



MEMBER COMMUNICATION

3:00 pm, 13 April 2021

From: Macquarie Credit Union Chair, Mr David Rootes

Orange Credit Union Chair, Mrs Amanda Mooney

Macquarie Credit Union and Orange Credit Union to explore merging

The Boards of Macquarie Credit Union and Orange Credit Union are pleased to announce today a Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed to explore the possibility of merging the two-longstanding member-owned banking organisations based in the Dubbo and Orange regions.

Collaboration between the two credit unions has already demonstrated a strong affinity with both organisations sharing similarities in their customer base, business operations, and strategic outlook.

The Boards recognised a shared heritage and cultural fit where both credit unions were founded in 1964 from manufacturing employee groups and have continually developed in their respective communities as well-known, trusted local brands with a loyal customer base.

In addition, both credit unions have an aligned commitment to the values of a mutual which places people before profits and is committed to offering competitive products and services for its members and future generations.

Macquarie Credit Union Chair, Mr David Rootes said a potential merger presents an exciting opportunity for both organisations to be stronger together, delivering many strategic and operational benefits to further enhance the customer experience for long-term, sustainable growth.

“By combining expertise, sharing resources, IT and backend systems, significant savings are expected to be gained enabling optimisation of product development and service delivery. This presents an even greater opportunity to further strengthen relationships with our customers and the communities where we live, work and support,” Mr Rootes said.

Orange Credit Union Chair, Mrs Amanda Mooney said joining forces will bring a platform for ongoing growth and development of new offerings whilst continuing to provide traditional branch-based banking at a local level.

“The sustained success of both Macquarie and Orange Credit Unions throughout almost 60 years clearly shows the community values local banking where the decisions are made right here within the region and the focus is people before profits,” Ms Mooney said.

“In a time of rapid change and the need to invest in digital banking services, the pooled resources and expertise from a possible merger will enable members to better utilise new banking channels without losing the ability to connect face to face with locals who are backing locals.”

Orange Credit Union Limited - ABN 34 087 650 477 – 288 Summer Street, Orange, NSW 2800.

Macquarie Credit Union Limited - ABN 85 087 650 253 – 165 Brisbane Street, Dubbo, NSW 2830.



A due diligence process is to be conducted by both organisations over the next several months before a possible merger is presented to the regulators for review and required approval.

Following this, members of both credit unions are likely to be provided with further information about the proposal prior their respective Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting later in 2021.

Subject to all required approvals, it is anticipated the merged credit union will be formed in March 2022.

While it is only early days, it is anticipated the combined entity would create the largest locally based credit union in the Central West of NSW, representing around 18,000 members and assets of approximately \$375 million.

About Macquarie Credit Union

Macquarie Credit Union was formed by electricity workers of Macquarie County Council in December 1964. Building a strong reputation for straight forward, reliable, local banking.

Successful mergers with Dubbo Municipal Council Employees Credit Union in 1974, Warren Shire Council Employees Credit Union in 1980 and Dubbo Post-Tel Credit Union in 2003 broadened Macquarie Credit Union's membership base to Electricity, Council, Health, Australia Post, and Telstra employees in NSW.

In 2011, Country Energy Credit Union was renamed Essential Energy Credit Union (a division of Macquarie Credit Union) in solidarity with the renaming of the electricity distribution network (poles and wires) to Essential Energy in NSW.

Today, Macquarie Credit Union is based in Dubbo and has members residing in Wellington, Narromine, Gilgandra, Warren, Cobar, Coonamble, Nyngan, and throughout country NSW.

While the Credit Union continues to grow beyond its traditional bond partners, it will always remain proud of its founding heritage.

Macquarie Credit Union has a solid asset base of approximately \$122 million, 6,000 members, employs a team of 15 local professionals, and operates from a modern, purpose-built branch, located in the heart of the Dubbo CBD.

About Orange Credit Union

Orange Credit Union was formed on 10 December 1964 with just 19 members as Email (Orange) Employees Credit Union. The founding mission is to help locals help themselves and others. In 1973, the name changed to Orange Mutual Credit Union. Since the early days, there have been three amalgamations with other credit unions: Orange Base Staff Credit Union; Ophir County Council Credit Union, Commonwealth Employees' Credit Union.

Today, Orange Credit Union has a strong asset base of over \$252 million and proudly provides competitive banking products and services to more than 12,500 members from across the Orange region and beyond. There is a dedicated local team of 30 employees including branch, contact centre, lending, administrative and management who operate from one branch located on the main street in the Orange CBD.

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