

FirstOntario

CREDIT UNION

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2009

Hamilton, ON – Vote for FirstOntario - Nominated for Favourite Bank/Credit Union/Trust Co.

Vote FirstOntario as your favourite Bank/Credit Union/Trust Co. in the Hamilton Spectator's Readers Choice Awards this year. Visit www.thespec.com and click on the Readers Choice Awards button to enter your FirstOntario vote before September 25th.

The Hamilton Spectator Readers Choice Awards recently opened on September 16. FirstOntario is excited to once again be nominated in the category of Favourite Bank/Credit Union/Trust Co.

"This award is a great validation of FirstOntario's valued presence in our community," said Kelly McGiffin, FirstOntario's President and C.E.O. "Last year we were honoured with the Diamond distinction in our category. This year, we hope our Members honour us by awarding FirstOntario a Platinum distinction."

This is an annual program that invites Hamilton Spectator readers to recognize businesses and services that go above and beyond the call of duty. There are three levels of distinction for these awards - Platinum, Diamond and Gold.

Visit www.thespec.com and click on the Readers Choice Awards button to enter your FirstOntario vote today. **Voting is open from September 16 – 25.**

In business since 1939, FirstOntario Credit Union serves over 70,000 Members and offers a full suite of banking products including daily banking, mortgages, lines of credit, loans and investments. FirstOntario has over \$2.1 billion in funds under management and currently has 17 branches serving 11 communities within the Hamilton, Halton and Niagara regions as well as South-Western Ontario. Membership is open to anyone living or working in the areas in which FirstOntario operates.

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