

CO-OP HOLIDAY GUIDE

Last Minute Shopping Edition

Some people have their gifts bought and wrapped before the snow begins to fall. For the rest of us, there's the thrill of frenzied shopping, gift-lists checked off at a mad pace, and navigating pre-Christmas crowds.



If you've exhausted our previous gift guide and still have a few more gifts to buy, try out these other great co-ops.



A Little Bit of Spring

Around this time each year, Canada turns monochrome, and unless your favourite colour is "snow" the scenery can get a bit dull. But through the miracle of modern co-operation (and modern greenhouses), we still have bright and beautiful flowers growing right here in Ontario, and the **Ontario Flower Growers Co-op** can keep your home blooming. Since 1972, the Ontario Flower Growers Co-op has connected their members, a talented and dedicated group of Ontario growers, with flower retailers and flower lovers. Look for their new brand, **Ontario Flowers**, in grocery stores and florists to ensure that you're getting the freshest locally-grown flowers for the holidays.

ontarioflowers.com



ONTARIO FLOWERS
ALWAYS IN SEASON

Warm & Fuzzy...

There are long months left in our Canadian winter. Luckily, the **Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers** have enough cozy wool products to keep your loved ones warm through endless blizzards. Their wool duvets are perfect for cuddling up indoors, while their coats, mittens and socks can help for those unavoidable excursions. Check out their online store and have some Canadian-made warmth delivered to your door.



wool.ca

... or Balmy & Bright

On those days when even thick woolen socks aren't enough, the **Drum Travel Co-op** offers an alternative. This worker co-op specializes in escapes to Africa, Cuba or Latin America—places where winter looks considerably different than it does here. Book an exit from ice and snow today.

drumtravelcoop@on.aibn.com

Ethical Threads

Concern for community is the seventh international principle of co-operation, so building a business around exploiting cheap foreign labour isn't in the co-op mandate. **JustShirts** has founded their business around fair partnership with foreign workers. Born from a group of student activist, and partnering with a co-operative of clothing producers in El Salvador, JustShirts brings you awesome, exploitation-free clothes.

justshirts
SWEATSHOP FREE, FAIRLY-TRADED CLOTHING

justshirts.ca

Powered by People

The worker co-op **Urbane Cyclist** keeps Torontonians rolling. Their focus is on commuter cycling, which means that all the bikes that leave their shop, brand-new or overhauled, are ready to be used day after day, through falls of snow and falls of salt. Their products and their knowledge keep the alternative transportation movement moving in the GTA.



ucycle.com

To find more great co-ops, and more great gifts, try our eDirectory at ontario.coop/find_a_coop.

May you and your loved ones have a wonderful holiday season.

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A Better Bean

The people behind **Planet Bean Coffee** have a lot of passion—for coffee, and for doing business ethically.

Their fair trade, organic certification means that the planet, the coffee farmers, and your pallet all benefit from their business. And as great as their coffee is, it's not all they have to offer: the **Sumac Community Worker Co-op**, owner of Planet Bean, also produces the **Wear Fair** fair trade, organic cotton clothing line. Check out their products—you and the rest of the planet will be glad you did.



planetbeancoffee.com

sumac.coop

A Stitch of Beauty

Co-ops are a great way for artists to combine resources and create community. That's just what the **Contemporary Textile Studio Co-op** did in 2006 when a group of textile artists banded together to form their own studio. Since then, they've been teaching, holding special events, and creating beauty.



textilestudio.ca