

CASC | ACÉC

Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation Since 1982 L'Association Canadienne pour les Études sur la Coopération Depuis 1982

L'Assemblée Annuelle 2023 Annual Meeting Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation L'Association canadienne pour les études sur la coopération

Taking account,
expanding the circle and envisioning new futures
Faire le point,
élargir le cercle et envisager de nouveaux futurs

FINAL PROGRAM

MAY 29 - MAY 31, 2023 YORK UNIVERSITY, TORONTO ONTARIO CANADA

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AS PART OF CONGRESS 2023 of the



FEDERATION FOR THE HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



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TIPS FOR MODERATORS AND PRESENTERS

Guidelines for Moderators

As session moderator it is your responsibility to be in the allocated room at least 5 minutes before the session begins. 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 20-30 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 three-four 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 beforehand.
- 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 5 minutes avant le début de la présentation. 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 20-30 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 trois-quatre 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.
- Présentez vos conclusions finales et terminez votre présentation dans les temps.

CASC/ACÉC 2023: PROGRAM AT A GLANCE/ VUE D'ENSEMBLE DU PROGRAMME

YORK UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP:

https://www.federationhss.ca/en/congress2023/maps

MONDAY MAY 29

All Day	CASC Conference Greeting Table at Founders College 105					
08:30 – 10:00	A1: Community/academic co-creation of co- operative knowledge (Founders College 110) Fursova; Duguid; Heras & Vieta Joint session with ANSER Moderator: Judith Harris	A2: Co-operative Proposals for Rural and Regional Development (Founders College 114) Reed; Clark; Awotwe Moderator: Kristen Murray				
10:00 - 10:30	BREAK (Founders College 118) / CONGRESS BIG THINKING SERIES					
10:30 – 12:00	B1: Keynote Address (Lassonde Building – LAS A) Re-imagining cooperative futures: Africana women cooperators on solidarity for Canada and the World Dr. Caroline Shenaz Hossein CASC/ANSER Joint Session – Generously funded by the Open Programming Fund of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences This is an Open Event available to all Congress attendees Moderator: Derya Tarhan					
12:00 – 1:30						
1:30 – 3:00 (1PM START TIME FOR C1)	EARLY START AT 1:00 PM C1: We have always known economic cooperation!: The Diverse Solidarities Economies Collective (DISE) advances the practice and thought of cooperativism among Africana People (Lassonde Building – LAS A) Stack; Nelson; Barrett; Pearson; Esnard; Hossein Joint session with ANSER Facilitator: Caroline Shenaz Hossein	C2: Consolidation of co-operative efforts: Federations, leagues, and incubators (Founders College 114) Boucher & Pigeon; Murray Moderator: John Simoulidis				
3:00 – 3:30	BREAK					
3:30- 5:00	D1: CASC Annual General Meeting (Curtis Lecture Halls-CLH B)					
5:00-6:00	TRAVEL TIME TO RECEPTION					
6:00-8:00	CASC RECEPTION IN DOWNTOWN TORONTO Cecil Community Centre 58 Cecil St, Toronto, ON M5T 1N6					

TUESDAY, MAY 30

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All Day	CASC Conference Greeting Table at Founders College 105			
08:30 - 10:00	E1: Theoretical explorations into co-operative practice (Founders College 110) Warren; Ziegler Moderator: Marcelo Vieta	E2: Practitioners Finding Heart, Igniting Energy (Founders College 114) 'Kego Ume-Onyido; Szaflarska; Mikulec; Christianson Moderator: Judith Harris	E3: Co-operative underpinnings and potentialities of higher education (Founders College 117) Bayani; Jodah; Rixon Moderator: Darryl Reed	
10:00 - 10:30	BREAK (Founders College 118)			
10:30 – 12:00	F1: Keynote Address: Mamawicihitowin (Working Together) (Lassonde Building – LAS B) Milton Tootoosis This is an Open Event available to all Congress attendees Moderator: Isobel Findlay			
12:00 – 1:30	BREAK / CONGRESS BIG THINKING SERIES			
1:30 – 3:00	G1: Taking stock of diversity and intersectionality of co- operation in Canada (Founders College 110) Sengupta & Abou-el-Kheir; Redekop; Tarhan Moderator: Esther Awotwe	G2: Co-operative governance: Practical reflections and roadmaps (Founders College 114) Pigeon, Mou & Jaggi; Gray Moderator: Fiona Duguid	G3: Canadian Co-operatives and Fairtrade: Research and Practice (Founders College 117) Reed; Saunders; Fridell; Storie; Barrett; Clark Moderator: Darryl Reed; John Simoulidis	
3:00 - 3:30	BREAK			
3:30 -5:00	H1: Human Books Library (Founders College 152) 'Kego Ume-Onyido; Szaflarska; Mikulec; Christianson			

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

08:30 - 10:00	I1: Arts, Aesthetics and Co-operative Consciousness (Founders College 110) Harris; Beange; Orfanidis Moderator: Russ Christianson	I2: Territorial autonomy and governance in Latin America and the Caribbean (Founders College 114) Cordoba; Edmonds; Gonzalez Facilitator: Marcelo Vieta	
10:00 - 10:30	BREAK (Founders College 118)		
10:30 – 12:00	J1: Democratizing and Cooperativizing Work: Moving Beyond Crises By Reorganizing the Economy (Lassonde Building – LAS A) Moderator: Marcelo Vieta Participants: Ferreras; Cheney; Emi Do; Noyes; Vieta; Warren; Heras; Ferreira CASC/ANSER Joint Session – Generously funded by the Open Programming Fund of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences This is an Open Event available to all Congress attendees		
12:00-1:30	BREAK / CONGRESS BIG THINKING SERIES		
1:30-3:00	K1: Business Conversions to Social Purpose Organizations for Equity-Denied Groups (EDGs) (Founders College 110) Maxwell; 'Kego Ume-Onyido; Vieta; Nembhard Facilitator: Janielle Maxwell	K2: Envisioning and Safeguarding a Future of Co-operation (Founders College 114) Campbell, Piscitelli, & Geobey; Orfanidis; Brunette Moderator: Esther Awotwe	
3:00-3:30	BREAK		

3:30-5:00	L1: Community Collaboration for Well-being (Founders College 110)	L2: Remembering Ian MacPherson and Looking Forward (Founders College 114)
	Facilitator: Catharine Chamberlain	Facilitator: Darryl Reed
	Bobb; Chamberlain; Nanavati; Sahota	McMurtry; Brunette; Reed

SESSION AND PAPER ABSTRACTS

MONDAY, MAY 29

A1: Community/academic co-creation of co-operative knowledge

Founders College 110 *Moderator: Judith Harris*

CASC/ANSER Joint Session

Feminist intersectional solidarity in practice: early insights from the co-leadership of an emerging worker co-op Julia Fursova, University of New Brunswick

The paper is a case study of of Transform Practice, an emerging non-profit worker. Its members are diverse women and non-binary folks. In 2021, Transform Practice began providing services to diverse actors doing systems change work. The paper introduces the concept of feminist intersectional solidarity (FIS) as practice in the context of the emerging co-op leadership. The proposed presentation discusses practical aspects of living and embodying FIS as a group of co-leaders of an emerging organization, who want to avoid the reproduction of oppressive structures and ways of working. Focusing on resource flows, knowledge creation and relationships as pathways for integrating feminist intersectional solidarity in leadership, the paper shares lessons that emerged in the context of the co-op's goals of facilitating systems change work as a group of diverse individuals advancing diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion work in the non-profit and public sector.

