

CASC ACÉC

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR
STUDIES IN CO-OPERATION

L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR
LES ÉTUDES SUR LA COOPERATION

www.coopresearch.coop

Winter | 2011

CASC Conference 2011

Co-operating in Fredericton, New Brunswick

This summer CASC members will have the opportunity to visit one of Canada's oldest maritime settlements while participating in our annual conference, "Cooperation in a Changing Economy: The Role of Social Innovation and

Collective Entrepreneurship." The event will take place on the University of New Brunswick and St Thomas University campuses (for more details please see the call for papers on page 8).

Perched on the St. John River,

Fredericton has been named one of Canada's best riverside communities, with a progressive local government and friendly atmosphere. Situated in the central area of New Brunswick, Fredericton is only an hour's drive from the Bay of Fundy, and only two hours from the Northumberland Strait. For those looking for attractions closer to the city, a number of options exist.

For history buffs, Fredericton's three centuries of European settlement offer a number of unique experiences. Visit the Garrison District on the south shore of the river and explore its many historic buildings and pubs. Visitors can watch a changing of the guards ceremony at the Officer's Quarters. As the cultural hub of the city, the Garrison district also offers an exciting nightlife.



The Arts Building at UNB Fredericton, a co-host of the 2011 congress and CASC annual conference

Outdoors enthusiasts can visit many nearby parks and natural sites. Some of the world's biggest tides can be viewed at Fundy National Park, allowing visitors to explore the sea bottom at low tide. Grand Lake, just 40 km away, offers beaches and wildlife areas worth visiting, or the motivated traveler can swim in some of the warmest water in Canada along the Northumberland Strait.

For the less ambitious, a stroll among the buildings of our host campuses may be in store. Having recently celebrated its 225th anniversary, the University of
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The call for papers has been extended until February 4th, 2011. Please see page 8 for more information

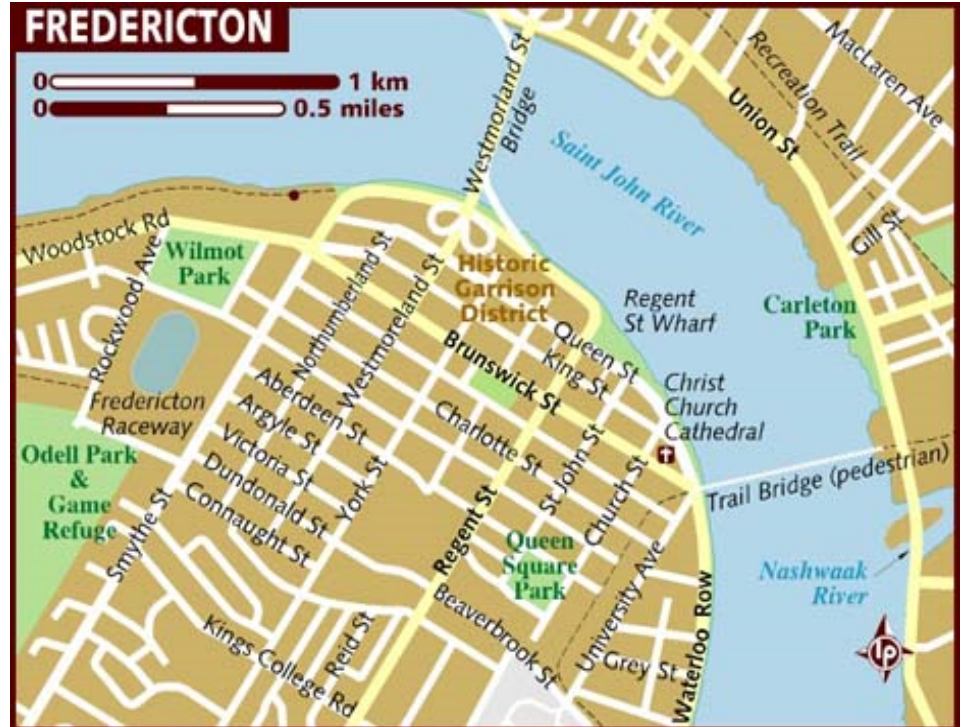


George Martin Hall, a fixture of co-host St. Thomas University's campus.

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New Brunswick is Canada's oldest English language university. Shaded by towering maple, ash, and walnut trees the UNB campus is home to Sir Howard Douglas Hall, Canada's oldest operational university building, and the Brydone Jack Observatory, in operation since 1851. UNB has more than 11,400 undergraduate and graduate students on its campuses. The arts, business administration, computer science, education, engineering, forestry and environmental management, kinesiology, law, nursing, Renaissance College and science are located at the Fredericton campus.

Founded in 1910, St. Thomas University is a unique institution devoted solely to the liberal arts, including colleges of traditional fields like Philosophy,



Downtown Fredericton, source: Lonely Planet (<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/canada/new-brunswick/>)

History and Languages, to innovative programmes in Journalism, Human Rights, Criminology, Environment and Society, and Native Studies. The ever-expanding campus has many beautiful buildings spanning several different architectural eras.

