com/budgeting/tips-to-save-money-on-christmas>

JPS & PARTNERS WEBINAR SERIES

Check out the engaging topics covered during the 2023 webinar series. Stay tuned for 2024!

Estate Planning & Will Writing Seminar

Wednesday
 October 18, 2023
 at 6:00 pm

Venue: **zoom**

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MODERATOR
 Roja Alman
 Marketing and Business Development Officer

GUEST SPEAKER
 Matthew Burton
 Attorney-at-Law
 Senior Case Officer
 Administrator General's Department

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CYBER CRIMES WEBINAR

- LEARN THE WAYS THAT CYBER-CRIMINALS ATTACK
- GET INSIGHT ON HOW YOU CAN PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION
- SHOP SAFER DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

Don't be a **CYBER TARGET!**
 Join this engaging and informative session.

PRESENTER
GARFIELD GORDON
 Technology Solutions Consultant
 Over 30 years of diverse IT experience
 Software Developer
 Systems Architect
 Instructor

2023 DECEMBER
6 WEDNESDAY
 6pm

Join us via **zoom**
 Don't Miss It!

The first webinar “Estate Planning and Will Writing” held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, featuring Attorney-At-Law, Matthew Burton. The session was held during Credit Union week where we took the opportunity to educate our members on how vital it is have a Will in place.

The second webinar was held on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, just in time for the Christmas Season. We wanted to ensure that our members know how to safeguard their information & safely use the new Access Plus Debit MasterCard when shopping online, in-store, or at the ATM. Special presenter was IT expert, Garfield Gordon.

JPS & Partners takes the well-being of our members very seriously and will continue to provide avenues for our members to learn and grow.



JPS & Partners Commits OVER \$3.5 MILLION IN SCHOLARSHIPS



Joydene Jarrett, General Manager of JPS & Partners Co-op Credit Union, is flanked by proud 2023 scholarship recipients. Supporters within the group include Margaret Morris, wife of the late Albert Morris, Hon. Alando Terrelonge, State Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade & Natalie Sparkes, Treasurer of JPS & Partners.



The Hon. Alando Terrelonge, State Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, brings the keynote speech at the 2023 Scholarship Awards Ceremony of JPS & Partners Cooperative Credit Union Ltd.

The Hon. Alando Terrelonge, State Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, emphasized that

“...an education is the best gift that we can give to our children...”,

at the 25th staging of the JPS & Partners (JPS&P) Cooperative Credit Union’s 2023 Scholarship Luncheon. Fifty (50) students, along with their parents, are \$762,000 happier this September, being proud beneficiaries of the Scholarship Programme. JPS & Partners has committed to issuing additional awards each year, for up to five (5) years, provided that the students maintain a “B” average. Scholarships are available for children of JPS&P members, who sit the PEP exams, and will be matriculating to secondary schools in September. An undergraduate scholarship, the Albert “Bertie” Morris Scholarship, named after a founding member and former Board President, is awarded to a well-rounded student, on the cusp of entering first (1st) year at a locally recognized university. The scholarship ceremony was held at The Pegasus Hotel on Friday, August 25, 2023.



Troy Simms, 2023 Albert “Bertie” Morris Scholarship Recipient



Tafari and Ngozi Wright (The SuperTwins) perform “Jamdung Baby”



Zoya Hawes, 2023 PEP Bursary Recipient

YOUTH SAVERS ACCOUNT



Members’ children between the ages of 0 -15 can open a YOUTH SAVERS ACCOUNT.

- To open a Youth Savers Account you need a photo identification of the child, a copy of the child’s birth certificate, one thousand dollars (\$1000) and proof of address for the parent (if it is that they do not have an updated one on file).

- Each year the Credit Union issues 50 High School Bursaries only to children who are Youth Savers.
- Interest is paid quarterly on all Youth Saver Accounts.
- Conditions Apply.

UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT



END 2023 WITH A BANG AND ACCESS THAT LOAN TO MEET YOUR NEED.

Members! With so many loan products to choose from, now is the perfect time to check out our products and services now available at JPS & Partners.