Opportunities and Strengthening the Cooperative Sector in Eswatini

Fiona Duquid, Independent Researcher

Eswatini is a small Kingdom nation in southern Africa. While the Swazis of Eswatini have worked co-operatively for centuries, over the last 80 years a formal co-operative sector has emerged. Despite the success of these co-operatives, especially in agriculture and personal savings and loans, there are many more opportunities for co-operatives to grow the domestic economy, provide employment opportunities, expand options for women, produce goods and services within Eswatini, and contribute to community economic development. This research had three objectives: 1. to build the context as understood by stakeholders; 2. to co-create opportunities for a robust sector; and 3. to develop work plans that can be actioned and expand on current capacity of prioritized areas. Research was conducted in 2022 with the Eswatini co-operative sector using stakeholder consultation interviews and co-creation processes.

Challenging existing frameworks for doing collaborative research with community-oriented cooperatives: Five years of conceptualizing our practice

Ana Inés Heras, Universidad Nacional de San Martín (Argentina) Marcelo Vieta, University of Toronto

We describe the epistemological, theoretical, and methodological dimensions of an action-oriented project working with work-integration social cooperatives (WISCs) initiated during 2022 yet building on five prior years of collaboration between us. Our new project is bringing into dialogue the Canadian experience of community health co-ops with Argentina's new experiences of social cooperatives formed by people living with mental health issues, facilitated by recent legislation. However, here are still challenges to creating WISCs in Argentina due to a lack of knowledge of them from the communities that would have most to gain. In Canada, while there are experiences with multi-stakeholder solidarity co-ops in health care, no formal legislation exists to facilitate creating them by people living with mental health challenges. Both countries have thus much to learn from each other and this research partnership, by supporting the creation of new WISCs in Argentina, is mobilizing this transnational knowledge exchange.

A2: Co-operative Proposals for Rural and Regional Development

Founders College 114

Moderator: Kristen Murray

Collective Ownership, Proprietorship and Entrepreneurship: rethinking the co-operative advantage in situations of structural disadvantage Darryl Reed, Shiv Nadar University (Greater Delhi)

This paper draws upon German critical theory, social movement theory and knowledge management theory to examine the conditions under which marginalized groups, such as small producers, are able to organize, access resources and build capacities to compete under conditions of structural disadvantage. More specifically, the paper examines how small producers are able to leverage bonds of solidarity (based upon communicative action and ethical and moral motivation) both within and across co-operatives and in socio-economic movements (with business networks, NGOs, labour unions, consumer organizations, etc.), to promote regional development. A key argument of the paper is that leveraging bonds of solidarity can facilitate innovation which can provide these actors with competitive advantages which enable them to assert communicative control over structures that have be colonized (e.g., monetarized political systems) and subjected to elite capture (e.g., oligopsonistic markets). This argument is illustrated will empirical case studies.

Bridging the rural-urban digital divide through collective entrepreneurship

Esther Awotwe, University of Saskatchewan

The opportunities associated with digital infrastructure are endless. From e-learning and e-health and myriads of e-solutions, access to high-speed internet is a necessity and a human right. Yet, several rural and remote communities continue to be underserved. For example, in Canada, 91% of the population have access to high-speed internet of 50/10Mbps, while only 62% of rural Canadians enjoy similar speeds. The situation is much worse in the north and on First Nation reserves. However, through collective entrepreneurship, rural and remote communities are exploring potential pathways to expanding broadband in communities. This research highlights the challenges and opportunities to bridging the rural-urban digital divide in northern Saskatchewan.

Fair Trade, Agricultural Co-operatives and Rural Development: Towards a Comprehensive Theoretical Framework Patrick Clark, York University

This paper will review the literature on the relationship between Fair Trade, producer co-operatives in relation to theories of rural development and agrarian political economy. Since the Fair Trade movement emerged in the 1980s, academic and practitioner debates have considered whether Fair Trade, and by extension the model of co-operative processing and marketing Fair Trade promotes, provides producers with a sustainable livelihood that can retain producers in smallholder agriculture and serve to promote inter-generational renewal in farming. Case studies and comparative work alike have suggested that access to Fair Trade markets helps to keep producers from abandoning farming but that the market-driven model has limitations in terms of scale. This paper will take stock of the existing literature and considers these findings in relation to longstanding debates on rural development and agrarian political economy and in particular the question of investments in farms or "expanded reproduction".

B1: Re-imagining cooperative futures: Africana women cooperators on solidarity for Canada and the World

Lassonde Building - LAS A

Keynote Address by Dr. Caroline Shenaz Hossein Associate Professor of Global Development and Canada Research Chair Tier 2, University of Toronto Moderator: Derya Tarhan

CASC/ANSER Joint Session - Generously funded by the Open Programming Fund of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences English-French interpretation will be provided
This is an Open Event available to all Congress attendees

Africana women engage in solidarity economies through a specific form of mutual aid – formally referred to as Rotating Savings and Credit Associations (ROSCAs)—to meet their livelihood needs. These women call themselves the Banker Ladies, and the ROSCAs they run are rooted in equity, mutual aid and self-help. Members decide on the rules and processes of how to make regular contributions to a fund that is given in whole or in part to each member in turn. Canada has a rich history of cooperativism, yet, ROSCAs are ignored, stigmatized and ROSCAs are not valued as they are in the Caribbean. This lecture draws on empirical work that involves interviews with hundreds of Black women in five Caribbean countries, in Canada's big cities of Toronto and Montreal, as well as in Ghana and Ethiopia for a forthcoming book, *The Banker Ladies*. This research is calling on policy-makers to fund a ROSCA federation and for all co-operators to correct the citational blindness of Black women co-operators. By valuing informal institutions, as well as acknowledging and remunerating the work of the Banker Ladies is a move towards inclusive financial systems, and by extension it can revolutionize economic development.