As the CASC 2011 conference coincides with the 2011 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, thousands of scholars will be descending on the city of Fredericton between May 28th and June 4th. CASC delegates will have the opportunity to meet with other academics and make valuable connections.

All delegates will also be able to enjoy the Big Thinking lectures, featuring leading scholars, authors, and leaders who will

share their insight and work.

In preparation for these events Congress has made arrangements with several hotels to provide accommodations. Rooms are available with major chains and on campus in student residences. Fredericton itself is easily accessible through the nearby international airport, which services most major carriers.

Congress has also developed a website with additional, general information for all registered delegates. A number of valuable web-based resources are available to help you prepare for your visit to Fredericton.

Please visit the Congress website at www.congress2011.ca

Rendez-vous in Fredericton

The Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences is the largest multidisciplinary academic gathering in Canada, attracting more than 6000 national and international delegates.

26th Annual CASC Conference

A review of the events at Concordia University, June 1-4 2010

Isobel Findlay



Montreal, site of the 79th Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, proved a magnet to participants not only from across Canada but also from Japan, the United Kingdom, Argentina, and the United States. In 37 paper sessions plus joint sessions with the Association for Nonprofit and Social Economy Research (ANSER), CIRIEC Canada, and the Student Network, 62 delegates explored Community Building through Co-operative Research: Challenges and Opportunities at Home and Abroad and enjoyed keynote presentations by Michel Lafleur from the Institut de recherche et d'éducation pour les coopératives et les mutuelles de l'Université de Sherbrooke (IRECUS) and



An external view of the The J.W. McConnell Building, just a stone's throw away from Parc du Mont-Royal, and home to the 2010 CASC annual conference.

Photo source: www.concordia.ca

Hélène Simard from the Conseil québécois de la coopération et de la mutualité at our joint banquet with ANSER.

Concurrent sessions covered topics from co-operatives and youth, women, food, and Aboriginal communities; co-operatives in the south; best practices in the context of globalization; co-operatives, their workers, and other stakeholders; community-university collaborations; community-based research; governance, strategy, and social responsibility; co-operatives and inclusive communities; non-profits and social co-operatives; to co-operative challenges, opportunities, and future directions and the launch of the "Measuring the Co-operative Difference Research Network." Along the way there was paddling and pedagogy, co-operative navigation of the economic crisis, research as co-op and community development, historical and theoretical perspectives, fair trade, social innovations and worker-recuperated workers' co-ops.

From our joint wine and cheese with the Student Network to our joint banquet with ANSER, there was opportunity aplenty to network and build research, national, and international relationships. With funding support from the Co-operatives Secretariat, Agropur, the Co-operators, and in-kind support from Equita (Oxfam Québec), as well as Social Economy National Hub support for some international guests, students, and other participants, the conference had a feast of options thanks to the organizational and co-ordinating roles of Martine Vézina (HEC Montréal), Ana Gomez (Karl Polanyi Institute of Political Economy, Concordia U), and Neil Nunn of the Social Economy Student Network.



Hélène Simard addresses a crowd.

Photo source: projetdesociete.coop/QdN.htm

CASC AGM, 3 June 2010
Member Survey

Luc Theriault walked us through highlights (reported also in our Spring 2010 Newsletter) to which 50 percent of members responded:

- High satisfaction regarding CASC services (newsletter, workshops, support of young scholars, annual congress, banquet, and keynote speakers)
- 90 percent support for maintaining CASC and ANSER as distinct associations, while continuing to work closely together

Opportunities:

- Improve quality, accessibility, interactivity (social networking and video), and links of CASC website
- Increase attendance at conferences by integrating junior researchers and students into workshops and increasing connections with colleagues internationally and from Québec
- Develop and/or strengthen

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partnerships with CIRIEC Canada, CIRIEC Europe, the ICA research committee, the Association of Cooperative Educators (ACE), Canadian Co-operative Association

Discussion yielded these suggestions:

- Have page on Hive, co-op social networking site: <http://www.hive.coop/>
- Track and report on invitations to international meetings originating at congress
- Publish ACE contribution in CASC newsletter (and vice versa)
- Link websites and share newsletters
- Include presenter bios in conference program
- Post PowerPoints on website after conference
- Announce conference theme early enough to plan proceedings and invite plenaries
- Solicit themes before AGM and agree on next year's theme at AGM
- Groom future program chairs/ board members

Board Elections

Outgoing members (including those who had completed two-year terms: Catherine Leviten-Reid, Robin Puga, and Luc Theriault) were thanked for their important service; Past president Catherine Leviten-Reid to continue on board as ex-officio member.

