



# Credit Unions



**BDO Dunwoody LLP**  
Chartered Accountant  
and Advisors



**Credit unions are community-owned financial institutions, known for providing knowledgeable, custom-tailored financial services to the people and communities they serve. Management and staff are dedicated to delivering the highest level of service to each and every member in a friendly, competent, professional manner. From personal and commercial banking to investing and borrowing, BDO understands the unique, grassroots nature of credit unions and their place within Canadian communities.**



### Credit Union Expertise

BDO has an internal, cross-national division within the firm specifically devoted to credit union issues. This group encourages collaboration among the firm's credit union experts and facilitates the exchange of information and ideas to better serve you—our valued clients. We are committed to providing you with:

- Availability of partners and senior professionals to assist you with issues on a timely basis and in an efficient manner;
- Telephone support regarding general information on a broad variety of tax, accounting, human resource and legislative issues; and
- Effective audits, delivered with the highest integrity and objectivity and minimum disruption to management and staff.

### Working Together: How BDO Works with Credit Unions

As a full-service firm, we at BDO Dunwoody pride ourselves on providing our clients with value-added services that positively impact the community and its members. We draw upon our status as a national firm and use our international network to ensure you receive quality accounting, audit, taxation and business advisory services. We are committed to you, our credit union clients and can be depended upon to be ready with practical solutions that suit your needs.

### Where BDO Advisors Can Help You

Our professionals will work with your audit committee and board of directors to remain informed of regulatory changes, while ensuring standards are upheld. We will provide you with services in:

**Complex Accounting:** By their nature, credit unions are involved in many complex accounting practices. Management practices to minimize risk (e.g. hedges and swaps) require specialized knowledge and expertise to properly account for these transactions. BDO has many experts in this area; we can provide assistance as well as the appropriate audit services for your year-end assurance requirements.

**Assistance with Financial Statements and Disclosures:** Financial statement disclosure requirements for credit unions are extensive and will be in a continuous state of change for the next few years. For example, new accounting treatments for financial instruments are resulting in significant changes to financial statement recognition and note disclosure. BDO can provide valuable guidance on the disclosure process as well as provide appropriate accounting expertise in these complex areas.

**International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS):** The accounting standards board has approved the adoption of IFRS for all publicly accountable enterprises, including credit unions. This transition phase will include significant changes to accounting rules, as well as reporting changes, between now and 2011. BDO can provide the information and assistance needed to ensure your credit union complies with the implementation of IFRS.

**Tax Preparation and Planning:** BDO's tax specialists can assist with tax regulations specific to credit unions. Whether it's calculating reserves and allowances, or providing expertise in merger and amalgamation arrangements, our professionals have the tax knowledge and capability required by credit union clients.

**Information Systems Expertise:** Credit unions need current information systems to meet the needs of their clients, and to protect themselves from the threat of outside intrusion. Our Information Systems (IS) specialists can assist you in selecting and implementing the latest information technology, as well as conducting information technology audits to identify system weaknesses and areas for improvement.

Credit unions rely on outside service providers for much of their banking system. BDO has IS specialists who are knowledgeable in this area; they are able to assist in the analysis of these service providers and the impact they can have on the overall operation of your credit union.

Auditing, like other professions, is constantly evolving. As part of this evolution, financial statement auditors must team with information system auditors. BDO has qualified individuals to provide these services as part of an annual audit.

**Financial Institution Services:** Our compliance and risk assessment services are designed to assist management in enhancing member value through:

- Risk identification and assessment;
- Control documentation and design effectiveness;
- Risk mitigation; and
- Effectiveness testing and reporting.

BDO's risk advisory experts have the right combination of knowledge and practical expertise to help you create strategic solutions in order to minimize organizational risks and maximize business opportunities.

**Business Acquisitions and Valuations:** As credit unions grow, they will look to diversify their investments, particularly in the areas of financial services and insurance services. BDO valuation experts can assist with evaluating potential business acquisitions by credit unions, including the valuation of such businesses.

## The BDO Difference

At BDO, we are committed to providing you with the guidance and expertise required to help your credit union proudly service its community and patrons. As knowledgeable, reliable providers of a wide range of financial services, we understand the deep roots credit unions have within their communities and can assist you in providing value-added services that make a difference.



### About BDO Dunwoody

BDO Dunwoody is a national accounting and advisory firm primarily concentrating on the special needs of Canada's entrepreneurs, not-for-profits and community-based organizations. Nationally, BDO is Canada's sixth largest accounting firm, with over 300 partners operating out of 95 offices. BDO Dunwoody LLP is a Member Firm of BDO International, and is a part of a global accounting network with a presence in over 100 countries.

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GB-CU-R.11.08



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