Réinventer l'avenir coopératif : Les coopératrices africainas sur la solidarité

Les femmes africanas s'engagent dans des économies solidaires à travers une forme spécifique d'entraide mutuelle - formellement appelée Associations d'Epargne et de Crédit Rotatives (ROSCAs) - pour répondre à leurs besoins de subsistance. Ces femmes se nomment elles-mêmes les Banker Ladies, et les ROSCAs qu'elles dirigent sont basées sur l'équité, l'entraide mutuelle et l'auto-assistance. Les membres décident des règles et des processus pour faire des contributions régulières à un fonds qui est donné en totalité ou en partie à chaque membre à tour de rôle. Le Canada a une riche histoire de coopérativisme, pourtant, les ROSCAs sont ignorées, stigmatisées et ne sont pas valorisées comme elles le sont dans les Caraïbes. Cette conférence s'appuie sur un travail empirique qui comprend des entretiens avec des centaines de femmes noires dans cinq pays des Caraïbes, dans les grandes villes canadiennes de Toronto et Montréal, ainsi qu'au Ghana et en Éthiopie pour un prochain livre, The Banker Ladies. Cette recherche demande aux décideurs de financer une fédération de ROSCA et à tous les coopérateurs de corriger l'aveuglement citatoire des coopératrices noires. En valorisant les institutions informelles, ainsi qu'en reconnaissant et en rémunérant le travail des Banker Ladies, on peut progresser vers des systèmes financiers inclusifs et par extension, révolutionner le développement économique.

C1: We Have Always Known Economic Cooperation! The Diverse Solidarities Economies Collective (DISE) Advances The Practice and Thought of Cooperativism Among Africana People

(Lassonde Building – LAS A)

Facilitator: Caroline Shenaz Hossein

CASC/ANSER Joint Session

Reckonings and Reimaginings

Caroline Shenaz Hossein

This panel examines the cooperative economies of African descended people in Canada, the U.S., and the Caribbean. The reckoning is that no one has to teach or train people of African descent about cooperativism, the concept of pooling goods to counter elite-driven capitalist models is how many excluded Black people push against business exclusion. Mainstream social economy literature often ignores or does not credit Africana people for their role in cooperative building. To correct the erasure, the Diverse Solidarities Economies Collective (DISE) is intentional in its knowledge sharing about member-owned institutions among people of African descent. The practice and theory of Black cooperative systems can be useful to scholars and practitioner in the mainstream social economy and cooperative sectors to move away from the colonial library. In this panel, feminist scholars introduce an abundance of Black political economy scholarship relevant which is relevant for those interested in solidarity economic research and to show how the application of the research can be carried out in society.

Cooperative Educational Institutions

Michelle Stack

Attentiveness to educational governance, theorizing and innovative pedagogic approaches generated in the Global South, by Indigenous peoples, and diasporic communities is a prerequisite to developing a vibrant global educational cooperative movement grounded in gender, racial, disability and climate justice. This presentation will discuss preliminary findings based on interviews with members of cooperative educational institutions in Africa, the Caribbean, Europe and North America. We will first discuss our preliminary findings concerning different pedagogic and governance approaches. Finally, we conclude with a question: How might expanding origin stories and openness to different approaches to cooperative education facilitate a global educational cooperative movement?

The Jar: An African American Woman's Solution for Exclusion From the Formal Economy

Sherice J. Nelson

Racism is a global phenomenon, which is structural with interpersonal and individual consequences. This has been prevalent throughout the history of the United States. Public policy has shown a decisive bend toward anti-blackness producing insecurities that have always been intricately woven into African American's lives. This denial extends into African American participation in the formalized economy as Blacks dependency on lending institutions, which denied them credit, has restricted their economic power. This work will focus on how Black women overcame their exclusion from the formalized economic system. It will highlight the use of a informal economic system and the lack of access to more formal economic structures. The focus is on structural and institutional racism, which results in the lack of access and predatory lending practices. Such practices pushed Black women to start the "the Jar" system. This system is known as a Rotating Savings and Credit Association (ROSCA). This informal system was imperative in keeping their businesses alive and encouraging the growth of other small Black female businesses.

Roscas in Canada: Why We Need a Rosca Federation

Andria Barrett

ROSCAs stands for rotating savings and credit associations and these systems are a lifeline for many people who are excluded and have limited access to formal financial institutions. Buying homes, investing in businesses, paying for post-secondary education and more have been supported through ROSCAs. Women around the world have been using this system to support their families, business and communities for years. These women have been doing business differently. Partly out of need to cope with systemic racism and partly because of their culture and what they know. The Banker Ladies Council located in the Toronto area is working to create a ROSCA Federation with the goal to recognize, amplify and create a Federation to educate, advocate and strengthen these informal banking institutions across the country.

Working in Concert: The Potentiality of Solidarity Economics and Education

Megan Pearson

Scholarship on the solidarity economy teaches us that marginalized groups have long been engaged in movements against systemic injustices that have excluded them from full and dignified social and economic participation. Equitable access to education cannot be omitted from the discourse of violence against marginalized students in the Canadian education system. This paper uses case studies to detail solidarity organizations that have used education to mobilize. In doing so, it bridges the fields of solidarity economics and education and discusses their potentialities for working in concert to disrupt and resist educational inequities in the Canadian context.

Caribbean Cooperatives: A Meta-Analysis of Historical and Contemporary Pathways

Talia Esnard

Cooperatives have a long history and contribution to Caribbean development. While the peculiarities of these cooperatives have varied across Caribbean countries, they have historically advanced inclusive practices that buffer some of the socio-economic and political vulnerabilities that exist within the region. Using a meta-analysis of the data on cooperatives within the region, the paper highlights the types of cooperatives that have emerged across the region, the specific groups that have benefited from this process, and the diverse activities that have generated to build social and economic capital within the region. The paper will also assess the implications for the advancements of scholarship and public policy for the region.

Yuh Gro' Wid People? Rotating Savings and Credit Associations (ROSCAS) is a Sustainable Economic Model for Black Women in the Carribean and Canada

Caroline Shenaz Hossein

Black women in the African Diaspora engage in solidarity economies through a specific form of mutual aid – formally referred to as Rotating Savings and Credit Associations (ROSCAs) – to meet their livelihood and social needs. These women call themselves the Banker Ladies, and the ROSCAs they run are rooted in equity, mutual aid and self-help. The members, mostly women, decide on the rules and processes of how to make regular contributions to a fund that is given in whole or in part to each member in turn. Banker Ladies draw on ancient African traditions of Tontines and Susu that are purposefully informal and prioritize the collective. This paper draws on the empirical work that involves hundreds of Black women in five Caribbean countries, women in the Black Canadian diaspora in Toronto and Montreal, as to locate the cooperative contributions of people of African descent.

C2: Consolidation of co-operative efforts: Federations, leagues, and incubators

Founders College 114Moderator: John Simoulidis

Scaling Up the Niche: A League and the Future of Renewable Energy Co-operatives in Canada

Martin Boucher, University of Saskatchewan Marc-Andre Pigeon, University of Saskatchewan

By 2050, Canada aims to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions. Drawing on sustainability transitions and strategic niche management as our theoretical foundations, we analyze the role renewable energy co-operatives (RECs) could play in contributing to this objective by collaborating through what we refer to as a League. In organizational fields where co-operatives play a significant regime-level role (such as agriculture, banking, commerce, and health care, among others), they invariably scale up by employing second and third-tier organizations similar to a League to obtain a competitive advantage in an otherwise resistant regime and landscape. Our presentation will discuss an ongoing research and engagement project to scale up RECs in Canada. We will share an overview of the REC landscape in Canada, lessons on scaling up, and the next steps in the project.