Three members (Darryl Reed, Doug Lionais, and Joy Emmanuel) continue in the second of their two-year terms; Isobel Findlay, Tanya Gracie, Marcelo Vieta, and Fiona Duguid elected for two-year terms. See board positions and contact information later in Newsletter.



President's Report

Darryl Reed



I would like to start this report by thanking all the members of our past executive, especially Catherine Leviten-Reid, who served two

terms as President of CASC and Luc Theriault who was the vice-president last year (and who is also serving as the local events coordinator for our Annual General Meeting to be held in Fredericton this year). Under their leadership CASC has continued to grow and renew itself, most notably perhaps in encouraging greater student involvement.

This year marks an important occasion in co-operative and social economy research as it sees the winding down of what has been an incredibly successful research program. In 2005 SSHRC launched the Social Economy Suite, a special research competition which funded six regional research nodes and a national hub. While the Ontario node finished up last year, the remaining nodes and the national hub will be concluding their activities in 2011. This most prominent impact of this program so far

has probably been the wide variety of research projects that have been carried out by literally hundreds of university and community researchers. In the long run, however, the program may prove to have generated even more important results. One such potential benefit has been the development of a large network of social economy researchers, a network that stretches across a variety of national and international research associations (including CASC).

Emblematic of this development was the staging of the First International CIRIEC conference in Victoria in 2007. Another major benefit of the research initiative was the strengthening of ties between researchers and social economy practitioners, and the corresponding efforts to promote supportive public policy. The most tangible example of this was the 2010 National Summit on a People Centered Economy held last spring in Ottawa.

Although the Social Economy Suite program is winding down, co-operative and social economy researchers are ramping up their activities. In 2009, a proposal from the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) with John Anderson as the Principal Investigator and Sonja Novkovic of St Mary's University as the Network Co-Director) was awarded a

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A 'word cloud' of the most common terms appearing within the Linking, Learning, Leveraging research project website. Image source: <http://usaskstudies.coop/onomy/>

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CURA grant to study "Measuring the Economic, Social and Environmental Impacts of Cooperatives" (<http://www.cooperativedifference.coop/>). Jack Quarter, Director of the Social Economy Centre at the University of Toronto was also successful in obtaining a CURA Grant to investigate "Social Business for Marginalized Social Groups." In addition, the CCA, with the participation of a large number of CASC members, has recently applied to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for a partnership grant to support initiatives around the International Year of the Cooperative in 2012.

For the next few months, of course much of CASC's energy will be focused on the upcoming Annual General Meeting which is to be held in conjunction with the Annual Congress of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, which is to be held in Fredericton and to be hosted by the University of New Brunswick and St. Thomas University. This year we are delighted to have Carlo Borzaga as our keynote speaker. [see insert]. We look

forward to seeing you all there.

At this year's AGM, we will take some time to address a couple of special initiatives that CASC will concentrate on over the next couple of years. One of these is the 2012 International Year of the Co-operative celebrations. We are hoping to discuss several possible events and projects at the AGM, including the possibility of holding our Annual General Meeting in 2012 in conjunction the meetings of CIRIEC Canada and with the national co-operative associations. Also, members of the CASC executive are discussing with the CCA and the regional co-operative bodies how they can work more closely in the promotion of youth initiatives, especially at universities and colleges. There seem to be a variety of ways in which CASC members could become (more) involved.

We look forward forward to your participation in these and other events. Also, we would love to hear any ideas that you have relating to these or other activities that you think CASC should be engaged in. You can write to us at casc.acec@usask.ca.

Keynote Speaker: Carlo Borzaga



Photo source: <http://www.carloborzaga.it>

Prof Carlo Borzaga is chair of the European Research Institute on Co-operative and Social Enterprises (EURICSE) and professor of economic policy, University of Trento.

He researches and publishes widely on labour economics, the economic analysis of non-profit organizations, with a special focus on co-operatives in general and social co-operatives in particular, and the evolution of this sector in Europe.

In addition to extensive governmental consulting work, Carlo has written and co-edited numerous books (including *The Emergence of Social Enterprise*, co-edited with Jacques Defourny) and papers on labour economics, social and co-operative enterprises.

Join us in welcoming Dr. Borzaga as the keynote speaker for the 2011 CASC annual conference. He will also be available for a panel discussion during the events.



Representatives of the Measuring the Co-operative Difference Research Network receive funds from the Honorable Gary Goodyear, Minister of State (Science and Technology)

Left to right: Peter Hough, Dr. J.J. McMurtry, Quintin Fox, Dr. Lou Hammond Ketilson, Prof. Ian MacPherson, John Anderson, Minister Goodyear, Carmen Charette (SSHRC), Dr. Sonja Novkovic, Erin Hancock. (Photo source: www.cooperativedifference.coop/)

The Secretariat has been busy

Fiona Duguid

Update from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Rural and Co-operatives Secretariat (RCS)



The new Research and Knowledge Development (RKD) component of the Co-operative Development Initiative (CDI), managed and delivered by RCS, marks an excellent opportunity for co-op researchers to develop projects with a wide scope that could influence public policy. A total of \$400,000 in federal funding for co-operative research has been dedicated to this project. We look forward to working closely with Canada's co-operative research community.

