

September 10, 2021



Dear Educator,

WFCU Credit Union is excited to announce we will be bringing the **4th Annual WFCU Credit Union Scripps Regional Spelling Bee** back to students across Windsor-Essex and Chatham-Kent! We will continue to be offering the Scripps Online Testing platform or you may wish to host in-class school bees.

WFCU Credit Union is proud to sponsor the Scripps National Spelling Bee in our community. We know this school year will continue to present challenges for you and your students. We are happy to share that the Bee recognizes the uncertainty surrounding this school year and has developed a way for us to continue offering the spelling bee program to your students, no matter what safety measures are in place.

Whether your students are learning in the classroom or remotely, you can conduct classroom- and school-level competitions with the Bee's online testing platform. For many schools, this virtual tool could make the spelling bee one of few extracurricular programs available to your students this year.

No matter how your school chooses to determine a spelling bee champion, all champions from enrolled schools will move forward in the WFCU Credit Union Regional Spelling Bee. At this point, we are planning to host an in-person Regional Bee, however, we will be prepared to use the Bee's online testing platform for the finals. The date of the WFCU Regional Spelling Bee is yet to be determined but will take place sometime in March. The champion of our local competition will represent our region in the 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington and will be provided various prizes.

If your school has not enrolled yet, we hope news of these additional options for administering a school spelling bee program will encourage you to enroll today. In recognition of current circumstances and interrupted school cycles, WFCU Credit Union will once again cover the cost of the enrollment fee of \$175 USD per school until enrollment ends on December 17, 2021.

When you enroll at communityinvestment@wfcu.ca, you will receive exclusive online access to:

- Study lists for grades 1-8,
- The *2022 Classroom Pronouncer Guide* for administering classroom spelling bees,
- The *2022 School Pronouncer Guide* for administering a school spelling bee,
- Access to the Bee's new online testing platform,
- *Words of the Champions*, the 4,000-word study resource for your school spelling bee champion,
- The Great Words, Great Works reading list with all source books for the *School Spelling Bee Study List*, organized by grade level,
- Supplemental vocabulary materials for classroom and school levels,
- Award certificates for participants and your school champion

The Bee helps students improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts and develop correct English usage that will help them all their lives. In addition to the academic benefits, students also develop important life skills—like goal setting, time management and public speaking—that will help them as they advance in school and eventually to successful careers.

We are proud to continue offering the Bee program in a time when many student recognition opportunities are on hold, and we look forward to providing this wonderful opportunity to your students.

Sincerely,

Beth Ann Prince
Manager, Community Investment