Literature Review for a Co-operative Incubator in Newfoundland & Labrador Evaluation Project

Kristen Murray, Memorial University of Newfoundland & Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Co-operatives

This literature review, used for the Co-operative Incubator in Newfoundland & Labrador evaluation project, aims to comprehensively accumulate the literature surrounding the topics of the purposes, benefits, challenges, and/or structures of co-operatives, business incubation, and co-operative incubation. The methodology of this literature review included reviewing academic and non-academic literature, searching Memorial University of Newfoundland Online Library, Google, and Google Scholar, using search terms including, "cooperative incubator," "cooperative survival," and "business incubator", reviewing literature on an international scale (with a particular focus on any available Canadian sources), reviewing English literature only, reviewing literature published since 2000 (although a couple of older, yet important sources were included), and excluding periphery results, such as co-operative education programs. The results of the literature review are presented in this report under three main sections: (1) co-operatives; (2) business incubation; and (3) co-operative incubation.

TUESDAY, MAY 30

E1: Theoretical explorations into co-operative practice

Founders College 110
Moderator: Marcelo Vieta

Towards a Cooperative Economics

Jerome Warren, Academie Royale de Belgique

I would use my talk to introduce 3 projects I am currently involved with. Firstly, I'd review my work at the Academie Royale de Belgique, where I have been working on discovering dynamics and mechanisms to rendering the firm itself more solidly part of a sustainable agenda, looking to move beyond ex post verification to changes in the governance of the firm itself as contributions to this agenda. At the same time, I am editing the Routledge Handbook of Cooperative Economics, which we intend to serve as a go-to guide for a cooperative framing of economic relations, foregrounding the role of networks and long-term relationships in undergirding economic life. Lastly, I would introduce a new international Master's and PhD school we are building in the south of Italy. The MA would give students and entrepreneurs chances to develop practical skills to transform their firms (including especially cooperatives) sustainably and the PHD would provide researchers innovative methods and approaches to analyzing the intersection of cooperation and sustainability in the economy.

How do Cooperatives Learn in Crisis? A Social Network Analysis of Knowledge Flows

Ashish Krishna Pillai, University of Toronto

Objective: The study conceptualizes the cooperative sector as a learning ecosystem with stakeholders connected to each other through exchange of knowledge to study how cooperatives use learning to navigate the challenges posed by crises.

Main Theme: An analysis of literature on cooperatives' response to the Covid-19 pandemic is conducted to study the flow of knowledge in the cooperative sector in Canada in terms of the stakeholders involved and the relationships between them that created and disseminated the knowledge needed by cooperatives to manage the challenges posed by the pandemic.

Key findings/conclusions: The study conceptualizes the cooperative sector as an ecosystem consisting of elements connected to each other through transfer of knowledge. The study is expected to reveal drivers and channels of learning in the cooperative sector that contributes to enhancing organizational resilience of cooperatives.

Circular futures - re-embedding circular economy in circular society drawing on cooperatives and the social economy?

Rafael Ziegler, Institut international des coopératives Alphonse-et-Dorimène-Desjardins, HEC Montreal

Hegemonic accounts of circular economy present the transformation towards circular economies as a politically neutral, technology-driven process of efficiency and new business models for green markets. Such a narrow focus on transformation fails to consider alternative ways of embedding the economy. This presentation aims at a critique of the dominant circular economy discourse, and at developing an alternative drawing on social economy and cooperatives embedding circularity. An exploratory survey among cooperatives in Quebec suggests a comprehensive resonance of the cooperative model across all circularity strategies: from downstream categories of recycling and revalorization but crucially also upstream categories of rethinking production and consumption, sharing, and durable use. The survey suggests a potential for reembedding circular economy in regional economies and circular societies. For this, practical needs of cooperatives need to be understood, but theory work is also needed. The presentation proposes four integrated theory-propositions to articulate such a reembedding.

E2: Practitioners Finding Heart, Igniting Energy

Founders College 114

Facilitator: Judith Harris

Juliet 'Kego Ume-Onyido, Black Women Professional Worker Co-op Aleksandra Szaflarska, Together We're Bitter Philip Mikulec, Peg City Car Co-op

CASC 2022 organized a Human Library featuring "Human Books", to be perused by conference goers (E. Esse, E. Gosselin, M. Cooperlverson, J. Magnus-Johnston and M. Pontinen). The discussion was energized by those who had "found their heart in the co-operative movement" and by a consensus that the co-op model is, by necessity, evolving to respond to current waves of change. This year, our 2023 Roundtable calls on practitioners and researchers to revisit the inter-related issues and debates that arose in that lively discussion: activating the heart; scaling up by courting unlikely partners; choosing participation or engagement; finding the energy to invest in broad coalitions; demonstrating that co-ops are direct democracy; co-operating 101 for children & managers — beyond school yard behaviour; redefining old models by peeling off the layers; inviting harsh criticism and pooling our lived experience. Join in this critical and continuing dialogue.

Breaking the Silence: Amplifying Co-ops Beyond "Best Kept Secret."

Juliet 'Kego Ume-Onyido

Juliet 'Kego Ume-Onyido is a Financial Advisor with a leading Financial Institution in Canada. She is a Social Justice Advocate, a Speaker-Poet, and a master-certified Leadership Coach-Trainer. A passionate advocate of financial resilience and economic opportunities for women and girls, she is the co-founder of Whole Woman Network - a Leadership, Advocacy & Empowerment Social Enterprise, focused on building community well-being & wealth using the Rotating Savings & Credit Associations (ROSCA) model and culturally-informed frameworks. She is a founding member and president of Black Women Professional Worker Co-op (BWPW Co-op), empowering underserved women to start, operationalize and scale up their businesses.

How Peg City Car Co-op grew carsharing in Winnipeg

Philip Mikulec

Philip Mikulec is the CEO of Peg City Car Co-op, Winnipeg's first and only carsharing company. Over the last five years, Philip and his team have worked tirelessly to grow Peg City Car Co-op to a fleet of nearly 140 vehicles with over 3,000 members. Before joining Peg City Car Co-op, Philip completed a four-year Environmental Studies Degree at the University of Winnipeg. After taking some time to travel and work, Philip went back to university to complete a Master's in City planning at the University of Manitoba. During Philip's scholastic years, he had the opportunity to research urban agriculture policy in Winnipeg and is published in the Canadian Journal of Urban Research. Outside of professional pursuits, Philip enjoys gardening, and long trips into the backcountry with his canoe, dog and partner.