With the United Nation's proclamation of 2012 as the International Year of Co-operatives the Secretariat has been moving forward with the development of a national co-operative policy framework that aims to build the foundation from which to respond to the sector's needs through 2012 and the next five years.

Since the UN announcement was made in 2009, the Government of Canada put forward its support for the initiative and to date has held stakeholder discussions in Truro, Lévis, Guelph, Winnipeg, and Vancouver to hear regional experiences of development and growth in the co-op sector. Additionally, four special topic roundtables were held to bring together expert knowledge, co-operatives, and development issues:

- low carbon communities
- inclusion through employment and skills development,
- community and neighbourhood

- revitalization
- issues faced by youth in the North.

The diverse input generated by the stakeholder discussions will help to inform the federal government's co-operative policy framework. We thank all of those who attended the discussions and shared their views and ideas with enthusiasm. We invite you all to watch for an article in the Policy Research Initiative's journal, *Horizons*, due out in January 2011 on the initial development of the policy framework.

RCS has also partnered with Industry Canada through the Official Language Minority Communities (OLMCs) working group to participate in research into co-operative business succession. This research will help identify a role for the co-operative model in business succession planning in OLMCs, whether there is a unique cultural approach regarding the application of the model in this context, information about the type of policy, or other support mechanisms that could help with the successful application of the model.

In 2009 the Secretariat partnered with Statistics Canada to conduct a survey on co-operative financing. The Survey on Financing of Co-operatives was designed to gather information on the amounts and types of financing available to co-operatives, as well as on the challenges they face in obtaining financing.

Please watch for all of these articles and reports on our webpage at www.coop.gc.ca or contact Fiona Duguid (fiona.duguid@agr.gc.ca) for more details.

Co-operating for knowledge

Allison Anderson

Canada's two national co-operative associations are continuing their efforts to help establish research priorities aimed at building knowledge about the co-op sector. The Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) and the Conseil canadien de la co-opération et de la mutualité (CCCM) are working in partnership with the federal government's Rural & Co-operatives Secretariat to further Canada's co-op research agenda.

A process to adopt formal priorities and strategic orientations in research is now underway. An expanded web-based inventory of all existing co-op research in Canada (sorted by topic) is being developed in conjunction with a survey to be widely distributed throughout the sector. This survey is an updated version of the one circulated in January & February of 2009.

A copy of the survey will be made available to you; please help us with this project by filling it out and encouraging others to do so as well. We would like to know about any research on co-operatives conducted within the last 5 years – either done at the university level, or on the ground in our communities.

Allison Anderson is a project coordinator at the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA).
www.coopscanada.coop

The CCCM aids in the development of francophone cooperatives across Canada.
www.cccm.coop



CSERP

Ian MacPherson

The Ending of a Project – the Continuation of an Approach



What became known as the Canadian Social Economy Research Partnerships (CSERP) began in 2005, financed by a \$12,000,000 grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. The funds were divided equally among seven partnering organisations, six of them regional nodes (North, Atlantic, Québec, Southern Ontario, Northern Ontario-Manitoba-Saskatchewan, Alberta-British Columbia) and the other a national node or "Hub" located at the University of Victoria.

From a national perspective, CSERP has been a challenging and productive experience. The tasks it undertook are remarkable and unique in the SSHRC experience. They include: enlarging existing networks of researchers and practitioners within the regions and across the country; creating entirely new coalitions in some of the regions; bridging some of the differences between researchers (especially within universities) and practitioners; helping to redefine the nature of "social/economic" research; dealing with different understandings of the nature of the social economy across the country; considering what it means for distinct groups in our society (for example, First Nations, women, and New Canadians); addressing key public policy issues; training young researchers in the issues and methodologies raised by

social economy research; and developing innovative ways in which to communicate the results of the research as it has been developed and completed.

From the perspective of CASC, CSERP has fostered considerable research into the co-operative movement across Canada and has brought both co-operatives and co-operative researchers into closer contact with many other social economy organisations in other countries as well as at "home".

These developments are not of the kind that are ever finalized, but they have been begun. CSERP – the work of the nodes and the "Hub" – has created important and (one hopes) lasting relationships between universities and the practitioner organisations and has contributed to a significant rethinking within SSHRC of how university research can be linked to community interests and needs. It has helped develop a fuller appreciation of how important social economy organisations have been and are in Canada – and how they could become even more useful. It has helped begin the very difficult task of understanding how they could contribute to the development of a fairer Canada, one that most prudently utilizes the resources available to her in the common interest.

