



*L'Assemblée Annuelle 2015 Annual Meeting
Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation
L'Association canadienne pour les études sur la coopération*

JUNE 2-4, 2015
UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA / L'UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA
OTTAWA, ONTARIO



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WELCOME! – BIENVENUE!

Dear Colleagues/Chers Collègues,

Welcome to “Co-operatives: Capital Idea(s)!,” the 31st annual conference of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC). We are delighted to be hosted by the University of Ottawa this year in our capital city.

We want to issue a special welcome to our keynote speaker, Leo LeBlanc, Vice-President of Human Resources and Corporate Affairs at Co-op Atlantic, where he has worked since 1978. He is the resident expert at Co-op Atlantic in governance and regularly conducts courses and workshops for directors. Over the years, he has held many executive positions within different departments, notably in Corporate Planning, Member Relations, Staff Planning and Development, and Human Resources. Until recently, Leo has also served as the President of the Board of Co-operatives & Mutuels Canada (CMC).

This year we will be continuing our collaboration with other professional associations. As always, we will be sponsoring a variety of joint sessions with the Association for Nonprofit and Social Economy Research (ANSER), as well as holding a joint banquet and awards ceremony (on June 4th). In addition, we will sponsor joint sessions with the Canadian Association for Food Studies (CAFS) on June 2nd (including a lunch panel) and the Canadian Association for Studies in Development (CASID) on June 3rd. We hope to continue to deepen these relationships and foster new ones with other associations in future years.

Of course, we will also be offering sessions that involve and are of interest to local practitioners. Following on from last year, we will be organizing a special day for practitioners. We have been fortunate to have had the collaboration of On Co-op, le Conseil quebécois de la coopération et la mutualité and the CMC in planning this event. Special thanks go to Mark Venty, Cecile Pachocinski and David Fleming, respectively.

This year we are also venturing into the realm of case studies, in two complementary ways. On the one hand, we will be offering prizes for the best case studies presented during the conference (and here special thanks is due to the Measuring the Cooperative Difference Research Network and Social Science and Research Council of Canada for their support). On the other hand, the University of Saskatchewan, with Audra Kreuger taking the lead, is organizing a case study workshop (and here special thanks is to the CHS Foundation for sponsoring the participation of students in this event).

Of course, we also need to thank those who have helped organize this year’s conference, especially the tremendous work done by our program chair, Fiona Duguid, as well as by other program committee members, especially Claude-André Guillotte, Justin Ellerby and Marc-André Pigeon. They have been tireless in their efforts to develop what we think is a great program. As always, we are also appreciative of the support provided by the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives at the University of Saskatchewan.

We hope you enjoy the conference! Welcome to Ottawa!

Darryl Reed

President for the 2014-15 CASC Board of Directors and the Program Committee

TIPS FOR MODERATORS AND PRESENTERS

Guidelines for Moderators

As session moderator it is your responsibility to be in the allocated room at least 10 minutes before the session begins to meet the presenters and ensure that their audio-visual needs are appropriately met. In the time before the audience arrives, make sure that you have some information from all of the presenters about how they would like to be introduced. The order of presentations is set out in the Conference Program.

Each concurrent session is scheduled for 90 minutes. The amount of time for questions and clarification will depend on the starting time and time taken for introductions. There should be approximately 15 minutes for general discussion at the end of the session.

During the Session:

- Introduce the speakers
- Monitor time: Provide a 5-minute and 2-minute warning.
- Start discussion after the presentations are completed. If there are no questions, have one or two questions ready to ask to get the ball rolling
- Acknowledge and thank speakers and audience for their participation.

Tips for Presenters

- Be prepared - you will have about 20 minutes to present depending on the number of presentations in your session. After five minutes you should be presenting your results.
- Know what's important: highlight the most significant findings. Those with an interest in more detail will follow up with questions. Focus on purpose, method, findings and recommendations.
- Don't use power point as a virtual text. Highlight a few points which are easy to read and graphically interesting.
- Practice your presentation and have any technical equipment ready to go.
- State your final conclusions and end on time.

ASTUCES POUR LES PRÉSIDENTS ET LES PRÉSENTATEURS

CONSEILS POUR LES MODÉRATEURS ET LES PRÉSENTATEURS

Directives pour les modérateurs

À titre de modérateur, vous devez vous rendre au local assigné à votre séance au moins 10 minutes avant le début de la présentation, afin de rencontrer les présentateurs et de vous assurer qu'ils ont accès au matériel audiovisuel dont ils ont besoin. Avant l'arrivée de l'audience, assurez-vous d'avoir en main les informations qui vous permettront d'introduire adéquatement les présentateurs. L'ordre des présentations est inclus dans le programme de la conférence.

Chaque séance est d'une durée de 90 minutes. Le temps alloué pour les questions et les clarifications dépend de l'heure à laquelle débute la séance et du temps accordé aux introductions. À la fin de la séance, environ 15 minutes devraient être réservées aux discussions générales.

Déroulement de la séance:

- Introduisez les présentateurs
- Gérez le temps : indiquez aux présentateurs qu'il reste 5 minutes, puis 2 minutes à leur présentation
- Débutez les discussions après que les présentations soient complétées. Prévoyez une ou deux questions à poser, dans le cas où aucune question n'émergerait du public, afin d'encourager les discussions
- Remerciez les présentateurs de même que l'audience pour leur participation

Conseils pour les présentateurs

- Soyez préparés - vous aurez environ 20 minutes pour présenter, tout dépendant du nombre de présentations prévues lors de votre séance. Après cinq minutes, vous devriez normalement en être à la présentation de vos résultats.
- Sachez reconnaître ce qui est important - mettez en évidence les éléments significatifs. Les personnes intéressées à obtenir davantage de détails pourront toujours poser des questions à la fin de la séance. Concentrez-vous sur l'objectif, la méthode, les résultats et les recommandations.
- Utilisez le PowerPoint en tant que support visuel - présentez quelques points faciles à lire et intéressants d'un point de vue graphique.
- Pratiquez votre présentation et préparez à l'avance les équipements techniques dont vous aurez besoin.
- Présentez vos conclusions finales et terminez votre présentation dans les temps.

CASC/ACÉC 2015: PROGRAM AT A GLANCE/ VUE D'ENSEMBLE DU PROGRAMME

TUESDAY, JUNE 2nd

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| 8:30 – 10:00 | A1: What Makes Community Food and Farming Sustainable? (CAFS /CASC) (Louis Pasteur, 155), Ballamingie (Chair), Garahan, Gray, Kittmer, Burnford, Mount, Renglich | A2: Co-ops and Communities on the Margins (Demarais, Rm 6160) Findlay (Chair) Harris and Cyr, Gordon Nembhard, Reed and Clark | A3: Co-operatives: Impact and Implications (Demarais, Rm 11161) Fulton and Girard, McKee and Kagan, Karaphillis, Duguid, and Lake | A4: Exploring online info landscape of co-op research- Panel (Demarais, Rm 8143) Fleming (Chair), Gillis, Kitching, Fleming |
| 10:00 – 10:30 BREAK | | | | |
| 10:30 – 12:00 | B1: Food and Co-operatives CAFS/CASC (Louis Pasteur, 155) Berge/Caldwell; Clark; Gertler/Jaffe; Sumner/ Wever | B2: Comparative Co-operative Law (Demarais, Rm 11161) Petrou (Chair); Kumar, Dixon, Fouquet | B3: Diagnosing Contradictions of/through Co-operation (Workshop) (Demarais, Rm 8143) Ellerby | B4: Co-operative Trends Papers (Demarais, Rm 6160) Leviten-Reid, Sanchez Bajo; Côté ; Gray |
| 12:00 – 1:45 | C1: CASC/CAFS Lunch Roundtable – Nationally Networked, Locally (Gr)own – Federation for Food Sovereignty (Bioscience, Room 200A&H) Renglich (Facilitator), Guy and Brynne <i>(Lunch by donation from West End Well)</i> | | C2: Student Case Study Workshop Lunch (Demarais, Room 8143) | |
| 2:00 – 3:30 | D1: Student Case Studies (Demarais, Rm 8143) | D2: Co-operative Case Studies (Demarais, Rm 6160) Hanson, Vieta, Rixon | D3: Sustainability Papers (Demarais, Rm 11161) Ellerby, Ragainis, Brown, Hicks | |
| 3:30 – 3:45 BREAK | | | | |
| 3:45- 5:15 | E1: CASC AGM (Demarais, Room 11161) | | E2: Student Case Study Workshop (Demarais, Room 8143) | |
| 5:15 – 7:30 | CASC RECEPTION and Student Case Study presentations (ART building, Room 509) | | | |

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3rd

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|----------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| 9:00 – 10:30 | F1: Contemporary Research on Co-operatives (90 U, Room 140) Leviten-Reid (Chair); Racine, Guillotte, Merrien | F2: CASC and ANSER joint session (ART, Room 318) Schugurensky, Mundel, Duguid, McCollum, Foroughi, Larrabure, Vieta | F3: Co-operatives and International Experiences Papers (CASC-CASID Joint Session) (Simard, Room 221), Uluorta; Brown; Siccion | |
| 10:30 – 10:45 BREAK | | | | |
| 10:45 – 12:15 | G1: Co-operative Trends and Innovations (CASC-ANSER - French) (90 U, Room 140) Guillote (Chair), Vallerand; Michaud/Audebrand; Petit, Richard, Houzeau, Michaud | G2: Exploring Co-op Development in Rural and Aboriginal Western Canada Panel (Demarais, Rm 11161) Findlay (Chair), Wu; Landrie-Parker; Massie | G3: Integration in the Co-operative Context Panel (CASC-CASID) (Simard, 221), Clegg (Chair), Obaa; Chambo; Rutaremarra; Hammond Ketilson | |
| 12:15 – 1:15 | LUNCH (on your own) | | | |

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|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1:15 – 2:45 | H1: Apprendre à coopérer en jouant : pratique et critique des jeux coopératifs Workshop (90 U, Room 140), Michaud, Audebrand | H2: Coop assessment tools Roundtable (Demarais, Rm 11161), Hough (Chair), Tusz-King; Novkovic; Gordon Nembhard; Jackson-Wood, Petersen | H3: Collaborative Research & the Integrated Co-op Model Panel (Simard, Room 221) Hammond Ketilson (Chair), Chambo; Jaffe; Brocket; Obaa; Hanson; Ogundade |
| 2:45 –3:00 BREAK | | | |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | I1: Fair Trade and Co-operative Development Roundtable (90 U, Room 140), Reed (Chair), van der Borre, Pitoello, Sutton | I2: Cultivating Co-operative Studies through GIS (Demarais, Room 11161), Petrou (Chair), Czoli | I3: Tools to Measure Co-op Performance and Impact (Demarais, Rm 9161), Brown, Novkovic, McNamara, Gordon Nembhard, Rixon, Hicks |
| 4:30 - | Dinner - On your own | | |