Brewing Up Co-operation

Aleksandra (Alex) Szaflarska

Alex is a founding member of: worker-owned local craft brewery Together We're Bitter Co-operative Brewery; Ontario's first community real estate co-operative, Union; and local environmental non-profit Hold the Line. She holds an Honours BA in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Toronto, and a Masters in Forest Conservation from the University of Toronto's Faculty of Forestry.

Co-op Pathway through the Anthropocene

Russ Christianson

For forty years, Russ Christianson has worked with communities, co-operative enterprises, unions, environmental organizations and private businesses to meet their strategic goals and develop good governance practices. He has helped launch over 200 co-operatives, with a 70% success rate (for which he gives the founders credit). Russ is the lead instructor for the Canadian Worker Co-op Federation's online Academy, and an instructor/mentor for CoopZone's Co-op Developer training programme. Russ created the Co-operative Sustainability Scorecard. He received the Co-operative Spirit Award for Outstanding Contribution to ONCOOP. He has volunteered on the OCA's Co-op Development Committee since the 1990s, he is co-chair of the Canadian Worker Co-op Federation's Business Succession Committee, and is the Treasurer of CoopZone. Russ founded the Aron Theatre Co-operative and the

Campbellford Seymour Community Foundation and chairs the Northumberland County Food Policy Council. He graduated in Commerce (Queens, 1981) and Industrial Relations (MA, University of Toronto, 1983). Russ and partner, Heidi Schaeffer live on a reforested farm north of Campbellford, ON.

E3: Co-operative underpinnings and potentialities of higher education

Founders College 117Moderator: Darryl Reed

Re-imagining Sustainable Labour: Inclusivity in Aerospace

Shahab Bayani, York University

I explore co-operation between the academy and the aerospace industry to understand and resolve the aviation labour shortage. An equitable and sustainable world relies on safe human mobilities and experts that provide air travel. My field research traces the underlying reasons for the decreasing work force interest in aviation and the simultaneous career exiting from this industry, a twofold loss for Canada's projected aviation needs. I examine through a Humanities and Cultural Studies lens the specific obstacles that aircraft maintenance engineers and pilots experience in the context of how today's large corporations recruit, remunerate, train and promote and aim to retain professionals. Utilizing humanist language to STEM work calls for the examination of subject positionalities and interiorities of workers in this sector. How do entrenched hierarchies that affect domestic workers simultaneously hinder immigrant talent? I consider how inadequate awareness of intersectionality, male masculine dominance and rise of populism are accountable.

Introducing Undergraduates to Co-operatives: Curriculum Development

Daphne Rixon, Saint Mary's University

All too often business students are graduating without any knowledge of co-operatives as a business structure. Although some professors may briefly reference the co-operative business model, there is a paucity of co-operative curriculum embedded in business school courses. This paper examines the rewards and challenges associated with introducing undergraduate students to the co-operative business model. Even though Saint Mary's University offers a Masters of Management in Co-operatives and Credit Unions, there were no undergraduate courses focusing on co-operatives. To address this issue, an online undergraduate course was developed to create an in-depth awareness the co-operative business model. The paper describes not only how the course content was developed and delivered but also explores how the course was marketed to students.

Towards an Ecopedagogy: Environmental organizations and student experiences at the nexus of education and environmental action Michael Jodah, York University

Student activism often takes the form of sustainability initiatives, such as community gardens, campus farmers' markets, DIY bike repair centres and vegan soup kitchens. These long-term student activist projects require organization, legal recognition and structure to continue and thrive -- most often they are set up as co-operatives or non-profit organizations. As student-run organizations, they have unique circumstances, opportunities and challenges given their social location. My research examines: (1) the impact of these organizations on students, community, and the university; (2) how can student organizations that operate long-term sustainability projects be successfully established; (3) what conclusions can be made about the operations of these organizations that can help establish best-practices for student-run organizations. My conclusions include establishing and maintaining formal structures, cultivating positive and community-building experiences for involved students, and securing university resources.

F1: Keynote Address: Mamawicihitowin (Working Together)

Lassonde Building - LAS B

Milton Tootoosis, Chief Economic Reconciliation Officer with the Saskatoon Regional Economic Development

This is an Open Event available to all Congress attendees English-French interpretation will be provided

Moderator: Isobel Findlay

First Nations are often forgotten in history books. Many of us did not learn about the Indigenous culture, innovations, world view, value systems, spirituality and connection to the land. Growing up on the reserve I was unaware that I was raised by the Poundmaker Cree community of leaders, visionaries, cultural knowledge keepers, ceremonialists, farmers, hunters, land protectors and political activists. Chief Big Bear, in treaty negotiations, had recommended that the Chiefs not trust the white man. He lobbied the Chiefs to form one big Cree reserve versus the small reserves offered by the Crown. Chief Big Bear would not sign the treaty for several years with hopes of a better treaty but ended up signing under dire circumstances. The Indian Act was not what the Chiefs had in mind when negotiating in 1876. The Act has been one of the tools used by the state to rip apart the culture. The reserve system and the Indian Residential School further decimated First Nation families and communities. Poundmaker was post-humously exonerated in 2019 after the Cree Nation proved that he was wrongfully convicted and imprisoned. Co-operation and the model of 'mamawicihitowin' so deeply imbedded in First Nations culture for millennia kept the communities together. Sure they had the odd tribal wars too but that spirit of cooperation existed for more than eight thousand (8,000) years before The Indian Act, Indian Residential Schools, the numbered treaties were introduced. It's time to listen to the First Nations traditional knowledge keepers. (CASC & ANSER), Simultaneous interpretation.

Mamawicihitowin (Travailler ensemble)

Les Premières Nations sont souvent oubliées dans l'histoire. Beaucoup d'entre nous n'ont pas appris la culture autochtone, les innovations, la vision du monde, les systèmes de valeurs, la spiritualité et le lien avec la terre. En grandissant dans la réserve, j'ignorais que j'avais été élevé par la communauté Poundmaker composée de dirigeants, de visionnaires, de gardiens du savoir culturel, de cérémonialistes, d'agriculteurs, de chasseurs, de protecteurs de la terre et d'activistes. Le chef Big Bear, lors des négociations de traité, avait recommandé que les chefs ne fassent pas confiance à l'homme blanc. Il fait pression sur les chefs pour qu'ils forment une grande réserve crie. Big Bear n'a pas signé le traité pendant plusieurs années dans l'espoir d'un meilleur traité, mais a signer dans des circonstances désastreuses. La Loi sur les Indiens n'était pas ce que les chefs avaient en tête lorsqu'ils ont négocié en 1876. La Loi a été l'un des outils utilisés par l'État pour déchirer la culture. Le système des réserves et le pensionnat indien décimèrent davantage les familles et les collectivités des Premières nations. Poundmaker a été disculpé à titre posthume en 2019. La coopération et « mamawicihitowin » si profondément ancré dans la culture des Premières Nations depuis des millénaires ont maintenu les communautés ensemble. Cet esprit de coopération a existé 8 000+ ans avant l'introduction de la Loi sur les Indiens, des pensionnats indiens, des traités numérotés. Il est temps d'écouter les gardiens du savoir traditionnel des Premières Nations. (CASC & ACÉC) Interprétation simultanée.

