

Linking Co-ops With Researchers And Educators

The Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC)
in collaboration with The Ontario Co-operative Association (On Co-op)
le conseil québécois de la coopération et de la mutualité (CQCM)
and Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada (CMC) is organizing
as part of its annual conference a...

Co-op Practitioner Day @ CASC June 4, 2015 University of Ottawa, Ottawa

We're Breaking Down Silos And Empowering Co-operatives!

The Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC) is hosting its second annual Practitioner Day.

This event brings together Anglophone and Francophone co-operative practitioners, administrators, educators and researchers to reflect on the practice of the sector and how they can collaborate more successfully in supporting co-operatives in meeting the needs of their (existing and potential) members.

In line with the theme of the conferences, the day will be organized around the different capital resources that are an essential part of all well-functioning co-operatives. Sessions will explore: Financing co-op development, strengthening human capital, sustainability and community engagement. There will be ample time for networking and creating new linkages.

AGENDA

Room

University of Ottawa
Bâtiment 90 U, Salle 140

Inscription

<http://www.gifttool.com/registrar/ShowEventDetails?ID=1777&EID=20160>

Goals for the Day

- Research, action research
- Practitioners: opportunity to learn and discuss
- Strategic opportunities to bring together researchers and practitioners

AGENDA	
9: 00 Welcome and Introductions	
9:00 - 10:30am	Financial Capital: How do we finance co-operative development? Moderator: Marc-Andre Pigeon, CUCC Panel: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Michael Beland - CMC Fund

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gerald St-Aubin, Desjardins Entreprises Capital • Josée Gallant, Alterna Credit Union • Patrick Duguay, CDROL <p>Discussion – Questions</p> <p>What are common concerns or comments from traditional funding agencies/lenders when a co-op comes through the door?</p> <p>Do emerging trends (crowdfunding, social finance, social bonds, community trusts, etc.) offer opportunities for new co-operatives?</p> <p>What can we, as a sector, do to efficiently ensure financing is encouraging sustainable growth?</p> <p>what are some legislative barriers - or solutions - to funding, capitlizing or investing in co-ops?</p> <p>What are the role of funds and financial programs in the capitalisation of cooperatives?</p> <p>What kind of new actions should be develop and support to increase the capitalisation of cooperatives?</p>
10:30 - 10:45am	BREAK
10:45 - 12:15pm	<p>Human Capital: How do we support and develop human capital?</p> <p>Moderator: Claude-André Guillotte</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luc Morin, CCO • Daniel Côté, HEC Montreal • Colette Lebel, La Coop fédérée • Johanne Lavoie, CQCM <p>Discussion – Questions</p> <p>How do we best share best practices among the sector with respect to developing human capital?</p> <p>What gaps/areas do your co-op struggle with in respect to building human capital?</p> <p>Has your investment in human capital markedly improved the lives of your members and employees? How do you measure this?</p> <p>What education paths does your co-op take to provide staff with a good understanding of what makes co-ops different, and why your business is stronger because it's a co-op?</p> <p>How education to co-operation can contribute to develop a human capital?</p> <p>How can we use inter-co-operation to reinforce our cross-cutting knowledge and skills?</p>
12:15 -1:15pm	LUNCH
1:15 - 2:45pm	<p>Natural Capital: How do co-operatives produce and market in a sustainable manner? How do we support co-operatives to be sustainable?</p> <p>Moderator: TBA</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hannah Renglich, Local Organic Food Co-operative Network • Janice Ashworth, Ottawa Renewable Energy Co-operative • Outouais Dairy Co-op (CA) <p>Discussion – Questions</p> <p>How can we best share sustainability best practices within and without the sector?</p>

	<p>What constrains our ability to become more sustainable? How do we best measure our progress towards sustainability goals? Other than typical “green” initiatives, what other definitions for sustainability do you use, or strive towards?</p>
2:45 - 4:15pm	<p>Community Capital: How do we engage the community in meeting needs through co-operation? Moderator: TBA</p> <p>Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hugh Nelson, Y’s Owl Maclure Co-op Centre • Kirsten Brouse, Board of Directors, West End Well • Martin van der Borre, La Siembra <p>Discussion - Small groups What have you tried before in engaging your community? What worked? What didn’t? Outside of the sector - what engagement methods and practices do you think would work well in the sector but aren’t used? How do we connect policy makers and politicians in seeing the role co-operatives can play in creating the good community outcomes they want? How does being a co-operative affect your community engagement? What role do the other co-ops (or networks, or federations) within your community or neighbourhood play in community engagement and awareness-building?</p>
4:15 - 4:30pm	BREAK
4:30 - 5:15pm	Keynote - Leo LeBlanc (President of the Board, Co-operatives & Mutuals Canada)
5:15 – 5:30pm	Wrap up and Next steps
5:30 - 6:00pm	Cocktail reception
6:00pm	Drinks and Banquet