Ian MacPherson
Emeritus Professor of History
Principal Investigator
University of Victoria



Are You Up to Date?



As stated in the June 2008 amendments to the constitution, "membership is secured by payment of organization fees either at the regular yearly meeting or to the secretary-treasurer by cheque. Membership is for a year." This means that your membership in CASC may have lapsed based on the last time you paid membership dues - so are you up to date?

This year, thanks to an agreement with Congress, fees for membership have not changed. A regular membership is \$125, while fees for students, senior citizens, and the underwaged are \$55. Membership benefits include receiving the CASC newsletter twice annually, 3 issues per year of the Journal of Co-operative Studies, and announcements of interest (about conferences, new co-operative resources or initiatives, scholarships etc.) through the CASC listserv.

If you need to renew your membership, please see the form concluding this newsletter, or visit our website to apply electronically (www.coopstudies.coop). You may also renew your membership during your attendance at this year's conference in Fredericton.

Call for Papers

Cooperation in a Changing Economy:
The Role of Social Innovation and Collective Entrepreneurship

UPDATE: Deadline extended to February 4th, 2011

Conference Theme

The nature of the economy – both the domestic and international economy – has been dramatically altered over the past three decades due to technological advances, changes in the organization of firms, and the liberalization of domestic economic policies and the international trade and finance regimes. In the new globalizing economy which has emerged as a result of these changes, co-operatives, like other businesses, are coming under increased competitive pressures in their traditional markets and facing new opportunities to expand into national and foreign markets.

In this environment, innovation and entrepreneurship become increasingly important organizational capabilities. In trying to develop and employ such capacities in response to this new environment, cooperatives and related social economy enterprises face particular challenges. In contrast to conventional for-profit firms, they are not only constrained by their legal status – which imposes restrictions on their organizational form, ownership structure and business practices – but perhaps even more fundamentally by the cooperative principles and values to which they aspire.

The theme of this year's annual general meeting has been chosen to draw analytic attention to the ways in which cooperatives and other social economy enterprises are proactively taking up

the challenges and opportunities in the new economy, as well as the (possible) policy responses which help to facilitate innovation and entrepreneurship in these organizations. It also raises questions about the relative importance of specific cooperative values, such as cooperation among cooperatives, and even the need to recognize new potential cooperative values, such as sustainability.

Conference Topics

We invite conference participants to submit abstracts that in some way reflect on processes of social innovation and collective entrepreneurship as they relate to cooperative practice. Possible topic areas include the following:

- Innovation in Management Structures and Practices
- Innovation in Ownership and Governance Structures and Practices
- Innovation in Business and Marketing Strategies
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Youth and Student Cooperatives
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Social and Solidarity Cooperatives
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Inter-cooperation between Cooperatives
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Aboriginal Communities
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Fair Trade, Poverty Reduction and Local

Development Strategies and Practices

- Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Green Production
- The Role of Education in Promoting Innovation and/or Entrepreneurship
- The Role of Research in Promoting Innovation and/or Entrepreneurship
- The Role of Public Policy in Promoting Innovation and/or Entrepreneurship

Submission Guidelines

We invite researchers, students, and practitioners to submit any of three types of proposals:

(1) Individual Papers – Proposals should include: a) your name, title, affiliation and email address; b) a short (two-line) biographical note; c) title of the paper; d) a 100 word abstract (to be printed in the program), and; e) a 500 word summary of the argument, which should include the relationship of the paper to the literature, the research question, methods and, where applicable, findings. Proposals for both empirical and theoretical papers are invited.

(2) Panel Proposals – Proposals should include: a) the title of the panel; 2) a 250 word description of the issue or theme that the panel investigates and how the individual papers relate to the theme/issue; 3) the names, affiliations and contact information for all panel participants, and; 4) 250 word descriptions of all panel presentations. Panel proposals should include 3 or 4 presentations (of 20 and 15 minutes respectively). Proposals for joint sessions with the Association for Nonprofit and Social Economy Research (ANSER) are also welcomed (and should conform to the guidelines above).

(3) Proposals for Roundtables – Proposals should include: a) the title of the roundtable; 2) a 500 word description of the issue or theme that the roundtable investigates and how the appropriateness

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The new globalizing economy is upon us

In this environment, innovation and entrepreneurship become increasingly important organizational capabilities.

Call for Papers (continued)

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of the individual members for participating in the roundtable; 3) the names, affiliations and contact information for all panel participants, and; 4) a short description of the key points/areas that the members of the roundtable will cover. Participants are not expected to deliver formal papers.

All abstracts and proposals for panels and roundtables are due on February 4th, 2011. They may be submitted either in English or French (in either Word or Rich Text Format). They should be sent by email to casc.acec@usask.ca. A

total of two presentations per person will be permitted.

All proposals (for individual papers, panels and roundtables) are subject to peer review. Applicants will be informed of acceptance by February 28th, 2011. A directory of conference delegates will be published in the CASC 2011 Conference Program; if you do not want to have your name, contact information and institutional affiliation published, please notify us when you submit your abstract.