G1: Taking stock of diversity and intersectionality of co-operation in Canada

Founders College 110

Moderator: Esther Awotwe

CASC/ANSER Joint Session

The landscape of ethnocultural, racialized, and Indigenous cooperatives in Canada

Ushnish Sengupta, Algoma University Engi Abou-el-Kheir, NORDIK Institute

This paper reports the results of a survey sponsored by Cooperatives and Mutuals Canada on ethnocultural, racialized, and Indigenous cooperatives in Canada. The paper highlights the stakeholders, trends, and recurring themes within identified cooperatives. The paper specifically identifies distinct features of ethnocultural, racialized, and Indigenous cooperatives in Canada. By identifying the features which make these cooperatives distinct and identifying their needs, the purpose is to catalyse interactions between peers, government stakeholders, impact investors and other interested parties. The cooperative movement in Canada has advanced in progressive waves, but the impact of these progressive waves have had different impacts across different communities. The cooperative movement will benefit all communities more equitably by supporting the different needs of different communities. Simultaneously the cooperative movement in Canada will be stronger and more resilient through a more diverse community of cooperatives.

Solidarity: intersectionality and co-operatives in Canada

Susanna Redekop, York University & Practitioner

Culturally diverse forms of co-operation are not recognized or understood well by the Canadian co-operative sector, which has led to a dominant model of co-operatives held up by and continuing to perpetuate colonial, heteropatriarchal constructs. This is problematic in the active erasure of BIPOC contributions to the co-operative sector, ignoring the diverse, rich cultural traditions of co-operation, leaving out demographics who may benefit from the co-op model. Through my primary and secondary research via interviews, focus groups and a literature review I draw on what I have learned from various communities of Black and Indigenous co-operators, and engage with critical pedagogy, Community Based Participatory Research, and decolonial theory. This is a pivotal time to reassess the Canadian co-operative sector in making room for more diverse voices and action, strengthening the wider solidarity economy with co-operative action and bringing co-operative values to work led by BIPOC co-operators, youth, and allies.

Renewable Energy Co-operatives and Social Justice: A Complicated Relationship

Derya Tarhan, University of Toronto

Recent studies from Europe and Canada have shown that membership bodies of renewable energy co-operatives (RECs) predominantly consist of affluent white men. This demographic concentration points at a disconnect between REC activity and its often-assumed potential in simultaneously advancing decarbonisation and social justice. This presentation will build on interviews with leading members RECs in Ontario to identify factors driving the exclusion of marginalised and frontline communities from REC initiatives. Findings reveal that a combination of inadequate policy support and complex preparatory activities in Ontario geared the pursuit of REC development towards affluent, professional class groups with access to necessary practical capacities. To add insult to injury, RE co-ops responded to this precarious policy and regulatory environment by increasing their minimum investment requirements and targeting affluent individuals in their outreach activities, which rendered CRE ownership even more exclusionary.

G2: Co-operative governance: Practical reflections and roadmaps

Founders College 114 *Moderator: Fiona Duquid*

Levelling the Playing Field: Governance and Co-operative Health Care

Marc-Andre Pigeon, University of Saskatchewan Haizhen Mou, University of Saskatchewan Sharma Jagqi, University of Saskatchewan

Since the professionalization of health care, doctors have played the central role in delivering and governing service delivery with the result being, often, the marginalization of patient and other voices. Our paper will discuss some early qualitative findings from the first phase of a multi-year qualitative and quantitative study into Canada's co-operative health clinics, beginning in the province of Saskatchewan where the clinics first emerged. Like other co-operatives, the clinics are governed democratically, meaning that patients are often also members and as such, elect the board of directors that in turn sets the strategic direction. The result is that clinics effectively give patients a meaningful voice and power relative to doctors and other medical professionals. We hypothesize that in so doing, the governance system has shaped the willingness of the clinics to embrace innovative medical practices well before they came into vogue, including most notably team-based, interdisciplinary patient and community-focused care.

Revue de littérature portant sur la gouvernance des coopératives de deuxième niveau et les coopératives en milieu autochtone Anne-Marie Merrien, IRECUS

Dans le cadre d'un projet de recherche postdoctoral, en partenariat avec llagiisaq (une fédération de coopératives inuites au Nunavik), nous effectuons une revue de littérature systématisée (Grant et Booth, 2009) qui vise à déterminer les composantes et critères favorisant une saine gouvernance au sein d'une coopérative de second niveau (fédération) et à explorer les similitudes et différences entre la gouvernance coopérative et la gouvernance en milieu autochtone. Cette revue de littérature aborde notamment les relations avec les membres et les paradoxes qui s'y déploient (notamment le besoin de renforcer l'efficience de structures fédératives tout en conservant leur pertinence). De plus, nous explorons des articles s'intéressant aux relations entre la gouvernance démocratique et la gouvernance en milieu autochtone, afin d'en dégager les similitudes et les défis. Nous proposons des pistes de réflexions concernant de possibles ou nécessaires adaptations du modèle coopératif en fonction de l'identité des communautés dans lesquelles il agit.

Organizational Charting for Member Control

Thomas Gray, Program on Co-operatives at the United States Department of Agriculture

A fundamental aspect of cooperative organizations is "member control" of the organization. Member control is facilitated through a series of member offices, elections to those offices, and organizational bylaws. When challenges to the legitimacy of cooperatives occurs, those challenges often revolve around questions of member control. Do members actually control the cooperative? Our current era is no exception given a context of acquisitions, mergers, and joint ventures. This paper presents a series of membership charts, from simple to complex, depicting membership structures, with an explicit highlighting of mechanisms for member control. The report begins with simple depictions of macro-membership structures, e.g. local, centralized and federated. It culminates with a "containment" method that is able to illustrate appointed and elected positions, positions with and without decision-making authority, a basis of representation in geographic districts, flows and levels of authority, and whether authority is contained by the membership or outside of members' control and oversight.

G3: Canadian Co-operatives and Fairtrade: Research and Practice

Founders College 117

Facilitators: Darryl Reed, John Simoulidis

Roundtable Participants:
Gavin Fridell, Development Studies, Saint Mary's University
Patrick Clark, Business and Society, York University
Chad Saunders, Associate VP, Ancilliary Services, York University
Kelly Storie, La Siembra Co-operative
Bill Barrett, Planet Bean Co-operative

This Roundtable will present recent research and participant accounts of the leading role that Canadian co-operatives play in Fair Trade, including in value chain relations (in different sectors, e.g., coffee, cocoa, cotton, etc.), capacity building projects (e.g., product development, organization development), certification programs, financial support, procurement policies, etc. Participants will also examine paths for further development of the sector.