THURSDAY, JUNE 4th

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|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| 9:00 – 10:30 | J1: Practitioners: Financial Capital , (90 U, Room 140), Pigeon (Chair), Beland, St. Aubin, Duguay | J2: Co-operatives and the Social Economy (Lamoureux, Room 241), Harris (Chair), Vieta, Sengupta, Sousa, Vieta, Tarhan, Duguid | J3: Measuring the Co-operative Difference (Demarais, Room 1110), Paredo (Chair), Rowe, Lee, Smallshaw, Kar, Bachelor |
| 10:30 – 10:45 | BREAK | | |
| 10:45 – 12:15 | K1: Practitioners: Human Capital (90 U, Room 140), Guillotte (Chair), Morin, Côté, Lebel, Carrier | K2: Education, Co-operation: Applying Rochdale to Social Economy (Lamoureux, 241), Sousa (Chair), Hancock, McMurtry | K3: Balancing Social and Financial Objectives in Credit Unions (Demarais, Room 1110), Quarter (Chair), Mook, Henry, Jackson, Maiorano |
| 12:15 – 1:15 | LUNCH | | |
| 1:15 – 2:45 | L1: Practitioners: Natural Capital (90 U, Room 140), Ellerby (Chair), Renglich, Ashworth | L2: Co-operative Issues (Demarais, Room 11161), McMurtry (Chair), Sumner, Hays | L3: Co-operatives and their Difference (Demarais, 1110), Karaphilis (Chair), Leclerc, Brown, Hicks, Flaherty, Teeple Hopkins, Sanchez-Bajo, Campbell, Grant |
| 2:45 – 4:15 | M1: Practitioners: Community Capital (90 U, Room 140), Findlay (Chair), Nelson, Brouse, van der Borre | M2: Social Innovation Papers (Demarais, Room 11161), Hancock (Chair), Melnyk, Fairbairn, Stocki, Hough | M3: Measuring the Impact of Credit Unions on Community (Demarais, 1110), Hammond Ketilson (Chair), Hewitt, Taras, Gordon Nembhard |
| 4:15 – 4:30 BREAK | | | |
| 4:30 – 5:30 | N1: KEYNOTE ADDRESS (90 U, Room 140), Speaker: Leo Leblanc, Novkovic (Host) | | |
| 5:30 - | Drinks and Joint CASC/ANSER Banquet (Social Sciences, Room 4007) | | |

*Strategic Planning Meeting (Coops & Higher Education Programs) – Thurs 9:00 – 10:30, Desmarais 9161

*Strategic Planning Meeting (Coops & Universities) – Thursday – 1:15-4:15, Demarais 9161

CO-OPERATIVES: CAPITAL IDEA(S)! FULL PROGRAMME

UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA / L'UNIVERSITÉ D'OTTAWA, JUNE 2 – 4, 2015

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

| Time | Session | Event | Presenter | Affiliation | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| 8:30 - 10:30 | A1: Panel (Louis Pasteur, Room 155) | CAFS/CASC Joint Session: What Makes Community Food and Farming in Ottawa Sustainable? (Chair: Patricia Ballamingie) | | | |
| | | Moe Garahan, <i>Just Food</i> | David Burnford, <i>Riverglen Biodynamic Farm</i> | | |
| | | Jason Gray, <i>Ottawa Food Bank</i> | Phil Mount Centre for Sustainable Food Systems | | |
| | | Steph Kittmer, <i>West End Well</i> | Hannah Renglich, <i>Local Organic Food Co-operative Network</i> | | |
| | A2: Papers (Demarais, Room 6160) | Co-ops and Communities on the Margins (Chair: Isobel Findlay) | | | |
| | | Cooperatives, Social Capital and the Economy of Safety | Judith Harris Bernice Cyr | University of Winnipeg Native Women's Transition Centre | |
| | | Cooperatives at the Crossroads: Transforming Communities or Gentrifying Communities | Jessica Gordon Nembhard | John Jay College CUNY | |
| | | Fair Trade Producer Co-operatives and Public Policy Initiatives in Latin America | Darryl Reed Patrick Clark | York University Carleton University | |
| | A3: Papers (Demarais, Rm 11161) | Co-operatives: Impact and Implications (Chair: André Leclerc) | | | |
| | | An Assessment Framework for Demutualization and Co-operative Conversions | Murray Fulton Jean Pierre Girard | Univ of Saskatchewan University of Quebec | |
| | | Cooperative Lenders and Dodd Frank Compliance within Real Estate Lending: Cost Implications | Gregory McKee Albert Kagan | N. Dakota State University Concordia College | |
| | | Economic Impact of the Co-operative Sector in Canada – Final Report and Update | George Karaphillis Fiona Duguid Alicia Lake | Cape Breton University MCDRN MCDRN | |
| | A4: Panel (Demarais, Room 8143) | Exploring online information landscape of co-op research (Chair: David Fleming) | | | |
| | | Roger Gillis, Mount Saint Vincent | | | |
| Katherine Kitching, MCDRN David Fleming, Co-operatives & Mutuels Canada (CMC) | | | | | |
| 10:00-10:30 | | BREAK | | | |
| 10:30-12:00 | B1: Papers (Louis Pasteur, Room 155) | CAFS/CASC Joint Session: Food and Co-operatives (Chair: Hannah Renglich) | | | |
| | | Co-operatives promoting community development through food access | Simon Berge | University of Guelph | |

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| Pasteur, Room 155) | and skills programs | Wayne Caldwell | University of Guelph |
| | Alternatives to Private Third Party Certification in Ecuador: A New Role for Public Policy in Agricultural Certification? | Patrick Clark | Carleton University |
| | Co-operation with Cows: Reinventing the Prairie Grazing Commons | Michael Gertler JoAnn Jaffe | Univ of Saskatchewan University of Regina |
| | Cultivating Alliances: The Local Organic Food Co-ops Network | Jennifer Sumner Cassie Wever | OISE/ U of T York University |
| B2: Panel (Demarais, Rm 11161) | Comparative Co-operative Law (Chair: Tim Petrou) | | |
| | Aarohi Kumar, Carleton University Troy Dixon, MCRDN Etienne Fouquet, University of Sherbrooke | | |
| | | | |
| B3: (Demarais, Rm 8143) | Diagnosing Contradictions of/through Co-operation (Workshop) | Justin Ellerby | Cape Breton University |
| B4: (Demarais, Room 6160) | Co-operative Trends (Chair: Gregory McKee) | | |
| | Reflections on Housing and the Cooperative Difference | Cath. Leviten-Reid | Cape Breton University |
| | The return of cooperative housing, emerging models | Claudia Sanchez Bajo | University of Pavia |
| | Patronage dividend – an old concept with new clothes... | Daniel Côté | HEC Montreal |
| | Cooperative Tensions, Trends of Institutionalism, and the Promise of Multi-stakeholder Cooperatives | Thomas Gray | USDA |
| 12:00 – 1:45 | C1: (Bioscience Room 200A&H) | CASC/CAFS Lunch Panel – Nationally Networked, Locally (Gr)own – Federation for Food Sovereignty (Roundtable) Moderator: Hannah Renglich, Local Organic Food Co-operative Network (Lunch PWYC from West End Well Co-operative) Panelists: Denyse Guy (Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada) and Abra Brynne (Food Secure Canada) | |
| | C2: (Demarais, Rm 8143) | Student Case Study Workshop Lunch | |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | D1: (Demarais, Rm 8143) | Student Case Studies | |
| | D2: Papers (Demarais Rm 6160) | Co-operative Case Studies (Chair: Darryl Reed) | |
| | | Bridging the Gap: The Potential of Justice Tourism in Contributing to Sustainable Development in Montero, Peru | Chantal Marie Hanson |
| | Learning in Struggle: Argentina's New Worker Cooperatives as | Marcelo Vieta | OISE/ U of T |

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| | | Transformative Learning Organizations | | |
| | | Neighbourhood Credit Union: To merge or not to merge | Daphne Rixon | Saint Mary's University |
| | D3: Papers (Demarais, Rm 11161) | Sustainability Papers (Chair: Claudia Sanchez Bajo) | | |
| | | Greening together?: Exploring the relationship between highly participative workplaces and ecological (less-un)sustainability | Justin Ellerby | Cape Breton University |
| | | Sustainability Accounting Systems and the Obstacles to Implementation for Ontario's Co-operatives | Andrius Ragainis | York University |
| | | Reporting on the Relationship of Organizations with their Communities – Is there a Co-operative Difference in what is Measured and Reported from that of Investor-Owned Corporations? | Elizabeth Hicks Leslie Brown | Mount Saint Vincent Mount Saint Vincent |
| 3:30-3:45 | | BREAK | | |
| 3:45-5:15 | E1 (Demarais, Rm 11161) | CASC Annual General Meeting | | |
| | E2 (Demarais, Rm 8143) | Student Case Study Workshop | | |
| 5:15 - 7:30 | ART 509 | CASC Reception Student Case Study presentations | | |

Wednesday, June 3, 2015

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|--------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9:00 – 10:30 | F1: Papers (90 U, Room 140) | Contemporary Research on Co-operatives (Chair: Catherine Leviten-Reid) Simultaneously translated | | |
| | | La transformation de la culture organisationnelle d'une caisse Desjardins | Jocelyn Champagne Racine | Université de Sherbrooke |
| | | Stratégie des grandes coopératives agricoles: état des lieux | Claude-Andre Guillotte | Université de Sherbrooke |
| | | « La charge identitaire des coopératives » : recherche théorique sur la contribution des coopératives à la reconnaissance identitaire des individus et des collectivités | Anne-Marie Merrien | Université de Sherbrooke |
| | F2: Panel (ART, Room 318) | CASC and ANSER joint session: Informal Learning and Community Engagement in Social Housing and Co-operatives (Chair: Daniel Schugurensky) | | |
| | | Informal learning and social action: conceptual and methodological issues | Daniel Schugurensky | Arizona State University |
| | | Learning in housing cooperatives | Karsten Mundel Fiona Duguid | U of Alberta, Athabasca MCDRN |