Conference Information

This year's CASC conference will be held from June 1st to June 3rd, 2011 during the Annual Congress of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Science 2011 at the University of New Brunswick and St. Thomas University in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada. Participants in the CASC Conference should register through the website of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences (<http://congress2011.ca/>). Early registration, which includes a price

reduction, ends on March 31, 2011. Fees for the conference include both Congress Registration and a one-year membership in CASC. There is an additional fee for those wishing to attend the Annual CASC Banquet, which is a joint affair held in collaboration with ANSER. The Congress website also includes information on accommodation, discounts for travel, and local information.

For more information on CASC and the general meeting, including updates about keynote speakers, plenary panels, banquet details and the other news, please consult the CASC website or e-mail us at casc.acec@usask.ca.



We look forward to seeing you at the 2011 CASC conference. For information on other important dates, as well as scholarship programs for youth co-operators, please see page 13

The New Co-operativism: A forthcoming journal



Board member Marcelo Vieta has recently had the opportunity to be the guest editor for the latest edition of the online, peer-reviewed journal *Affinities*. As Marcelo writes, the

issue looks at co-operative models that extend beyond common forms:

“Cooperative practices and values that challenge the status quo while, at the same time, creating alternative modes of economic, cultural, social, and political life have emerged with dynamism in recent years.

“The 15 articles in this issue--written by activists, coop practitioners, theorists, historians, and researchers--begin to make visible some of the myriad modes of cooperation existing today around the world that both directly respond to new
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Worker's assembly at the worker cooperative Unión Solidaria de Trabajadores (UST), barrio of Villa Doménico, Avellaneda, Argentina (August 2009). Photo source: Marcelo Vieta

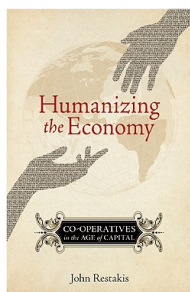
Worth Reading:

Recently Published Literature of Interest



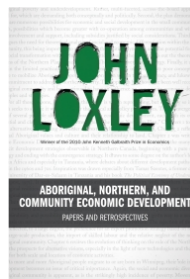
Researching the Social Economy
Edited by Laurie Mook, Jack Quarter, and Sherida Ryan
University of Toronto Press,
320 Pages

Researching the Social Economy is one of the first comprehensive research collections on the social economy in Canada. While the term "social economy" is used widely in Western Europe and Quebec, it has had minimal currency in English Canada, where the differences between the public and private sectors and among nonprofits, co-operatives, social enterprises, and community economic development organizations have been emphasized.



Humanizing the Economy
John Restakis
New Society Publishers,
288 Pages

Humanizing the Economy shows how co-operative models for economic and social development can create a more equitable, just, and humane future. With over 800 million members in 85 countries and a long history linking economics to social values, the co-operative movement is the most powerful grassroots movement in the world. Its future as an alternative to corporate capitalism is explored through a wide range of real-world examples



Aboriginal, Northern, and Community Economic Development
John Loxley
Arbeiter Ring Publishing,
196 Pages

John Loxley has worked in community economic development as a practitioner, advisor, teacher and scholar for over 30 years. The wealth of that experience is reflected in this book, which grapples with the conceptual and political complexities of addressing northern and Aboriginal poverty. Loxley examines a number of possible approaches to economic development, placing each within a broader theoretical and policy perspective, and considering its growth potential and class impact. Accessible and theoretically sophisticated, the book blends international development theory with northern Canadian and Aboriginal realities. It includes an important chapter on traditional Aboriginal values and culture and their relationship to the land.

Please check with the website for the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives (<http://usaskstudies.coop/>) frequently to find out about additional upcoming literature.

If you have recently published, please inform James Popham (james.popham@usask.ca) of your title to have it listed in the upcoming spring edition of the CASC newsletter.

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enclosures and crises and show pathways beyond them. Prefiguring other possibilities for organizing life and provisioning for our needs and desires, we call these cooperative experiments the new cooperativism."

In his introductory editorial Marcelo defines *the new co-operativism* as cooperative models that challenge the status quo and act dynamically to offer alternatives to traditional frameworks such as *capitalocentrism*.

Affinities is an online journal and Marcelo's edition (Vol 4, No. 1) can be viewed at: journals.sfu.ca/affinities/index.php/affinities



The original Toad Lane location of the Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers. This early co-operative is discussed by Marcelo as an example of organizations developing to challenge traditional means of production. Photo Source: Wikimedia commons, author Scarletharlot69

Literature is the thought of thinking souls.