H1: Human Books Library Founders College 152

Human libraries have become an international cultural movement since their introduction in Denmark in 2000. Creating a human library provides a way for individuals to connect with others in their community in order to engage in conversation, celebrate differences and encourage understanding of people who come from varied cultural or lifestyle backgrounds. Human books are volunteers who are willing to share their stories with others in a safe environment. Readers participate in small-group conversations with Human Books to ask questions and to learn about other's life experiences. This year at CASC, a human library will be included as an interactive session and will feature co-operative practitioners representing various sectors and regions with the aim being to share their "co-op stories"- about personal, professional/organizational journeys. Readers will be able to move from one table to the next and engage with 2 or 3 human books during the session. The great advantage of human books is that they can respond to your questions.

Confirmed Human Books:

Breaking the Silence: Amplifying Co-ops Beyond "Best Kept Secret"

Juliet 'Kego Ume-Onyido

Juliet 'Kego Ume-Onyido is a Financial Advisor with a leading Financial Institution in Canada. She is a Social Justice Advocate, a Speaker-Poet, and a master-certified Leadership Coach-Trainer. A passionate advocate of financial resilience and economic opportunities for women and girls, she is the co-founder of Whole Woman Network - a Leadership, Advocacy & Empowerment Social Enterprise, focused on building community well-being & wealth using the Rotating Savings & Credit Associations (ROSCA) model and culturally-informed frameworks. She is a founding member and president of Black Women Professional Worker Co-op (BWPW Co-op), empowering under-served women to start, operationalize and scale up their businesses.

How Peg City Car Co-op grew carsharing in Winnipeg

Philip Mikulec

Philip Mikulec is the CEO of Peg City Car Co-op, Winnipeg's first and only carsharing company. Over the last five years, Philip and his team have worked tirelessly to grow Peg City Car Co-op to a fleet of nearly 140 vehicles with over 3,000 members. Before joining Peg City Car Co-op, Philip completed a four-year Environmental Studies Degree at the University of Winnipeg. After taking some time to travel and work, Philip went back to university to complete a Master's in City planning at the University of Manitoba. During Philip's scholastic years, he had the opportunity to research urban agriculture policy in Winnipeg and is published in the Canadian Journal of Urban Research. Outside of professional pursuits, Philip enjoys gardening, and long trips into the backcountry with his canoe, dog and partner.

Brewing Up Co-operation

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Alex is a founding member of: worker-owned local craft brewery Together We're Bitter Co-operative Brewery; Ontario's first community real estate co-operative, Union; and local environmental non-profit Hold the Line. She holds an Honours BA in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Toronto, and a Masters in Forest Conservation from the University of Toronto's Faculty of Forestry.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

11: Arts, Aesthetics and Co-operative Consciousness

Founders College 110

Moderator: Russ Christianson

The Aesthetic Experience: a Foundation for Community and Cooperation

Jaya Beange, University of Manitoba, Storefront Manitoba

Shared aesthetic experiences like the beauty of a baby, or a smile, bring us together in community. For Immanuel Kant, this is the sensus communis, the common sense shared by all. When we make an aesthetic judgement, we are declaring that it should be so for the entire community, because we are shaped by similar pressures. Therefore certain fundamental experiences (aesthetic experiences) should theoretically be equivalent. Kant argues that the common sensibility is the foundation for community in that it allows us to come to agreements over ethical systems. Philosophers like John Searle have argued that aesthetic agreement establishes a framework upon which we build systems of ethics. This pre-linguistic agreement is what makes communication and in turn cooperation possible. The aesthetic experience transcends and precedes our individuality and binds us together in community.

Theatre: rehearsal space for co-operative revolution

Judith Harris, University of Winnipeg

Theatre is a rehearsal space for people fighting against oppression in their daily lives. Theatre of the Oppressed (Boal, 1974) awakens critical consciousness and provides a space for examining underexplored sources of knowledge. We understand ourselves, our community and our world through collaborative theatre. "Spect-actors" employ the body as a means of pre-literal expression. Theatre becomes a shared language and a liberating process of knowledge creation. (Boal, 1974) From Winnipeg's Selkirk Avenue economic deserts spread out in all directions - depriving families of services such as child care, fresh affordable foods, housing, and banking (Buckland, 2022). Colonizers plundered the Hudson Bay Basin in the 17th/18th C (Rothney, 1975). The struggle to reclaim control of basic services and cultural traditions continues. The Village Co-op employs theatre as a two-way exchange of knowledge – building on existing and historical ways of co-operating and engaging community in co-operative enterprise.

Universities and co-operative glocal consciousness

Christos Orfanidis, University of Toronto

Glocalization is often described as an alternative route of considering and actualizing the globalizing propensities of our universities. Nonetheless, there is a lack of extensive work on theorizing its co-operative underpinnings and potential. This presentation follows a multi-stakeholder approach to conceptualizing glocal consciousness and explores possible venues of operationalizing it as a tool for practicing interconnectedness and co-operation.

12: Territorial autonomy and governance in Latin America and the Caribbean

Founders College 114
Facilitator: Marcelo Vieta

Discussants:

Diana Cordoba, Queen's University Kevin Edmonds, University of Toronto Miguel Gonzalez, York University

This is a session on the topic of the historical dynamics of resource extraction, land dispossession and local organizing against this in Latin America and the Caribbean. It will address the following conference themes: • Nourishing ethical alliances for social movement solidarity • Social movement learning for collective action • Co-operative development for community and economic development Discussants will review new research at the national level on agrarian reform since the 1970s. We will focus on the questions of land, resources and cooperative organizing in response to dispossession in Latin America and the Caribbean.

J1: Democratizing and Cooperativizing Work: Moving Beyond Crises By Reorganizing the Economy

Lassonde Building - LAS A

Facilitators: Marcelo Vieta and Derya Tarhan

Format:

Authors of both books will introduce their books and key themes for up to 15 minutes each. Discussants will then respond in flash responses for 5 minutes. Followed by Q&A

Lead presenters:

Author of Democratize Work – Isabelle Ferreras (Belgium) (10-15 minutes)

Authors of Cooperatives at Work – George Cheney (USA), Emi Do (Japan-Canada), Matt Noyes (USA), Marcelo Vieta (Argentina-Canada) (10-15 minutes)

Discussants:

Jerome Warren (Germany) – 5 minutes Ana Ines Heras (Argentina) – 5 minutes Priscilla Ferreira (Brazil) – 5 minutes

CASC/ANSER Joint Session – Generously funded by the Open Programming Fund of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences

English-French interpretation provided

This is an Open Event available to all Congress attendees

Promulgated by an unbridled capitalist system, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated ongoing planetary crises, such as: continuing environmental degradation, weakening democracies and growing authoritarianism, the rise of precarious work, and increasing inequalities. These crises are felt most acutely by racialized and marginalized peoples across the Global North and South, who make up the majority of "essential workers" so widely discussed during the pandemic. But these crises have also inspired proposals and practices of socio-economic possibility from the affected communities themselves, including prefigurative ways of democratizing and cooperativizing work. This international and interdisciplinary session hosting a diverse panel will respond to and engage in a critical conversation inspired by two recent co-authored books that directly tackle these critical issues and document pathways beyond the crises via more democratic and cooperative work and workplaces: Democratize Work: The Case for Reorganizing the Economy (2022, University of Chicago Press) and Cooperatives at Work (2023, Emerald). CASC is offering simultaneous interpretation - English- French. This event is organized in collaboration with ANSER.