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| | | Learning in participatory budgeting in public housing | Erica McCollum Behrang Foroughi | Univ of British Columbia Arizona State University |
| | | Learning in 'new cooperativism' | Manuel Larrabure Marcelo Vieta | York University OISE/U of T |
| | F3: Papers (Simard, Room 221) | CASID/CASC Joint Session: Co-operatives and International Experiences (Chair: Justin Ellerby) | | |
| | | Co-operatives and 21st Century Globalization: Leamington, Canada and Girgarre, Australia | Hasmet Uluorta | Trent University |
| | | Adventures in International Evaluation: Measuring the Impact of Co-operative Development | Anna Brown | Canadian Co-operative Association |
| | | Effectiveness of the Cooperative Management practices in the province of Bataan | Olivia Ann S. Siccion | Bataan Peninsula State University |
| 10:30 - 10:45 | | BREAK | | |
| 10:45-12:15 | G1: Papers (90 U, Room 140) | ANSER/CASC Joint Session: Co-operative Trends and Innovations (Chair: Claude-Andre Guillotte) Simultaneously translated | | |
| | | Une coopérative de service qui ne vend pas de service » : le paradoxe de l'Accorderie, coopérative de solidarité | Myriam Michaud Luc Audebrand | Université Laval Université Laval |
| | | Analyse des impacts des rétroactions des jeunes rencontrés sur les intervenants bénévoles du GRIS-Montréal | Olivier Vallerand Marie-Peir Petit Gabrielle Richard Marie Houzeau | GRIS-Montreal, Université Laval |
| | | L'éducation, au coeur du modèle coopératif : Évolution et développement historique du 5e principe cooperative | Myriam Michaud | Université Laval |
| | G2: Panel (Demarais, Rm 11161) | Exploring Co-op Development in Rural and Aboriginal Western Canada (Chair: Isobel Findlay) | | |
| | | A Quantitative Snapshot of Rural and Aboriginal Western Canada | Haotao Wu | Univ of Saskatchewan |
| | | Social Capacity in Rural and Aboriginal Western Canada | Dazawray Landrie-Parker | Univ of Saskatchewan |
| | | Co-operative Development in Rural and Aboriginal Western Canada | Merle Massie | Univ of Saskatchewan |
| | G3: Panel (Simard, Room 221) | CASID/CASC Joint Session: Integration in the Co-operative Context (Chair: Alison Clegg) | | |
| | | The Tanzanian Experience | Suleman Chambo | Moshi Co-operative University, Tanzania |
| | | The Ugandan Experience | Bernard Obaa | Makerere Univ, Uganda |
| | | The Rwandan Experience | Vincent Rutaremara | Rwanda Co-op Agency |
| | | The Canadian Experience | Lou Hammond | Univ of Saskatchewan |

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| | | | Ketilson | | |
| 12:15 – 1:15 | | Lunch – on your own | | | |
| 1:15 - 2:45 | H1: Workshop (90 U, 140) | Can learning to co-operate really be fun? A critical appraisal of co-operative games Simultaneously translated | Myriam Michaud Luc Audebrand | Université Laval Université Laval | |
| | H2: Roundtable (Demarais, Rm 11161) | Challenges of working with co-ops to develop assessment tools (Chair: Peter Hough) | | | |
| | | Peter Hough Sustainability Solutions Group | Jessica Gordon Nembhard City University of New York | | |
| | | Eric Tusz-King EnerGreen Builders Co-op Sonja Novkovic Saint Mary's University | Siri Jackson-Wood CMC Bonnie Petersen Mount Saint Vincent | | |
| | H3: Panel (Simard, Room 221) | CASC-CASID Joint Session: Collaborative Research and the Integrated Co-operative Model (Chair: Lou Hammond Ketilson) | | | |
| | | Sharing Knowledge, Collaborating Across Cultures and Organizational Forms | | Suleman Chambo | Moshi Co-operative University, Tanzania |
| | | Cooperative Rural Development through public and common goods | | JoAnn Jaffe Terra Brocket Bernard Obaa | University of Regina University of Regina Makerere University |
| Building Cooperation, Community and the Commons through Collaborative Research | | | Cindy Hanson Adegemi Ogandade | University of Regina University of Regina | |
| 2:45 – 3:00 | | BREAK | | | |
| 3:00 – 4:30 | I1: (90 U, Rm 140) | Fair Trade and Co-operative Development Roundtable (Chair: Darryl Reed) Simultaneously translated | | | |
| | | Patrick Clark, York University Joey Pitoello, JustUs Coffee Roaster Co-op | Martin van der Borre, La Siembra Co-op Shannon Sutton, IDRC | | |
| | I2 : Wkshop (Demarais, Rm 11161) | Cultivating Co-operative Studies through GIS (Chair: Tim Petrou) | | | |
| | | Yuriy Czoli, GIS program, Flemming College | | | |
| I3: Roundtable (Demarais, Rm 9161) | CASC/ANSER Joint Session: Tools to Measure Co-operative Performance and Impact (Chair: Leslie Brown) | | | | |
| | Leslie Brown, Mount Saint Vincent Sonja Novkovic, Saint Mary's University John McNamara, Saint Mary's University | Jessica Gordon Nembhard, City University of New York Daphne Rixon, Saint Mary's University Elizabeth Hicks, Mount Saint Vincent | | | |
| | | | | | |
| 4:30 - | | On your own! | | | |

| Thursday, June 4, 2015 | | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 9:00 – 10:30 | J1: Panel (90 U, Room 140) | Practitioner Day: Financial Capital (Chair: Marc-André Pigeon) | | |
| | | Michael Beland Gerald St. Aubin Patrick Duguay | CMC Fund Fonds Essor CDR Outaouais | |
| | J2: Papers (Lamoureux Room 241) | CASC/ANSER Joint Session: Co-operatives and the Social Economy (Chair: Judith Harris) | | |
| | | The Italian Road to Creating Worker Coops from Workers' Buyouts | Marcelo Vieta | OISE/ U of T |
| | | Indigenous Cooperatives in Canada: Cooperatives, community economic development, colonization, and culture | Ushnish Sengupta | OISE/ U of T |
| | | Challenging the Perceived Moral Hazard of Transferring Govt Housing to Communities: The Atkinson Housing Cooperative, 10 years later | Jorge Sousa | University of Alberta |
| | | Collective Entrepreneurship in Canada's New Cooperatives | Marcelo Vieta Derya Tarhan Fiona Duguid | OISE/ U of T OISE/ U of T MCRDN |
| | J3: Panel (Demarais, Room 1110) | CASC/ANSER Joint Session: Western Cluster on Measuring the Co-operative Difference (Chair: Ana Maria Paredo) | | |
| | | Understanding the Difference: Communities, Challenges and Practice | Ana Maria Peredo | University of Victoria |
| | | Enabling Policy Environments for Cooperative Economies: The Case of Evergreen Cooperative Corporation in Cleveland | James Rowe | University of Victoria |
| | | Rethinking Co-operatives: The Case of Japanese-Canadian Fishing Co-operatives | Joanne Lee Brian Smallshaw Ana Maria Paredo | University of Victoria University of Victoria University of Victoria |
| | | Business and Sustainability: The Cooperative Option | Anirban Kar | University of Victoria |
| | | The effect of organizational structure on the culture and behaviour of co-operatives | Ana Maria Peredo Bruce Bachelor | University of Victoria University of Victoria |
| 10:30-10:45 | BREAK | | | |
| 10:45 - 12:15 | K1: Panel (90 U, Room 140) | Practitioner Day: Human Capital (Chair: Claude-André Guillotte) | | |
| | | Luc Morin, CCO Daniel Côté, HEC Colette Lebel, La Coop fédérée Lorriane Carrier, CQCM | | |
| | K2: Panel | CASC/ANSER Joint Session: Exploring Education for Co-operation (Chair: Jorge Sousa) | | |

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|-------------|---------------------------------|--|---|--|
| | (Lamoureux Room 241) | Exploring Education for Co-operation: Applying Rochdale to the Social Economy | Jorge Sousa | University of Alberta |
| | | TBA | Erin Hancock | MCDRN |
| | | TBA | JJ McMurtry | York University |
| | K3: Panel (Demarais, Room 1110) | CASC/ANSER Joint Session: Balancing Social and Financial Objectives in Credit Unions (Chair: Jack Quarter) | | |
| | | TBA | Jack Quarter | OISE/U of T |
| | | TBA | Laurie Mook | Arizona State University |
| | | TBA | Susan Henry | Alterna Credit Union |
| | | TBA | Edward Jackson | Carleton University |
| | | TBA | John Maiorano | OISE/U of T |
| 12:15- 1:15 | LUNCH | | | |
| 1:15 - 2:45 | L1: Panel (90 U, Rm 140) | Practitioners Day: Natural Capital (Chair: Justin Ellerby) | | |
| | | Hannah Renglich, LOFCN Janice Ashworth, OREC TBA | | |
| | L2: Papers (Demarais, Rm 11161) | Co-operative Issues (Chair: JJ McMurtry) | | |
| | | Thinking Through Cooperative Capital | JJ McMurtry Jennifer Sumner | York University OISE/U of T |
| | | Credit Unions and Financing of Community Energy Projects – Trends, Opportunities and Challenges | Asmaa Haye | York University |
| | L3: Papers (Demarais, Rm 1110) | Co-operatives and their Difference (Chair: George Karaphilis) | | |
| | | A comparative analysis of the Co-operative Difference perception by the employees of Caisses populaires and retail co-operatives | Andre Leclerc Leslie Brown Elizabeth Hicks | University of Moncton Mount Saint Vincent Mount Saint Vincent |
| | | Labouring Under Old Assumptions: Time for a new Cooperative Model? | Michelle Flaherty Morgan Teeple Hopkins | University of Ottawa University of Ottawa |
| | | Challenging co-operative decision making | Claudia Sanchez Bajo Jamie Campbell Kaye Grant | University of Pavia Mondragon Café, University of Winnipeg Reconnaissance Group |
| | 2:45- 4:15 | M1: Panel (90 U, Room 140) | Practitioners Day: Community Capital (Chair: Isobel Findlay) | |
| | | Hugh Nelson, Y's Owl Maclure | | |

