



### **About Vancity**



- Canada's largest credit union
- Formed in 1946
- Operates in Vancouver and Vancouver Island, BC
- 500,000 members
- 57 branches
- \$17.5 billion in assets
- Culture of member-led innovation



#### Who are the Underserved?

Underserved or Underbanked are individuals that have a relationship with a mainstream financial institution but turn to fringe providers such as payday lenders and cheque cashers for their unmet financial needs.

Vancity estimates that up to 15% of adult British Columbians are underbanked.







### Framing the Opportunity



Across Canada, payday lending is a growing problem that traps individuals, including our members, in a cycle of debt.

#### Demand: 2014 payday lending data in BC

Volume: 858,000 loans, 200,000 borrowers

Average loans per borrower: 4.3

■ Typical APR for 2 week payday loan: 600%

Locations: 274

Supply: shortage in viable alternatives

Vancity saw a strategic opportunity to drive impact and growth







### Pay Day Lending



### Why do people turn to expensive payday loans?

#### **Credit Challenged**

No access to other options

- Your credit score provides a history of how you have paid bills and paid back loans
- If your credit score isn't great, you may not qualify for credit cards or loans from the bank

#### **Convenience Seekers**

Need cash right away, with no hassle

- Sometimes you need money right away and can't wait days for the loan to be processed
- Payday lenders are open late, have convenient locations and can get you money in less than 30 minutes

Many people are **forced to pay high interest and fees** to borrow money right away so they can cover unexpected expenses and make ends meet



### **Defining a Strategy**

#### **Challenges**

- Little Canadian research to rely on
- Major considerations: business model, financials, market positioning
- Enterprise IT projects in progress

#### **Approach**

- Strategic priority
- Structured design and delivery
- Phased rollout
- Learning from others

Complex challenges, which can be successfully addressed with enterprise focus and careful design and delivery.









### Fair & Fast Loan at a Glance



### Not a payday loan, but a sustainable alternative

- Borrow \$100 to \$1500
- 19% APR
- Flexible repayment from 2 months to 2 years
- Takes about 1 hour for members





### Why is it different?







- Quick fix
- Up to 600% interest
- \$23.00 interest to borrow \$100 for 2 weeks
- 2 week payback, not enough time to get back on your feet
- Does not build credit score
- No advice, limited products and services

- One step towards financial health
- 19% interest, no fees
- \$2.38 interest to borrow \$100 for 2 months
- Up to 2 years to repay
- Reports to credit bureau to start rebuilding bruised credit
- Personalized advice, full suite of products and services to meet your ongoing needs



## One Step in the Right Direction



Designed to be a bridge product between payday loans and traditional credit...

The Fair & Fast Loan isn't a silver bullet to solve the payday loan problem.

And it's **not right for everyone**.





### Take Aways



#### Successes

- Over 1,486 loans funded to date
  - average value of \$1,120 and term of 14.4 months
- Members has saved over \$2 million in interest and fees
- Positive feedback from members, staff, and the public
- High response rate to targeted marketing
- Extensive and positive, earned media coverage

#### Learnings

- Enterprise priority
- Dedicated, results driven team
- Learn from other FI's offerings
- Internal change management is key







### Future Opportunities and Questions...



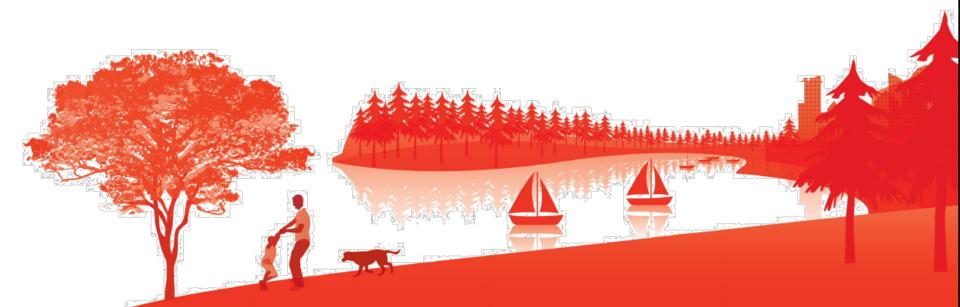
- How to balance risk and inclusiveness?
- What are the long-term impacts on members?
- How to make the offering 'Fairer & Faster'?
- How to drive impact at scale?
- How to leverage third party partners for referrals and reach?













### Appendix: Impact Story #1



Here's a recent example on how the Fair & Fast Loan impacted one of underserved members:

A member had payday loans from three different payday lenders. The Lender worked with the member to approve her for a \$1,500 Vancity Fair & Fast Loan. The lender sat with the member and called all three different payday lenders to make arrangements to pay off the member's loans. The Lender paid off two of the loans directly, and the last one through Pre-Authorized Payment. The lender and the Member also discussed options for the member to permanently break her payday debt cycle. The member was so appreciative she cried, and after leaving the branch brought back a box of chocolates for the Lender.







### Appendix: Impact Story #2



Here's a recent example on how the Fair & Fast Loan generated unexpected broader benefits for Vancity:

After hearing about the Fair & Fast Loan, a well-known businessman in one of the communities we serves approached our regional director and said: "Now I understand what Vancity is all about." He subsequently moved all of his personal accounts and more than \$1MM in deposits from a major bank to Vancity.







# **Appendix: In-branch Marketing Samples**

#### **Digital Signage**



#### **Informational Brochures**



#### **Floor Decals**



#### **Wicket Posters**





# **Appendix: Digital Marketing Samples**

#### Vancity.com Vancity Make Good Money." Vancity Need money fast? We can help. Quick links Supporting local businesses Together we create a stronger economy by providing the financing organizations **Good Money** Online banking need to get started and grow. That's Mobile banking #bankingonvalues. Business banking conversation Foreign exchange now. > Wire transfers Find Branch/ATM Calling all entrepreneurs! Learn how to write an effective RESPS

#### **Social Media**









### **Appendix: Earned Media Samples**





#### **Industry Publications**



#### **Banking for Underserviced Individuals**

multiple causes, addressing it will take many solutions. Many of those interviewed by the CBC indicate that any solution will involve multiple actors including financial institutions and low income individuals themselves, Some efforts are already under way. The article notes that a local social assistance a Scotiabank branch. Under the arrangement, bank branch employees meet with social assistance recipients to find the right account based on their banking needs. No attempts to upsell

Source: CBC News

as financial exclusion has

Individuals with fixed or low incomes are often overlooked by maintiteam financial institutions. As documented by a recent forum held to discuss access to financial services for vulnerable. Caradians, low income individuals face many barriers in entering and participating in the maintename banking system individuals excluded from the traditional banking system present a unique opportunity for credit unions to both sever their community and increase membersips. Distant-Columbia's Varacity Savings Credit Union recently created a poyday foam that charges reasonable interest rates and helps individuals build credit. Upstate New York-based Afternatives Federal Credit Union scently payment with the federal government to help those with low incomes build savings and escape powerty.

#### BARRIERS TO INCLUSION

In May of this year, 75 representatives of financial institutions (including credit unions), social agencies and government representatives met with pensioners, people on social assistance and others on fixed insomers in Richener-Waterioo. The event was horsted by the Working Centhe, a multi-service agency in Richenes, Orstario. The purpose of the forum was to brainstorm ideas

around the concept of financial

A CBC article which covered the event documents some of the challenges faced by low income individuals. According to participants, bad credit or the cost of securing identification may exclude some from opening a bank account or credit card in the first place. Others may be simply too intimidated to apply. The consequences of not having a bank