Démocratiser et coopérer le travail : sortir des crises en réorganisant l'économiee

Promulguée par un système capitaliste débridé, la pandémie de COVID-19 a exacerbé les crises planétaires en cours, telles que : la

dégradation continue de l'environnement, l'affaiblissement des démocraties et l'autoritarisme croissant, la montée du travail précaire et l'augmentation des inégalités. Ces crises sont ressenties le plus durement par les personnes racialisées et marginalisées du Nord et du Sud, qui constituent la majorité des « travailleurs essentiels » si largement discutés pendant la pandémie. Mais ces crises ont également inspiré des propositions et des pratiques de possibilité socio-économique de la part des communautés touchées ellesmêmes, y compris des moyens préfiguratifs de démocratisation et de coopérativisation du travail. Cette session internationale et interdisciplinaire accueillant un panel diversifié répondra et s'engagera dans une conversation critique inspirée de deux livres récents co-écrits qui abordent directement ces questions critiques et documentent les voies au-delà des crises via un travail et des lieux de travail plus démocratiques et coopératifs: Démocratiser le travail: The Case for Reorganizing the Economy (2022, University of Chicago Press) et Cooperatives at Work (2023, Emerald). L'ACéC offre une interprétation simultanée - anglais-français. Cet événement est organisé en collaboration avec l'ANSER.

K1: Business Conversions to Social Purpose Organizations for Equity-Denied Groups (EDGs)

Founders College 110

Facilitator: Janielle Maxwell Janielle Maxwell Juliet 'Kego Ume-Onyido Marcelo Vieta Jessica Gordon

The small business succession challenge in Canada is well known, and often business owners and their communities struggle to manage ownership exits gracefully. For businesses serving Equity-Denied Communities, their closure often impacts socio-economic stability, as well as cultural legacy. The presentation will provide viewers with background information on the business-related challenges of various EDGs, and will discuss how SPOs may be positioned to help combat these dilemmas. We will explore the possibility that Equity-Denied Groups (especially racialized ones) may feel more alignment with the structure of Social Purpose Organizations (SPOs), as they differ from traditional business models that have often underserved and under-represented them. We will also explore how transitioning to SPOs such as co-operatives and Social Enterprises could be the right fit. There will be general discussion on how to transition to a SPO, the benefits of transitioning, and how this model benefits and can appeal to EDGs. Additionally, we will hear from an existing SPO about their challenges and successes.

K2: Envisioning and Safeguarding a Future of Co-operation

Founders College 114

Moderator: Anne-Marie Merrien

Asset Locking Indivisible Reserves

Sean Campbell, University of Waterloo Anthony Piscitelli, Conestoga College Sean Geobey, University of Waterloo

In cooperatives, capital reserves are built up slowly over time providing organizational protection when challenges are faced and flexibility if opportunities for growth arise. The cooperative's members in most places may claim the capital reserves of the organization if the cooperative demutualizes by winding up and distributing remaining assets to members or converting into a shareholder corporation. Demutualization can be profitable for individual members, but it destroys the legacy of the cooperative. Founders of new cooperatives who wish to ensure the organization continues to operate in perpetuity according to the cooperative principles can use mechanisms, known as asset locks, to make it difficult for future members to demutualize. Effective asset locks prevent or at least disincentivize future demutualization. This presentation explores cooperative asset locks in the housing sector examining lessons from land trusts, cooperatives, and other housing organizations.

Linkages of intergenerational epistemology and social responsibility

Christos Orfanidis, University of Toronto

Sociologists, among other scholars, have been examining intergenerational forms of co-operation within diverse contexts of community development. Social responsibility provides an interesting backdrop for thinking about intergenerational co-operation with future, currently non-existing, generations. This presentation provides a synthesis of sociological inquiry in intergenerationality and

the interdisciplinary study of social responsibility. Conclusions propose the potentiality of focusing on issues of future generations, and imagining linkages between areas of co-operation that will inspire collective social activity from current generations.

"Co-operation Across Canada" Map and Database

Dan Brunette, Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada (CMC)

This is a presentation of the CMC database and related Co-operation across Canada map (https://crm.canada.coop/map/) that can be used by researchers, as well as other ways that CMC can help showcase and disseminate research and stories. Dan Brunette will also touch on how tools like the database and map can or is already being used.

L1: Community Collaboration for Well-being

Founders College 110

Facilitator: Catharine Chamberlain

Presenters: Jinnelle Bobb, teacher candidate, York University; Catharine Chamberlain, EMC; Mary Nanavati, recognized educator, and

Aman Sahota, Ei Amplified

Beyond High School is a project of Erin Mills Connects (EMC) community collaborative that was funded by Canada's Healthy Communities Initiative. The project grew out of concern for the confidence and mental well-being of young people in some of the most negatively impacted neighbourhoods of Ontario during the pandemic. Working with 31 volunteers, and bringing together the community wisdom of educators, researchers, mental-health practitioners, elected leaders, youth, parents/guardians, settlement workers, and social entrepreneurs--across cultures--Beyond High School: A guide to discovering your pathway to success was published in Arabic, English, French and Urdu. Beyond High School resources and workshops are free at https://onpathway.me/BHS. Round table participants will hear how EMC unites stakeholders to find EDID solutions to mental health crises. Young collaborators also will discuss mental health and community responsibility.

L2: Remembering Ian MacPherson and Looking Forward

Founders College 114

Facilitator: Judith Harris

Participants: J.J. McMurtry, University of Toronto; Dan Brunette, Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada; Darryl Reed, Shiv Nadar

University (Greater Delhi)

lan MacPherson was the founder of the British Columbia Institute for Co-operative Studies at the University of Victoria. His research has been largely on the history of the co-operative movement, particularly in Canada. Professor MacPherson served on boards of co-operatives for twenty-five years at the provincial, national and international levels. He was the founding President of the Canadian Co-operative Association between 1989 and 1993. He chaired the process and wrote the documents by which the international co-operative movement prepared an identity statement for co-operatives and revised their basic principles at the Manchester Congress of the International Co-operative Alliance in 1995. Ian received many awards for his research and practice and in 2005, the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) presented Professor MacPherson with the Rochdale Pioneer Award, the highest award in the international movement. Ian passed away in November 2013. We are honoured to celebrate Ian's work at Congress 2023. Recognizing his commitment to students, the Ian Macpherson fund supports student participation at co-operative research conferences.