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| | | Kirsten Brouse, West End Well Martin van der Borre, La Siembra | | |
| M2: Papers (Demarais, Room 11161) | Social Innovation (Chair: Erin Hancock) | | | |
| | The Canadian Co-operative Movement and the National Film Board of Canada: A Historical Survey of Co-op Films 1940-2000 | George Melnyk | University of Calgary | |
| | New Theory Meets Historic Co-operator: Raiffeisen as Social Innovator | Brett Fairbairn | University of Saskatchewan | |
| | The Co-op Index - the tool's reliability for co-operative development: Analysis of data collected so far, and plans for the future | Ryszard Stocki Peter Hough | Saint Mary's University MCDRN | |
| M3: Panel (Demarais, Room 1110) | Measuring the Impact of Credit Unions on their Communities (Chair: Lou Hammond Ketilson) | | | |
| | Affinity Credit Union: Building Resilient Communities: Lessons from Practice | Myrna Hewitt | Affinity Credit Union | |
| | Measuring the Impact of Credit Unions on their Communities: Lessons from Research | Victoria Taras Jessica Gordon Nembhard | University of Saskatchewan City University of New York | |
| | "Like Pinning Jello to the Floor": Reflections of Efforts to Measure Impact | Lou H. Ketilson Jessica Gordon Nembhard | University of Saskatchewan City University of New York | |
| 4:15 - 4:30 | BREAK | | | |
| 4:30 - 5:30 | N1: (90 U, Rm 140) | Keynote: Leo LeBlanc (Chair: Sonja Novkovic) | | |
| 5:30 - 6:00 | Social Sciences, Rm 4007 | Drinks Joint CASC/ANSER Banquet | | |

Abstracts

Berge, Simon and Wayne Caldwell

Co-operatives promoting community development through food access and skills programs

One of the fastest growing co-operatives sectors in Ontario are the local food co-operatives. What role local food co-operatives play in their communities and in the food system is a question that has not yet been answered in the literature. This research utilized multiple case studies, key informant interviews, literature review and a jurisdictional scan to understand the developmental drivers of the food co-operatives in Ontario, and how they act within their economic environment. After examining nine Ontario food co-operatives this research found that there is a mix of economic and social drivers that facilitate the development of these local food co-operatives. These developmental drivers are more keenly felt by co-operatives that maintain a membership base that is consolidated in a geographic area. The consolidated membership affects the services offered by the co-operatives for their communities as well as their financial decisions when investing in new business ventures.

Brown, Anna

Adventures in International Evaluation: Measuring the Impact of Co-operative Development

CCA will share its experience of evaluating our global, four year “Sustainable Livelihoods through Co-operatives 2011-15” program. Through this presentation, we will look at the practical realities of co-ordinating the measurement of results across programming in 18 projects in 13 countries. Evaluation questions were framed around relevance and performance and focused on measuring the impact of training, changes in gender equality, sustainability of co-operatives and how the projects met their intended outcomes. We will review the evaluation process, some of the methodology and tools, as well as lessons learned and good practices for CCA’s evaluations team moving forward. In addition, the presentation will also highlight the financial, human, social and environmental capital impacts specific to the program, and relate them to the power of co-operatives in communities in international development.

Brown, Leslie, Sonja Novkovic, and John McNamara

Tools to Measure Cooperative Performance and Impact

In May 2014, co-operative practitioners and researchers from Europe, North America and Latin America met in Halifax to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of various tools used by co-operatives to assess their performance and impact on society. The conference focused on identifying the available tools, how those tools engaged co-operative principles, created an impact on local communities, and built member and stakeholder engagement. The practices used to report on the co-operative model were also explored. This panel discussion will be built around the conference and the resulting book. The panel will discuss the five themes from the conference: (1) What data is currently collected and by whom; (2) How and why should co-operative principles be put into practice; (3) The community impact of co-operatives; (4) Member and stakeholder engagement; (5) Reporting practices and the movement to develop a more extensive range of metrics, covering a broader range of human and environmental needs.

Chambo, Suleman

Enabling Environments for Co-op Integration

This paper will address the policy and governance context for integration of different types of co-operative in Tanzania, Rwanda, and Uganda. The paper will point to key elements of an enabling environment, as well as touching on the effects of policy on co-operative members. Differences and similarities across the countries under study will be addressed, along with recommendations for support to co-operative integration.

Chambo, Suleman

Sharing Knowledge, Collaborating Across Cultures and Organizational Forms

Linking Research on co-operatives with theory and reflection on the commons suggests new avenues for understanding the development of decentralized, but collective forms of production, distribution and marketing. Further, interpreting collaborative university-organization- community research within the context of the sociology of the commons can offer insights into developing an intellectual commons across cultures and organizational forms. This session will cover the conceptual context and initial findings of an IDRC-funded project in Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Canada.

Chambo, Suleman

The Tanzanian Experience

In Tanzania, the co-operatives associated with the state were unequipped to deal with the competition that resulted from the trade liberalization of the 1990s (Bibby, 2006), and suffered a substantial decline in business success and reputation. In 2000, a special commission was established to attempt to rejuvenate the co-operative sector in the country, and concerted steps began to be taken to support co-operatives. The model that has emerged consists of Savings and Credit Co-ops (SACCOs), along with producer co-ops working in partnership with marketing co-ops. This panel presents the results of an analysis of different models of integration operating in three East African countries and Arctic Canada. An assessment of the impact on poverty alleviation and applicability for rural development is offered.

Champagne Racine, Jocelyn

La transformation de la culture organisationnelle d'une caisse Desjardins

La Caisse Desjardins a subi une mutation profonde sous la pression d'un environnement bancaire ayant des valeurs différentes du paradigme coopératif. Elle n'a d'autres choix que de travailler à rendre visible la distinction coopérative qui la différencie du monde bancaire. C'est pourquoi elle veut transformer sa culture organisationnelle en restant alignée sur les valeurs et les principes coopératifs dans le contexte contemporain actuel. Ce projet de recherche, de nature qualitative, sert à comprendre en temps réel, le processus de transformation d'une culture organisationnelle alignée sur les valeurs et les principes coopératifs. Cette étude de cas met également en évidence le rôle et les stratégies adoptées par les gestionnaires et le leader pour effectuer ladite transformation. La chercheuse assure une présence soutenue dans le milieu de recherche ce qui permet une collecte de données riche. Les résultats ajouteront aux connaissances académiques sur le changement de culture organisationnelle dans une coopérative en s'appuyant sur des données empiriques.

Clark, Patrick

Alternatives to Private Third Party Certification in Ecuador: A New Role for Public Policy in Agricultural Certification?

In the context of neoliberalism and the decline of state-led agrarian reform one of the strategies of the 'new rural development' in Latin America has been the development of initiatives with a focus on inserting small-scale producers into 'new nested markets' (van der Ploeg et. Al 2012). These 'new' markets often implicate entry by producers into third party private certification initiatives such as organic or Fair Trade certification. As various studies have demonstrated, one limitation of private certification is the economic cost of certification for small-producer cooperatives. In light of this, new models of certification are emerging in Ecuador characterized by collaboration between small producer cooperatives and local governments. This paper will examine three of these initiatives in Ecuador in terms of whether they reconstitute certification as a public rather than a private good and the potential they hold for scaling-up small producer organizations in commercial terms.

Côté, Daniel*Patronage dividend: an old concept with new clothes*

Credit Unions (CU) are unique organizations, but when looked upon in a modern environment, their distinctions are being challenged and a key question is “What difference does it make?” It is in this larger perspective that I have looked at the patronage dividend practices observed in CUs investigated through the lens of loyalty programs in six North American CUs. As shown in previous research (Côté, 2000, 2005, 2007, 2009), co-operatives have an inherent advantage on issues such as loyalty, which allows for integrating the co-operative distinction to the management of the co-operative affairs. This research on patronage dividend and shared surplus in credit unions is a contribution to complement previous findings on this new co-operative paradigm.

Dixon, Troy*“Why Co-ops Work: A Socio-Economic Impact Study of the Guelph Co-op Sector”*

Over a six months span ending in early 2015, the Ontario Co-operative Association will be conducting research on the social, economic and environmental impact that co-operatives and credit unions are making within the City of Guelph. There are a number of success stories that make Guelph a fitting case study to draw larger conclusions from. As far back as 1913, the Guelph Campus Co-op became the second oldest co-operative to be provincially incorporated. In 1959 Ontario’s largest co-operative enterprise, The Co-operators Group Limited, based its current headquarters within the municipality’s downtown core. Gay Lea Foods and Meridian Credit Union also rank among Guelph’s top 100 employers. Moreover, Guelph is home to the regional headquarters of the Canadian Lamb Producers Co-operative, Organic Meadow, as well as Ag Energy. By analyzing the co-operative sector’s strong ties to the Guelph community, this study intends to capture the extent to which employment, philanthropic work, and social capital is positively enhanced within the area’s distinct local context.

Ellerby, Justin*Diagnosing Contradictions of/through Co-operation*

This workshop will start by briefly encapsulating Cheney and Stohl's 2001 article "Participatory processes/paradoxical practices" and its typology of bitter, delicious, and/or ironic contradictions that we are often confronted with when co-operating at/in work (including member-volunteer governance, etc.). This is taken as a point of departure from which workshop participants can mutually and interactively share situations where instances of these types of contradictions have arisen in their own experience: the (at least) two constituent parts of the contradiction they faced, the assumptions and expectations that underlie these parts, and, where possible, suggestions for reframing, embracing and/or resolving these contradictions. Participants may offer each other questions, hunches, sympathies, and compassionate provocations. Participants are of course expected to be discreet and respectful in this potentially challenging and rewarding session of mutual self-reflection.

Ellerby, Justin*Greening together?: Exploring the relationship between highly-participative workplaces and ecological (less-un)sustainability*

The purpose of this paper is to explore how participation in highly-participative workplaces (particularly worker co-operatives) defines, enables, and impedes workplace outcomes towards ecological sustainability in a selected sample of firms. Highly-participative workplaces are understood here as firms where non-managerial workers have greater-than-average power and/or discretion in governance, operations, human resources, etc., and where conventional hierarchies are absent or function less to structure and constrain workers' decision-making. Dimensions undertaken include psychology, ethics, operations, governance, and organizational behavior.

Fairbairn, Brett

New Theory Meets Historic Co-operator: Raiffeisen as Social Innovator

How can new theoretical insights help people appreciate co-operative histories in new ways – and can we still learn new things from the lives of co-op founders to shape today’s emerging theories? This paper considers these questions by looking at recent scholarship in the area of social innovation, and at the life and work of 19th-century German co-operative founder Friedrich Wilhelm Raiffeisen, one of the originators of rural co-operatives and credit unions. Drawing from insights of neo-institutionalism and behaviouralism, theories of social innovation today highlight how social actors are constrained by and seek to change the social institutions within which they work. Canadians, notably researchers with Montréal’s CRISES centre, are among the leaders in this field. Raiffeisen’s process of invention and experimentation illustrates the dynamics of innovation in a 19th-century context and shows how creative agents invoke, collide with, and adapt the norms and ideas of their times.

Flaherty, Michelle and Morgan Teeple Hopkins

Labouring Under Old Assumptions: Time for a new Cooperative Model?

