

## School Savings Program – Bergengren Credit Union

As part of its mandate to providing financial education to the communities in which it serves, Bergengren Credit Union offers a School Savings Program to students at AEC which teaches children about money management, the value of saving and about the banking process.

The objective of the program is to involve children in the banking process at an early age to better prepare them for their financial futures. It encourages children to put aside money on a *regular basis* so that saving becomes *habitual*. It helps children become wise consumers and regular savers while they are still young (not to mention the benefit of watching their account balances grow each week!)

## Here's how it works:

Every Wednesday, representatives from Bergengren visit the school and setup a mini, deposit-only Credit Union in our own cafeteria.

Students visit the cafeteria on a class-by-class basis, and wait in the "teller line-up" to make a deposit into their savings account.

The incentive component of the program allows students to work toward a goal which will be rewarded when reached. Each time a deposit is made, students place a sticker on a Bergengren Collector Card. After 13 deposits, students receive a prize for having reached his/her goal.

Bergengren Credit Union has been offering the School Savings Program in local schools in Antigonish for over 35 years! The program is currently offered in 8 schools in Antigonish County and 2 Schools in Pictou County.

If you would like to involve your child in the School Savings Program or have any questions, please contact Elaine MacDonald - Youth Coordinator at Bergengren Credit Union:

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