

**Gene Creelman**

BCom., FCUIC, CSC,
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Gene Creelman has a long and successful history of co-operative involvement. He was employed in the credit union industry for his whole career beginning in Saskatchewan and retiring as the Interior Savings Credit Union Senior Vice-President, Member and Community Engagement in 2022.

He has senior experience working at Central organizations as well as at individual credit unions. His career began in Saskatchewan with the Central credit union, then the credit union system credit card company before re-locating to B.C. and Central 1. Gene then took on a senior management role with a lower mainland credit union, prior to moving to Kelowna to accept a senior position with Interior Savings. In his role as SVP, Member and Community Engagement at Interior Savings, Gene had executive responsibility for marketing, product development, ESG, community engagement, research, and governance.

Gene obtained his Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Saskatchewan and has several industry designations as well as certification as a governance professional from the Governance Professionals of Canada.

His business activities extended beyond the walls of the credit union. He has been a member of several credit union province-wide committees of Central 1 credit union. Gene has also been the chair of national image and awareness sub-committee and was a committee member/chair for Collabria credit card services. He served as a trustee of the Credit Union Foundation of BC and the past President of the Abbotsford International Airshow Society as well as the Kelowna Flying Club.

Gene has been involved in several co-operative development programs. He has been a participant in Cooperative Development Foundation (CDF) coaching program and has been to Ghana helping co-operatives and credit unions with their management and board practices. His family has hosted female credit union managers as part of the CDF Women's mentoring program. These experiences have kindled both of his daughters to volunteer time in a hospital in Africa, as well as becoming a CDF intern in Peru.

Experiences in the financial co-op sector, as well as volunteer work with international co-ops and local organizations provide a great background for serving on the board of a regional co-op.

Gene and his wife Wendy have four adult children. They share a love for the outdoors and enjoy skiing in the winter and camping in the summer. In addition to being a credit union and co-op member since being a teenager, Gene plays golf, slow pitch, and hockey, is a private pilot, and has coached youth soccer and fastball.