- Thomas Carlyle

Reaching Out: Facilitating Youth and Student Co-operativism

Tanya Gracie and Marcelo Vieta



At the December meeting of the Canadian Co-operative Association's National Youth Caucus, its members identified a vision for co-operative youth engagement in Canada. The vision is that engaging youth in the Canadian co-operative movement will build a more integrated, diverse,



and stronger co-operative movement in Canada and around the world. This vision integrates youth engagement as a means rather than an end. Therefore the question extended to CASC is what role will CASC play in co-operative youth engagement, working to the ultimate achievement of a more diverse and integrated co-operative movement?

At this time the CASC youth engagement portfolio is still in the exploration and development phase, but the board and CASC Youth Committee have begun to discuss the unique role that CASC can play in this process. With CASC members

spread throughout Canada's universities and colleges, with an increasing membership-base of practitioners, and with our close relationships with the CCA, the Rural & Co-operatives Secretariat, CIRIEC, and the Social Economy Hub and its six nodes, the CASC Board and the Youth Committee believe we as an organization are well-positioned to spearhead an outreach program focusing on the post-secondary demographic of young co-operators.

The provincial associations engage teens through the co-operative leadership camps; the provincial associations and other co-operatives and credit unions have internships and programs for young co-operative professionals. Currently there is a gap in outreach and engagement while young people are pursuing their post-secondary studies and we feel that CASC has the opportunity to provide outreach and fill this gap. And more specifically, to create opportunities for students to explore and develop student co-operative enterprises in Canada's colleges and universities.

We would like to hear from you, the CASC membership, over the next months, especially leading up to the AGM at this

year's Congress in Fredericton, regarding how CASC can best reach out to Canada's young co-operators and co-operative researchers. To get the ball rolling and stimulate conversation within CASC, we have recently come up with a two-pronged, short-term and long-term approach. We view this strategy coming to a head perhaps in an event or series of events that CASC will be participating in during 2012, the UN International Year of Co-operatives.

In the short-term, we envision CASC using the 2011 Fredericton conference as launch pad for our youth initiative. One idea we have is to hold a panel, a series of panels, or a workshop on youth and student co-ops at the conference. We know, for example, that there are several student co-operatives throughout Canada's universities, such as UBC's The Bike Coop (<http://bikecoop.ca/about-2/>), the University of Guelph's Campus Co-op bookstore ("run by students, for students since 1913") (<http://www.guelphcampus.coop/>), the Dalhousie Student Union's Food Coop (http://www.dsu.ca/tiger_society/index.php/society/show/245), and a new initiative at York University for assisting the development of student-run businesses. What we don't know is how many of these initiatives exist in Canada's post-secondary institutions or, more importantly, how much interest there is on student campuses for these alternative, student-run businesses.

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A Youth leader takes part in the Youth Experience International. What vision do you have for the young scholars of CASC? Photo source: www.coopscanada.coop

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We think that there probably would be much interest in and support for these co-op businesses on Canada's campuses, serving as alternatives to the corporate invasion of the academy. Perhaps these issues can be a focus of the youth and student workshop or panel at this year's conference. Perhaps there we can begin to explore, with students and youth, how CASC can spearhead this research, or be involved somehow in assisting students in creating co-operative solutions to their social and economic needs.

This workshop could also build on the momentum of the Sustainable Purchasing: Engaging Student and Community Stakeholders conference put on by York University's Business and Society program on Oct. 29, 2010. We invite you, the CASC membership, to spread the word about the workshop or panel(s). Tell your students about it. Get them to think about submitting the papers they are writing for your courses to the conference organizers. Based on our already existing membership, we are certain that CASC's members, working together, can reach out to all of the university and college programs across the country teaching courses on co-operatives or the social economy.

Our longer-term strategy for reaching out to youth and students has us building towards the opportunities created by the 2012 UN International Year of Co-operatives. At this time CASC is interested in formalizing its relationship with the CCA National Youth Caucus, and working with the provincial associations to help build in student youth opportunities into the co-operative youth engagement continuum. As we work to increase our understanding of the support and interest of the CASC membership, to become engaged with student co-operative enterprises, this could become a legacy to the CASC mandate and a legacy that will live beyond the International Year. ●



A screen capture of the "Building Community: Creating Social and Economic Well-Being" website, hosted by the the Centre for the Stucy of Co-operatives at the University of Saskatchewan

What's happening on the WWW?

The Internet has become a ubiquitous tool for any form of research, academic or otherwise. Needless to say, the ability to "Google" a subject has drastically altered the scope of literature searches, and keeping up-to-date with developments in a given field.

The digitization age has led to the development of a new and valuable resource at usaskstudies.coop/exhibit. The "Building Community: Creating Social and Economic Well-Being" virtual exhibit features stories, research outcomes, illustrations, videos, and artifacts prepared by the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives and hosted by the Diefenbaker Canada Centre at the University of Saskatchewan.