Recent years have seen important changes to the workplace, including the emergence of a sharing economy and non-traditional work relationships. Along with this shift, the Canadian workplace has seen a significant decline in unionization rates. This situation raises questions about whether the trade union model continues to be viable in the modern workplace. We consider why union rates have declined and discuss whether worker cooperatives can supplement or provide a practical alternative to unions. Our labour laws are based on traditional work relationships characterized by a single employer operating within a specific jurisdiction and employing workers with common interests. These premises make it difficult to reconcile Canadian labour laws with the changing labour market. While cooperatives and unions share similar core values such as democratic control, equality, and solidarity, there are some important differences. These key differences suggest that worker cooperatives are better-suited to represent workers within the changing workplace.

Fleming, David

The Canadian Co-operative Research Network

In this presentation, David will explore the background data and research that supported the creation of a Canadian Co-operative Research Network. He will focus on the efforts of the network to build open, collaborative tools to encourage the submission, collection and dissemination of co-operative research (both academic and practical) in both French and English from across the world into one repository in Canada. Further, he will explore successes and failures with respect to building accessible and free online tools as a method for encouraging greater engagement between prospective students and academics from other disciplines and co-operative research. In addition, the presenters will showcase the newly launched SE space and the Canadian Co-operative Research Network website, and further explain their benefits as premier sources for Canadian Cooperative Research.

Fulton, Murray, Jean-Pierre Girard, Eric Neudorf, and Travis Reynolds

An Assessment Framework for Demutualization and Co-operative Conversions

Over the past decade, the conversion of a number of high-profile co-operatives and mutuals (e.g., Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Canada Life) to investor ownership has led other co-operatives and mutuals to examine whether their organizations are also at risk of conversion or demutualization. Despite these high-profile conversions, no framework exists to assist current co-operatives and mutuals in assessing the potential for the demutualization of their organizations. The purpose of this paper is to present such a framework. The assessment framework indicates that four elements are linked with demutualization: (1) financially insolvency and/or lack of capital to remain competitive; (2) weak governance structures that provide management with too much power; (3) strong personal financial incentives for members to convert; and (4) lack of awareness by members of the co-operative’s value. Reducing the likelihood of

demutualization typically involves tackling all of these elements.

Gertler, Michael and JoAnn Jaffe

Co-operation with Cows: Reinventing the Prairie Grazing Commons

In 2012, the Canadian government announced plans to dismantle the federal community pasture system in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta. The restructuring of 2.3 million acres of public grazing lands has stimulated alliances among citizens interested in preserving some sort of public or co-operatively managed grazing commons. The Community Pasture Patrons Association of Saskatchewan represents pasture users and Public Pastures Public Interest links these beef producers with organizations representing conservationists, public sector unions, researchers, and Aboriginal constituencies. Looking across geographic and disciplinary boundaries, we consider organizational arrangements that facilitate multifunctionality in terms of equitable apportionment of grazing rights, sustainable grazing, grassland preservation, community access, and regulation of resource extraction. Linking two knowledge communities, we also explore how scholarship on the commons and on co-operatives can be beneficially integrated in the pursuit of social infrastructure for sustainable development.

Gillis, Roger

Collecting, Curating, and Preserving Co-operative Research

From 2009 to 2011, in attempts to address some of the issues surrounding the preservation, access, and dissemination of social economy research in Atlantic Canada, the Social Economy space (SE space) was created at Mount Saint Vincent University. The impetus behind this project was to ensure that the products of the Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network (SESRN) Project remained accessible past the end of the research project and make the research produced more easily accessible for members of the general public, practitioners in the field, and academics. In this presentation, Roger will discuss the importance of archiving academic and non-academic research outputs in online repositories, particularly as it relates to co-operative research. Further, he will also elaborate on the recent efforts of the MCRDN to incorporate new material from new research projects as well as expanding to include information resources focused explicitly on co-operatives and cooperative development.

Gordon Nembhard, Jessica

Cooperatives at the Crossroads: Transforming Communities or Gentrifying Communities

As co-op developers and urban cooperatives in the U.S.A. attempt to interest and engage more people of color in low-income neighborhoods, questions arise about how well the model serves them. Do the education materials reflect the cultural, language, class and racial/ethnic status, history and values of the target populations? How do we make the co-op models relevant, and transformative, and not oppressive and exploitative? For example, as food cooperatives enter a neighborhood to establish a new branch or open a store, do they come as members of the community in ways that will empower the existing, long term residents and connect to their needs? Or does the co-op gentrify the neighborhood? This paper explores these questions and more through theoretical and policy analysis, using observation of several food co-op expansion or development projects; as well as through her continuing research on African American cooperatives and subaltern cooperative economic development.

Guillotte, Claude-André

Stratégies des grandes coopératives agricoles : état des lieux

Les grandes coopératives agricoles se font questionner sur leurs orientations stratégiques de diversification et d'internationalisation. Les contextes varient d'un pays à un autre pour des raisons de législations et de pratiques différenciées. Cependant, une constante demeure : la mondialisation et la concurrence internationale forcent les grandes coopératives agricoles à adopter des stratégies qui questionnent les fondements coopératifs. La présente communication propose une revue de littérature sur les stratégies d'internationalisation des grandes coopératives agricoles françaises et canadiennes.

Gray, Thomas*Cooperative Tensions, Trends of Institutionalization, and the Promise of Multi-Stakeholder Cooperatives*

Historically, cooperatives have functioned within a context of intense economic pressure, increasingly concentrated markets dominated by multinational corporations, changes in the structure of agriculture, globalization and urbanization, among others. This context is felt such that, where once an organization was primarily oriented (though not exclusively so) to grass roots needs, equality, democratic logic, and participation, isomorphic pressure in the market draws and pushes them toward complex expertise, economic efficiency, authoritarian logic, and bureaucracy—thereby historically missing larger ecological and family farm survival needs. However this morphing of economic democracy to economic bureaucracy may help reveal a larger imperative in terms of the formulation of multi-stakeholder cooperatives (or solidarity cooperatives) responsive to ecological and broader socio-economic needs. Given this contextualization this paper explores the organizational outlines of such an organization.

Hammond Ketilson, Lou, Myrna Hewitt, and Jessica Gordon Nembhard*“Like Pinning Jello to the Floor”: Reflections on Efforts to Measure Impact*

This study focused on the services and programs credit unions provide, and the ways in which credit unions affect their stakeholders and the communities in which they locate. The challenge was essentially: how to demonstrate and measure impact and interactional outcomes? Surveys and interviews are not enough because not everyone can articulate these impacts and interactions – especially those who are inside the system and who are accustomed to using other language or focusing on more traditional outcomes. Multiple effects and interactions are difficult to identify and recognize, especially economic linkages such as where people spend their money, how they deploy resources, the value added, and so on. These issues and other challenges associated with working in partnership with a large and constantly evolving organization, will be discussed.

Hanson, Chantal Marie*Bridging the Gap: The Potential of Justice Tourism in Contributing to Sustainable Development in Montero, Peru*

Tourism is a growing social phenomenon and is considered to be among the largest industries in the world. Since WWII, tourism has become exponentially more accessible to an increasing number of people. The development of mass tourism in the developing world in the form of resorts, cruises, and package tours has been promoted as a means to promote economic opportunity, cultural preservation and environmental protection. Mass tourism in the developing world however, has also led to many environmental, social, cultural and economic consequences. The emergence of the concept of sustainable development in 1987 brought the notion of sustainability to the tourism industry but has since failed to promote many of its underlying values in sustainable tourism developments. This paper presents a unique alternative, justice tourism, to the discussion of sustainable tourism, supported by a case study of a coffee, sugar and cocoa cooperative (NORANDINO) in the Northern Andes of Peru.

Harris, Judith and Bernice Cyr*Cooperatives, Social Capital and the Economy of Safety*

We present preliminary findings of a project that defines principles of an alternative meta-economics – one that prioritizes the safety of vulnerable populations and that examines the costs and benefits of a safety approach to providing support services for women. Schumacher (1973), claimed that if we change the instructions that we give to an economic system we change values, goals, and behaviours,. Violence, according to Galtung (1969) is responsible for the difference between life’s potentials and actualities. In Manitoba, the lives of First Nations and Metis women are cut short by, on average, eight years. (PWHCE

2008) It is through a study of life in the inner city that we gain guidance towards creating an economy of safety. This project identifies steps towards closing gaps between life potentials and actualities. Most significant among those initiatives is the development of co-operatives that clearly align with principles of an economy of safety.

Haye, Asmaa

Credit Unions and Financing of Community Energy Projects – Trends, Opportunities and Challenges

Credit unions have played a central role in the proliferation of social finance across Canada, including Ontario (Harji, Kjorven, Geobey and Weisz, 2012). Notwithstanding, their involvement in the Community Energy (CE) space (i.e. community-owned energy generation, conservation and distribution) in Ontario has so far been limited. Using both primary and literature research, this paper identifies potential funding mechanisms by credit unions that can be tailored to suit the needs of the CE sector in Ontario. In order to do so, case studies of credit unions that developed effective social financing mechanisms for community-oriented projects from around the world will be highlighted. Subsequently, these mechanisms’ applicability in Ontario will be evaluated through a general overview of the regulatory environment in the province for such financing mechanisms. This paper is part of the SSHRC-funded ‘People, Power, Planet’ (PPP) research partnership, the project leads for which are Dr. J. J. McMurtry and Dr. Judith Lipp.

Hewitt, Myrna

Affinity Credit Union: Building Resilient Communities: Lessons from Practice

As a locally-owned financial co-operative, Affinity Credit Union takes pride in making a difference in people’s lives. We are socially responsible and support our community financially through sponsorships, donations, innovative lending products and employee voluntary work. We appreciate and value the cultural diversity of our members, and we are leaders in delivering financial services to First Nations people . Through a unique governance model we are closely connected to our members and community. We are committed to making a difference not just with financial commitment and intervention, but with active involvement of Affinity employees throughout the many organizations we support – creating a long term sustainable “hand up” not a “hand out” approach.

Hicks, Elizabeth and Leslie Brown

Reporting on the Relationship of Organizations with their Communities – Is there a Co-operative Difference in what is Measured and Reported from that of Investor-Owned Corporations?

This paper presents preliminary findings of a content analysis of the non-financial aspects of publicly available financial and social reports produced by retail food co-operatives and investor-owned corporations. For co-operatives that undertake non-financial reporting, we investigate how they report on a key principle of co-operation, “Concern for Community,” by looking at what is measured and how, their reasons for measuring such performance and whether co-operatives report similar measures or not. Next, recognizing co-operatives’ claims to be different from investor-owned corporations (ICA 2012), we compare the measures reported by the two groups. The co-operative principle, “Concern for Community,” suggests that what a co-operative measures and reports with respect to its relationship with its community may be different; but is it? This paper contributes to the literature on non-financial measurement and reporting (GRI, 2008; KPMG, 2013; Chen and Bouvain, 2009; and Mejri and Wolf, 2012) and implementing the “co-operative difference” (EuroCoop, 2008).