- Loans for every need at competitive rates
- Friendly Service
- Fast turnaround time
- Knowledgeable staff

THE DATA PROTECTION ACT

Overview

In 2020, the Government of Jamaica passed the Data Protection Act (DPA) which seeks to protect the rights of Data Subjects in Jamaica, and which applies to all organizations that collect and process personal data within Jamaica. The DPA will come into full effect on December 01, 2023 and all data controllers are required to be fully compliant with the Act by that date.

The DPA came into effect on December 1, 2023. As a responsible forward-thinking business, JPS & Partners Co-operative Credit Union Limited recognizes the need for compliance with Data Protection laws. As a Data Controller, we have commenced taking steps to ensure that effective measures are in place to protect the Personal Data of our members, employees and other stakeholders, and to ensure that it is processed lawfully, fairly, transparently and in full compliance with the law.

We invite you to visit our website and view our Privacy Notice, which applies to the Personal Data that we collect and handle when you use our website, subscribe to our newsletters and emails, take part in our surveys, and access our products and services or any other marketing initiatives.



Rights of the Data Subject

You have rights under the Data Protection Act, in relation to your Personal Data. These rights include:

- a) Right to be informed about how your Personal Data is being processed;
- b) Right to request access to your Personal Data;
- c) Right to consent and withdraw consent;
- d) Right to request the correction of your Personal Data;
- e) Right to object to the processing of your Personal Data;
- f) Right to request transfer of your Personal Data;
- g) Right to require that your Personal Data is not subject to automated decision-making only.

HAVE YOU WRITTEN A WILL?



If your response to this question is "no," one of your New Year's resolutions should be to prepare a will.

A will is one of the most important documents you can prepare for the future of your family. A will determines how your assets should be distributed and protects your spouse and children after you pass away. A will can help you:

- Appoint the guardian of your minor children. In the absence of a will, the court will select a guardian appointed by the state or a member of your family to look after your children.
- Avoid a lengthy probate process. A will speeds up the process by informing the court how you would like your estate divided.

- Decide who will be the executor of your estate. Executors ensure your affairs are in order, pay bills, cancel credit cards, and notify your bank.
- Make gifts or donations. A will allows your legacy to live on and to reflect your personal values and interests.

Visit our website at www.jpscu.com for information on how to prepare a Will.

Source: <https://www.dhs.gov/employee-resources/news/2022/06/16/importance-having-will>

STAY CLOSE TO HOME... UPDATE YOUR RECORDS

Updating your account is simple and easy. Complete the member update form and provide the supporting documents such as proof of address, valid ID or marriage certificate, etc. The form is on our website or in our offices.

INDEMNITY FORM Did you know?

- Since September 1, 2012 the Credit Union implemented the Deed of Authority and Indemnity Form.
- Members who utilize the facilities of electronic mail (email) and facsimile (fax) as ways of submitting transaction requests to the Credit Union must now complete an Indemnity Form.
- Transactions requests submitted by fax or email will not be approved without prior submission of a signed Indemnity Form Agreement.
- The form must be signed by a Justice of the Peace (JP).
- Once the form has been completed, submit same to the Member Services Department at any of the branches of the Credit Union.

DO YOU KNOW WHO YOUR BENEFICIARIES ON YOUR ACCOUNT ARE?

DO YOU WISH TO CHANGE OR UPDATE YOUR BENEFICIARIES?

Please ensure you complete the nomination form to update your beneficiary's information. Forms are available on our website:

www.jpscu.com

or in our offices. Remember to return your completed forms to the Credit Union. It is important that you know who your beneficiaries are. Contact us today!



CONTACT US

65¾ HALF WAY TREE RD.
KINGSTON 10

EWARTON WORKS
ST. CATHERINE

KIRKVINE
KIRKVINE WORKS
MANCHESTER

OUR EXECUTIVES

Kim Robinson - President
David Fleming - Vice President
Natalie Sparkes - Treasurer
Patrick Davidson - Asst. Treasurer
Tricia Robinson - Secretary
Clive Segree - Asst. Secretary



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