This collection is a result of the work from the Northern Ontario-Manitoba-Saskatchewan node (PI Lou Hammond Ketilson) of the CSERP efforts funded by

SSHRC (for more information, on CSERP see the article by Ian MacPherson on page 7). The collected works illustrate the grassroots role in developing inclusive, sustainable, engaged, and enterprising communities.

The organizations profiled on this website each provide an important service to their community, and the shared information here is a valuable tool for all of our ongoing efforts. Please take the time to visit usaskstudies.coop/exhibit ●



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Upcoming events and conferences 2011:

April 6-8 CIRIEC 3rd International
Research Conference on the Social
Economy, Valladolid, Spain.
<http://www.seconferenceciriec.es/en>

May 2-3 Socio-Economic Conference
2011 Statistics Canada, Gatineau (Hull
sector), Quebec.
<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/conferences/socioecon2011/index-eng.htm>

June 1-3 ANSER annual conference,
Fredericton, New Brunswick.
<http://www.anser-ares.ca/>
Abstracts due: January 11, 2011

July 4-7 EMES European Research
Network Research Conference on Social
Enterprise, Roskilde, Denmark.
<http://www.emes.net/index.php?id=514>
Abstracts due: January 28, 2011

July 26-29 2011 ACE Institute Opening
New Doors, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
www.ace.coop
Abstracts due: TBD

August 24-27 ICA Global Research
Conference 2011, Mikkeli, Finland.
<http://www.helsinki.fi/ruralia/ica2011>
Abstract due: March 31, 2011.

Sept. 15-18 IMPACT! Youth Conferene,
University of Guelph, Ontario.
impactyouthsustainability.ca
Abstracts due: January 23, 2011

Nov. 14-18 ICA General Assembly,
Cancun, Mexico. Details forthcoming.
<http://www.ica.coop/al-ica/>

2012 United Nations International Year
of Cooperatives.

CASC Scholarships

The Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) is pleased to announce three scholarships: the Alexander Fraser Laidlaw Fellowship, Amy and Tim Dauphinee Scholarship, and the Lemaire Co-operative Studies Award

In addition to the monetary awards, recipients of each scholarship will be awarded a one-year membership in the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC) as well as free registration at the 2012 CASC conference.

The deadline for applications is March 31, 2011. See the attached application form at the end of this newsletter, or contact Donna Balka (donna.balkan@coopscanada.coop) for more information. Good luck!

Content NEEDED!

One of the challenges of producing a worthwhile newsletter is collecting articles and content for publishing. With the upcoming conference in June, the task of tracking down contributions is even more difficult.

If you have any information that you would like published, **including publications, initiatives, research outcomes, upcoming events, or general news**, please forward it to james.popham@usask.ca. We would also like to host a member's forum to share ideas and thoughts about CASC, so letters to the editor are welcome.

Please make all submissions by April 15th, 2011 to ensure publication.



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership rates for the 2011/12 CASC year are regular members \$125 and students, retired individuals, and the underwaged \$55. Benefits include the following:

- CASC Newsletter twice yearly
- Journal of Co-operative Studies (3 issues per year)
- Announcements of interest (about conferences, new co-operative resources or initiatives, scholarships etc.) through the CASC listserv

Contact Information

Name: _____

Institutional Affiliation (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

_____ (postal code) _____ (country)

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Please let us know if your contact information changes during the year!

Membership Type (Select one of the following):

____ Regular (\$125)

____ Student/Retired/Underwaged (\$55)

Payment Information

Mail the completed membership form, along with a cheque or money order made out to CASC in CDN or US dollars (at par) to:

Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation
c/o Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
University of Saskatchewan
101 Diefenbaker Place
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5B8

Contact us at casc.acec@usask.ca if you have any questions.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR STUDIES IN CO-OPERATION SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION FORM

Please check the awards for which you are applying:

- **Alexander Fraser Laidlaw Fellowship** (graduate students only) []
- **Amy and Tim Dauphinee Scholarship** (graduate students only) []
- **Lemaire Co-operative Studies Award** (undergrad. or grad. students) []

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

University/College: _____

Program: _____ Degree Sought: _____

Date of Entry into Program: _____ Expected Completion Date: _____

Please attach the following information on a separate sheet:

- Background Information
- previous degree(s); official transcripts
- academic awards; distinctions; scholarships
- letters of reference from two referees — one must be academic
- statement of interest in co-operatives
- experience with co-operatives (as either volunteer or employee)

Description of Project

Please attach an outline of your project. (Maximum of 4 pages for graduate students; 1 page for undergraduates. Format: Times 12 pt., 1.5 spacing, 2.54 cm (one-inch) margins.)

Please include the following:

- scope and objective of the project
- theoretical significance and practical importance
- relationship to existing research and literature
- methodology
- schedule of work in progress and work to be done
- name of supervisor and/or instructor

Applicant's signature Date

Return completed application by **March 31, 2011** to:

CASC SCHOLARSHIPS,
c/o Donna Balkan, Canadian Co-operative Association
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