Hough, Peter, Eric Tusz-King, Sonja Novkovic*The Challenges of Working with Co-operatives to Develop Assessment Tools*

The roundtable will explore the challenges of working with co-operatives to develop tools for their use. The panelist all have direct experience in collaborating either as researchers and/or co-op practitioners, in the development of various tools which assist co-operatives in assessing their community or environmental impacts as well as their capacity to embody the Co-operative Values and Principles. Potential issues for discussion include: obtaining and generating interest and participation from co-ops and their members; the challenge of working with a multi-year timeline with changing co-op staff, priorities, etc.; the challenge of working with a mix of co-op volunteers and staff; the approval process for implementing the tools; integrating the tools into management and governance systems for their long term use; maintaining and refining tools (new versions) etc.; challenges relating to changing research staff, particularly w.r.t. the technical skills required; challenges surrounding simplicity of use vs quality of results; questions of ownership of the tools, once developed.

Jaffe, JoAnn, Terra Brocket, and Bernard Obaa*Cooperative Rural Development through public and common goods*

This session will explore the conceptual support that perspectives on the Commons can offer a collaborative project on co-operative development. This session will cover the conceptual context and initial findings of an IDRC-funded project in Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Canada.

Kar, Anirban*Business and sustainability: the cooperative option*

This paper examines the question: Are cooperatives better aligned with sustainability compared to joint stock corporations? Drawing from the social economy, the sustainability, and the strategy literature the paper proposes that the cooperatives have an advantage over joint stock corporations as the cooperative values and principles intrinsically align cooperatives with sustainability.

Karaphillis, George, Fiona Duguid, and Alicia Lake*Economic Impact of the Co-Operative Sector in Canada – Final Report and Update*

The paper examines the economic impact of the Co-Operative sector in Canada. Co-operatives play a strong role in the Canadian economy and in the social fabric of our nation. This study seeks to quantify the impact of this sector. Although similar work has been done at a provincial level in some jurisdictions, this is the first national study of its kind in this country. This research project uses revenue and employment data from Industry Canada and Statistics Canada to analyze the economic impact of all organizations that have registered as co-operatives in Canada. We used the Input-Output Analysis method to estimate the direct and spinoff benefits of this sector on the economy. The economic impact results for 2010 will be presented, with a comparison to the finalized results for 2009.

Kitching, Katherine*Creating Successful User Interfaces for Online Co-operative Research Repositories*

In this presentation, Katherine will discuss, as well as invite audience and fellow panelists' input on, some of the considerations and challenges involved in creating a functional and user-friendly interface for a web-based co-operative research repository. In particular, her presentation will focus on:

(1) Searchability: The trend towards user-defined tags replacing standardized keywords - and the advantages & pitfalls this brings. (this will touch on bilingualism challenges); (2) Methods of information collection – balancing being comprehensive & systematic with being selective, and the pros & cons of a user-based submission system; (3) Strategies for defining roles & responsibilities for the long-term management of shared online resources, and ensuring their sustainability; (4) Getting the word out – how to ensure these repositories are visited often, used frequently, and feel vibrant and up-to-date.

Landrie-Parker, Dazawray*Social Capacity in Rural and Aboriginal Western Canada*

Unmet needs are the starting point for co-operative development. However, needs alone will not lead to co-operative development success. This presentation offers information from 30 community meetings held in rural and Aboriginal communities across western Canada regarding the nature of the challenges facing these communities and the extent to which each has the social capacity to be able to collectively address these needs. Location, access to skilled labour, or knowledge of the co-operative model may limit development efforts. In others, a community may not have the leadership capacity to effectively lead co-operative development activities, the social structures required to allow community members to act collectively, or the political structures necessary for the sharing of authority. Included in the discussion will be how factors such as trust, authority structures, norms, education, social sanctions, and social stratification affect a community's ability to be able to respond collectively to the challenges it faces.

Leclerc, André, Leslie Brown and Elizabeth Hicks*A comparative analysis of the Co-operative Difference perception by the employees of Caisses populaires and retail co-operatives*

In a recent paper, Leclerc, Guihur & Marcoux (2015) proposed a model to explain the determinants of employees' perception of the co-operative difference through the human resource management practices. Sharing the vision, along with HRM practices of participatory leadership and training are found to contribute to a positive perception of the co-operative difference, affective and normative commitment of the employees, and ultimately help in retaining employees in the co-op. The model was tested using data from a survey in a financial services co-op network, the Caisses populaires acadiennes. Since then, we have used a similar questionnaire with Co-op Atlantic employees. Access to these two data bank allows for comparison between sectors. Hence, the main objective of our paper is to verify if differences exist between sectors in the employees' perception of the co-operative difference. This comparative analysis will focused on key questions about the Co-operative Difference and will show the contribution of the socio-demographics of the respondents.

Leviten-Reid, Catherine*Reflections on Housing and the Cooperative Difference*

This presentation reviews the results of research projects that were conducted as part of the SSHRC CURA on Measuring the Coop Difference as they relate to housing co-operatives. This presentation argues that the co-operative difference lies in the community-building dimension of this type of housing and in the building of skills, self-confidence and social ties that occur through involvement in this housing.

Massie, Merle*Co-operative Development in Rural and Aboriginal Western Canada*

Co-operative development is practiced around the world with successful variations, but less work has been done on conceptualizing co-operative development, the activities required for successful co-operative development, and how best to carry out these activities. This presentation conceptualizes co-operative development drawing on qualitative and quantitative results presented previously in this panel. In essence, it builds a co-operative development model based on identified needs and gaps 'on the ground.' The conceptualization integrates economics, psychology, social cohesion, social innovation, organizational behaviour and political economy. Attention is paid to the role played by key individuals motivated to find solutions to problems and issues facing their community. At the same time, this conceptualization recognizes the critical importance of successful co-operative development norms and practices already in place. In combining these insights, the paper concludes with some ideas about how co-operative development might be best structured to be as effective as possible.

McKee, Gregory and Albert Kagan

Cooperative Lenders and Dodd Frank Compliance within Real Estate Lending: Cost Implications

The Dodd-Frank Act was passed in 2010 and was intended to facilitate transparency in financial transactions. Among the features of this bill was the Mortgage Reform Act which imposed new duties and obligations on loan originators, adding to compliance regulations on financial institutions. Cooperative financial organizations were impacted by this Act. Compliance implies that the cost structure of cooperative lenders will increase. Within the structure of cooperative lending the concern is whether the institution can remain a competitive provider of financial products while managing the enhanced regulatory burden and the ability of alternative lenders to sustain lower product returns (versus other loan products). This paper addresses the impact of regulatory compliance upon cooperative lenders within select segments of the rural financial sector. Data from call reports are analyzed to address cost changes, mortgage volumes and patterns of mortgage commitments reflected in the changing regulatory environment.

Melnyk, George

The Canadian Co-operative Movement and the National Film Board of Canada: A Historical Survey of Co-op Films 1940-2000

The mandate of the National Film Board of Canada was to bring Canadian life to the attention of Canadians and others abroad. Right from its inception in 1939 the NFB began making documentaries on co-operatives in Canada. This paper examines the history of films about co-ops made by the NFB from 1940 to 2000. In total the paper identifies 33 co-op-themed films that the NFB made in a 60-year period. It asks three fundamental questions of these films. First, how well did NFB production of co-op films track the historical evolution of co-ops in Canada? Second, what kind of narrative did the films express about co-ops? Third, were these films pedestrian and conventional in their style or were they innovative or experimental in terms of the genre? The paper provides insight into the role of co-op films in developing and promoting the movement and the co-op idea.

McMurtry, J.J. and Jennifer Sumner

Thinking Through Cooperative Capital

The issue of economic capital has been central to cooperative theory and practice from the first forms of formal cooperative in the 19th century to today. The issue of capital has however tended to focus on the individual – individual capital financiers (Robert Owen), individual benefit from cooperative participation (the dividend), and individual cooperatives collecting and managing “their” capital. This paper looks at the benefits and limits of these individual conceptions of capital, and proposes a different conception of capital – collective cooperative capital. Building on the economic conceptions of John Loxley, this paper looks at capital in a cooperative economy as something that can be linked and leveraged towards a cooperative economy through conscious economic planning within similar-minded cooperatives and a formalization of economic relationships in purchasing policies. It then examines these theories in practice through an examination of the Local Organic Food Cooperative Network.

Michaud, Myriam and Luc K. Audebrand

Apprendre à coopérer en jouant : pratique et critique des jeux coopératives

La question de l'éducation coopérative préoccupe de plus en plus le milieu coopératif. Au-delà de l'affirmation de l'importance d'éduquer, former et informer les jeunes, les citoyens et les décideurs aux valeurs et principes coopératifs, se pose la question des approches pédagogiques les plus appropriées à cette fin. Dans cette optique, un certain nombre de « jeux coopératifs » sont proposés aux coopérants et éducateurs. Certains visent à préparer les individus à démarrer ou à participer à une coopérative (le jeu «

Co-opoly ») ; d'autres visent davantage le développement d'habiletés et de compétences transversales jugées favorables à l'entrepreneuriat coopératif. Dans cet atelier, les participants seront invités à expérimenter certains de ces jeux, pour ensuite mettre en commun leurs impressions et réflexions à propos de la valeur pédagogique de ceux-ci. Dans quelle mesure ces jeux sont-ils efficaces pour enseigner le modèle coopératif et les habiletés coopératives ?

Cet atelier s'appuie sur la participation active des individus, d'une part en les invitant à expérimenter les jeux coopératifs, et d'autre part en les incitant à co-construire une réflexion critique quant à la valeur et la richesse pédagogique de ces approches. L'animation de la discussion suivant l'activité d'expérimentation s'inspire des principes de la « communauté de recherche philosophique », une approche pédagogique permettant de miser sur la pensée critique et créative des participants.

Michaud, Myriam and Luc K. Audebrand

Une coopérative de service qui ne vend pas de service » : le paradoxe de l'Accorderie, coopérative de solidarité

Une organisation doit-elle absolument « vendre » pour avoir une activité économique ? C'est l'une des questions avec laquelle est aux prises l'Accorderie, une coopérative de solidarité offrant à ses membres une structure d'échange de service créatrice de lien social. À mi-chemin entre la logique de l'OBNL et celle de la coopération, cette organisation constitue un cas inhabituel mais révélateur d'une coopérative dont la mission sociale, fortement prépondérante, est en constante tension avec la mission économique. Une étude de cas longitudinale nous permet de mettre en évidence les tensions et paradoxes vécus dans cette coopérative de solidarité, contribuant à enrichir les connaissances sur ce nouveau type de coopérative, d'une part, ainsi que la réflexion théorique sur l'approche des paradoxes dans le champ de la recherche en management, d'autre part. Les résultats de cette étude permettent en outre de cibler certains besoins de formation spécifique répondant aux paradoxes identifiés.

Ng, Lily

A national co-operative patronage program : a case exploring issues, benefits and challenges

The primary subject matter of this case study concerns the opportunity for co-operatives to utilize increasingly widespread customer relationship reward programs, not just as a vehicle to increase repeat business and generate new business as loyalty programs (LP) promise, but to meet member and community need. It could fulfill the overarching shared goal of co-ops for a fairer, participatory and sustainable economy by reinventing mainstream loyalty programs to a national co-op patronage program. The case explores available LP software (app) with mobile devices that allow easier administration and data information for co-op patronage payments. In so doing, this case study is designed to encourage participants to think about required capital bases and then to set out a business case for investing in a loyalty program for their co-operative and for a national co-op patronage program in Canada.

Obaa, Bernard

The Ugandan Experience

In the late 1990s, the Uganda Co-operative Alliance (UCA) and primary co-ops came together to try to develop a new model that would serve farmers' needs in the new context, and the Area Co-operative Enterprise (ACE) was born. The ACE, a marketing co-op, meets the needs of the farmers by specializing in the marketing of multiple crops (as distinct from its predecessors). Since 2004, the Uganda Co-operative Alliance (UCA) has been working to develop and support an integrated co-operative model for sustainable rural development, adding financial (Savings and Credit Co-ops) and production co-operatives (Rural Producer Organizations) to the integrated structure. This panel presents the results of an analysis of different models of integration operating in three East African countries and Arctic Canada. An assessment of the impact on poverty alleviation and applicability for rural development is offered.

Papadopoulou, Lambrini

Journalistic Co-operatives in Times of Crisis: The case of Greek newspaper coop “Efimerida ton Sintakton” and its role in saving journalism and democracy

Economic crisis transformed quickly into social crisis affecting every aspect of people’s life in Greece: employment, health, education. In this context, media organisations have lost their role as watchdogs and gatekeepers. This case study examines the rise of co-operative journalism in Greece through a series of in-depth interviews with journalists working at newspaper coop “Efimerida ton Sintakton”. One of the most important findings is that media coops seem to be quite resilient in times of crisis hence renewing journalistic practices and empowering democracy. The objective of teaching this case study would be to inform students about this new kind of media entrepreneurship which is emerging in times of crisis, creates employment and promises to bring back all the long lost journalistic roles, such as gatekeeper and watchdogs. Questions that could be posed are: Which is the threat for democracy by having weak media? How can co operative business models help in the media field? etc.

Petrou, Tim

Comparative Co-operative Law Programme

The panel will be opened by a brief discussion of a comparative methodology adopted from a EURISCE precedent for examining co-operative legal frameworks and identifying the principal characteristics upon which comparisons can be made and best practices uncovered. Three panelists who have undertaken to survey co-operative laws for individual jurisdictions in Canada will discuss their findings. A discussion comparing and contrasting the strengths and weaknesses of each co-operative legal framework will ensue and comments from the audience will be welcome. The aim is to encourage greater participation in the programme, creating comprehensive knowledge base for future co-operative legal studies.

Quarter Jack, Laurie Mook, Susan Henry, Edward Jackson, John Maiorano

Balancing Social and Financial Objectives in Credit Unions

Although credit unions have economic significance, they were associations born of a social mission to provide credit or loans to people who could not access them from other financial institutions and to provide them at affordable interest rates (MacPherson, 1999). As such they have both a financial and a social bottom line. These bottom lines may be mutually reinforcing but also may be in competition with each other for organizational resources. There is a tension between “the need to develop and maintain a business model and generate capital to sustain the financial health of the enterprise” and “social action to improve the quality of the community and maintain social credibility” (Moizer & Tracey, 2010, 255). The papers in this panel all contribute to understanding how credit unions balance social and financial objectives. They include an analysis of Alterna Savings’ microloan program over the past five years and the recommendations for changes to its micro finance policies based on lessons learned; a discussion of Vancity’s community investment program and support for co-operatives, and how this has contributed to strengthening its business; and a national study comparing geographical area that credit unions and banks are located in terms of socio-economic factors.

Ragainis, Andrius

Sustainability Accounting Systems and the Obstacles to Implementation for Ontario’s Co-operatives

In this empirical paper I describe my findings to the main research question: What are the main reasons why few co-ops in Ontario implement social accounting for sustainability? Co-ops are often perceived to be more sustainable than capitalist corporations, but they seem to hesitate to demonstrate those perceived advantages through social accounting. Based on preliminary secondary research, the obstacles to implementation are time and resource shortages. The paper will be based on the results of an online survey and interviews of co-operative representatives based in Ontario. I will overview the prominent social accounting systems that are in existence, including ones designed for co-operative use. I will

discuss the co-ops' experiences in (attempting to) implement(ing) social accounting systems, the flaws of those systems, the role of co-ops' members in the process, obstacles to implementation encountered, and benefits expected and achieved.

Reed, Darryl and Patrick Clark

Fair Trade Producer Co-operatives and Public Policy Initiatives in Latin America

This presentation draws upon the *governance* literature to distinguish and examine different forms of fair trade governance initiatives, including various forms of non-state certification programs as well as other forms of fair trade governance. In taking up this task, the paper focuses most closely upon two new fair trade governance initiatives in Latin America; one a non-state certification program initiated by fair trade producer associations and, the other, a state-led governance initiative that seeks to integrate fair trade in its larger trade and development strategy, including the promotion of a social and solidarity economy.

Rixon, Daphne

Neighbourhood Credit Union: To merge or not to merge

This teaching case is based on a small credit union, Neighbourhood Credit Union that was evaluating a possible merger with another larger credit union, Pleasantview. The CEO, Ben Chang and Neighbourhood's Board of Directors (Board) were interested in a merger that would enhance member benefits via improved technology, innovative delivery channels and a more robust financial planning and wealth management capability. The initial due diligence review was complete and the memorandum of understanding signed. Chang, however, was becoming increasingly concerned about the lack of strategic fit between Neighbourhood and Pleasantview. Chang was scheduled to meet with the Board in four days. He needed a recommendation that would address the current merger situation, as well as provide other options for Neighbourhood.

Rutaremara, Vincent

Inter-co-operation among co-operatives - the Rwandan Story

This paper will begin with an introduction to the context - the co-operative movement in Rwanda, briefly addressing: regulation, capacity building, sector-specificity (no multi-purpose co-ops), and the role of government and other development partners in strengthening the co-op movement. It will then present findings from the Rwanda portion of the IDRC-funded research on cooperative integration, which has focused on rice-growing co-operatives in Rwanda.

Sanchez Bajo, Claudia, Jamie Campbell, and Kaye Grant

Challenging co-operative decision making

This field business case study, under the theme of Co-operatives and Human Capital, is linked to two ICA cooperative principles: education training and information, and cooperation among cooperatives. The case is a story about challenges of collective group decision-making, and the opportunities faced by the group in a worker cooperative that closed in 2014. With 'a point in time' approach in 2011, it will debate various options including those of mediators. The study will include narratives, direct quotations from those involved, a timeline of the organization and a SWOT plus an attachment on budgets. Interviews will be recorded. No personal names will appear. The analysis will help detect criteria improving efficient group dynamics and decision making; coordination, motivation, dynamics and outcomes. This learning tool aims at enhancing the understanding of cooperative contexts with multiple decision-makers, and raise awareness of the available tools and methods enhancing cooperative decision making.

Sanchez Bajo, Claudia*The return of cooperative housing, emerging models*

Under the theme Co-operative Ownership and Finance Models, this paper will discuss the emerging models of co-operative housing and analyse their patterns, commonalities and differences, potential and limitations. While the co-operative housing movement confronts the end of government subsidies in Canada, housing co-operatives are back on the political agenda in Europe: Germany, France, the UK, Spain, Italy and Switzerland. In Europe, since the global financial crisis in 2007, austerity policies have cut down budgets for social housing, resulting in "an increased rate of mortgage defaults and, consequently, homelessness due the lack of supply to meet this increased demand for affordable housing" (UNECE, 2014). In the US, they are also making a comeback as part of the so-called 'shared equity' model that includes Community Land Trusts -CLT- and "apply a co-operative ideal to home and land ownership", according to Mueller & Tighe 2013).

Schugurensky, Daniel and Fiona Duguid, Karsten Mundel, Erica McCollum, Behrang Foroughi, Manuel Larrabure and Marcelo Vieta*Informal learning and community engagement in social housing and cooperatives*

This panel brings together four presentations on the learning dimension of community engagement and participatory democracy in social housing and cooperatives. The first presentation will introduce the panel and provide a brief conceptual and methodological discussion about the connections among the different presentations. The second presentation will deal with informal learning among members of housing cooperatives. The third presentation will examine informal learning through participatory democracy (particularly participatory budgeting) in public housing. The last presentation will analyze informal learning in the so-called 'new cooperativism' (worker recuperated factories).

Siccion, Olivia Ann S.*Effectiveness of the Cooperative Management Practices in the Province of Bataan*

Cooperatives are considered a vital part of the Philippine economy, a sector with a proven immense contribution to the country. However, issues on poor governance and management, a flawed culture, and insolvency confront cooperatives. The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), in its efforts to boost the sector, has been aggressive in its programs in extending support. However, the agency's role in its supervision is not all-encompassing. The responsibility rests on the cooperative itself, specifically the board of directors, management and officers. Descriptive research was utilized to assess the effectiveness of the management practices, which includes organizational structure, policies and procedures, characteristics of the governing body, transparency and accountability and member participation. Structured questions were distributed to 150 respondents, members, board of directors, managers and committee officers, from randomly selected cooperatives in the province of Bataan.

Sousa, Jorge, Erin Hancock, and J.J. McMurtry*Exploring Education for Co-operation: Applying Rochdale to the Social Economy*

Educational institutions and practices have played an increasingly vital role to preparing individuals to be actively involved in the current educational practices lack a common frame that demonstrates its relevance to the Social Economy. Consequently, many approaches to education more often highlight technical skills and management practices that do not convey values needed to build up Social Economy. It is proposed that revisiting the Co-operative movement's approach to education for co-operation, as championed by the Rochdale pioneers, can provided coherence across educational practices. Erin Hancock will present research that explores the application of the International Co-operative Alliance's fifth co-operative principle. Jorge Sousa will explore the notion that many current educational practices do not demonstrate the unique communitarian focus of the Social Economy. JJ McMurtry will discuss the prospect of developing an educational framework for different sectors of the Social Economy.

Stocki, Ryszard and Peter Hough

The Co-op Index - the tool's reliability for co-operative development: Analysis of data collected so far, and plans for the future

The Co-op Index was meant to be a handy diagnostic tool for the organizational development of worker co-ops. Although many papers and book chapters have described its functions and diagnostic model (Stocki, Prokopowicz, Novkovic, 2012; Novkovic, Prokopowicz, Stocki, 2012; Hough & Novkovic, 2012; Stocki, & Lapot, 2014), no empirical data collected from co-ops using the tool has yet been presented. This is the first presentation of all empirical data gathered so far from Canadian and American co-operatives who have used the tool. First, we plan to present psychometric features of the tool, including correlations between questions and scales, as well as reliability of all 30 subscales of the questionnaire. Second, we will present the first mean characteristics of the co-operatives diagnosed so far, which may serve as benchmarks for future users of the tool. We will conclude the presentation with a list of changes in the tool which will allow for the development of a leaner and more reliable 2.0 version.

Sumner, Jennifer and Cassie Wever

Cultivating Alliances: The Local Organic Food Co-ops Network

The Local Organic Food Co-ops (LOFC) Network is a coalition of co-operatives that specialize in locally produced organic food in the province of Ontario. From an initial group of 18 co-ops in 2010, the LOFC Network now includes well over 70 active co-ops and is still growing. Unlike the ruthlessly competitive neoliberal market, the LOFC Network shares information and creates a platform for collaboration and co-operation in the realm of food, all with the aim of establishing a sustainable food system. Moreover, in contrast to the industrial food system, the LOFC Network advocates for fair prices and income for farmers, fresh healthy food for eaters, and fulfilling work and fair wages for workers in the food system, in addition to saving energy, building the soil, protecting water and celebrating good food, culture and community. Using a political economy framework, the paper will present findings from a recent pilot study of the LOFC Network. It will propose that by combining the co-operative movement with the local food movement and the organic farming movement, the LOFC Network is creating a potent social, economic and environmental alternative that promotes participatory democracy, supports a collaborative economy and protects ecological integrity.

Taras, Victoria and Lou Hammond Ketilson

Measuring the Impact of Affinity Credit Union Community Investment Programs

As co-ops, credit unions are expected to adhere to the 7th co-op principle, concern for the community, but they may have a smaller positive impact on communities than desired or expected. Do individual credit unions still contribute sufficient social capital to enhance community economic development? The five community investment programs provided by Affinity Credit Union in Saskatchewan were investigated to determine their impact on communities within the province. A focus group, semi-structured telephone interviews, and in-person interviews with individuals who benefited from these programs were conducted. Analysis of the findings is forthcoming, but preliminary findings appear to indicate that the programs have had a positive impact on communities through financial literacy education, funding community projects, and by providing loans that could not otherwise be obtained.

Uluorta, Hasmet

Co-operatives and 21st Century Globalization: Leamington Canada and Girgarre Australia

In early 2014, the H.J. Heinz Company announced that it would close its tomato processing facility in Leamington, Ontario. The announcement produced significant distress in the city of 28,000 that identified itself as the tomato capital of Canada. Faced with the prospect of 800 layoffs a variety of stakeholders soug

viable alternatives to the facility's closure. The facility was eventually sold to a private investor group. A similar circumstance occurred in Girgarre, Australia in 2011. In that case however, the closure of the Heinz tomato facility led to a successful movement to purchase the facility and transform it into a co-operative. According to scholars, such as Richard Wolff (2012) and Gar Alperovitz (2013), co-operatives can act as an antidote to the failures of capitalism. So why was it successful in Girgarre, but not in Leamington? This paper answers key questions about the potential of co-operatives through a critical analysis of the claims of co-operative supporters. The paper seeks to contextualize the movement in an era of disruptive technologies: entrepreneurialism, transformations of state forms and social economies.

Vieta, Marcelo

Learning in Struggle: Argentina's New Worker Cooperatives as Transformative Learning Organizations

This article delves into the nexus between workers' conversions of troubled firms in Argentina into worker cooperatives (empresas recuperadas por sus trabajadores, or ERTs), the processes of learning new cooperative skills and values through struggle, and the subsequent transformations of communities. To do so, the study deploys research findings from workplace ethnographies and in-depth interviews at four ERT case studies. The article shows how transformations of employees to self-managed workers; troubled firms into worker cooperatives; and the social, cultural, and economic revitalization of communities catalyzed by ERTs are rooted simultaneously in inter-cooperative and intra-cooperative informal learning dynamics. A theoretical framework combining class-struggle analysis and workplace and social action learning approaches helps clarify how this informal "learning in struggle" ultimately makes ERTs transformative learning organizations for workers, organizations, and communities.

Vieta, Marcelo, M. Derya Tarhan and Fiona Duguid

Collective Entrepreneurship in Canada's New Co-operatives

Drawing on a multi-dimensional research initiative looking at an illustrative cross-section of new co-operatives in Canada through the lens of 'collective entrepreneurship', our findings reveal that Canada's new co-ops are supported by 'circles of entrepreneurship' (Spear, 2009), involving collective learning within co-operatives and the support of external individual and institutional stakeholders. Furthermore, 'multivocality', which refers to 'the ability to combine... numerous voices as well as to speak to stakeholders in an accessible manner and straddle audiences' (Montgomery & Dacin, 2010: 384), has been identified as a key factor during the early stages of co-operative development in Canada. Our findings point out that while multivocality can stimulate and enhance collective learning processes, it also poses challenges to their effective governance.

Wu, Haotao

Exploring Co-operative Development In Rural and Aboriginal Western Canada : The Co-operative Innovation Project

The first presentation provides a snapshot of rural and Aboriginal communities in western Canada from a quantitative perspective. Using publicly available data from Statistics Canada, provincial governments and health districts, and data collected for the CIP through a targeted questionnaire and a random phone survey, this paper examines changes in rural and Aboriginal communities over the last thirty years. It paints a picture of the characteristics of rural and Aboriginal communities today, including observations about the extent to which these communities have unmet needs, the human and social capital that is available to support co-operative development, and the extent to which business and co-operative knowledge are present in the community. Key questions include the degree to which communities are becoming more and more differentiated, with the problems and issues they face differing significantly across communities. The diversity of human and social capital across the communities will also be examined.

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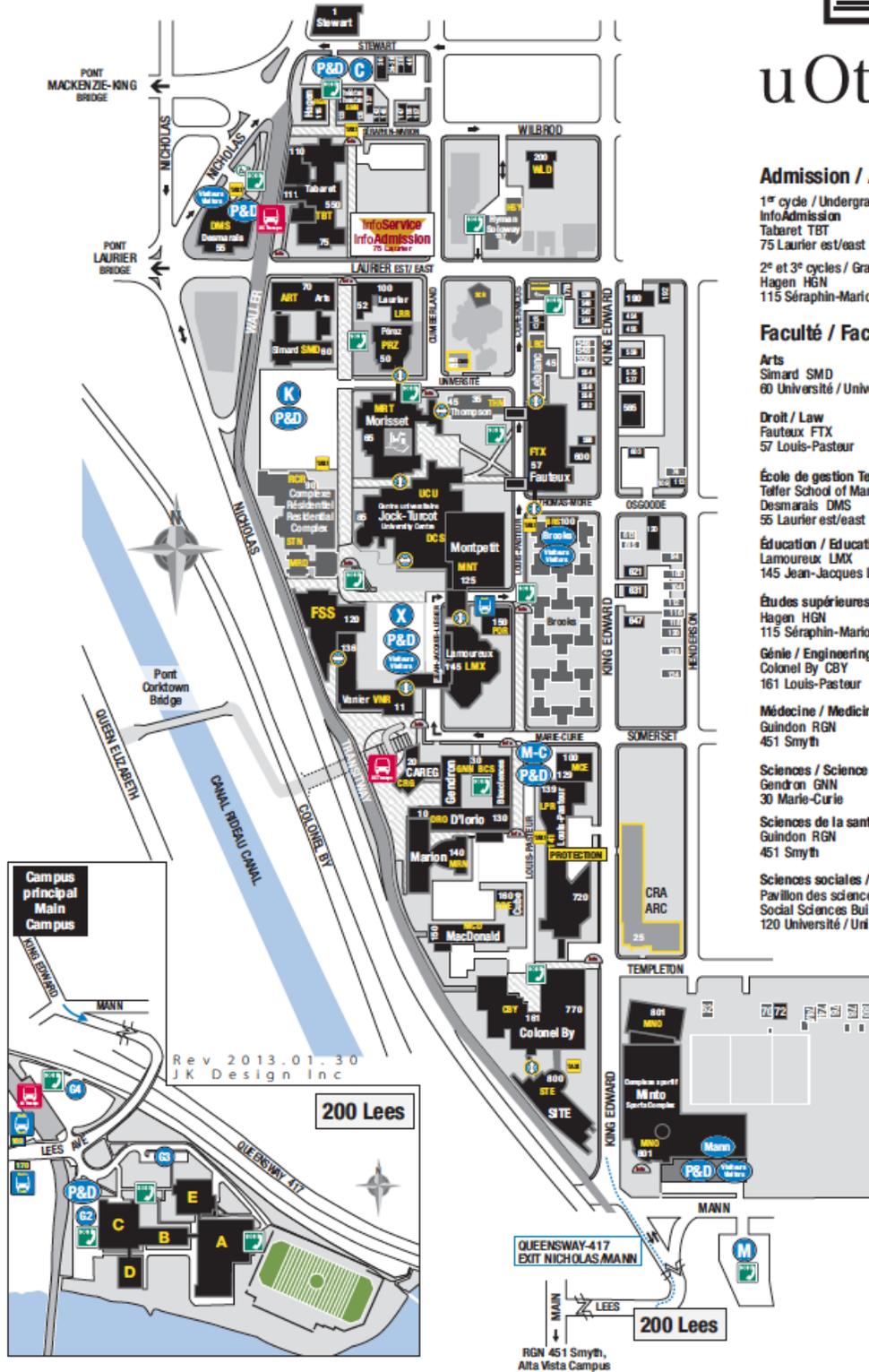
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