



Audrey Aczel, Communications and Event Manager

In this dual role, Audrey oversees the organization's communications strategy, including the website, e-Newsletter, social media, and various print media and publications, such as the Annual Report and other resources. Through this work, she helps to raise awareness of co-operatives, promotes the co-operative identity and encourages co-operative engagement. She also co-ordinates and executes the organization's conferences, fundraisers and events, such as the Annual General Meeting, the Queen's Park Reception, the biennial Provincial Conference, and co-operative banquets and fundraisers.

Since joining OCA in January 2007, Audrey has adopted many roles and applied her skills to various strategic areas, which included managing the association's Government Relations portfolio for six years. During this time, she organized and executed numerous meetings with MPPs and key Ministers, organized Queen's Park Receptions, developed grassroots co-op advocacy campaigns, and provided GR and advocacy consulting services to member organizations.

Audrey was also the Project Manager for the Co-operative Internship Program (CIEP) for eight years. She negotiated and administered the funding partnership with Service Canada that provided well over 100 interns with paid internship placements with co-operative businesses across the province. She developed and executed many skills-based conferences for participants of this program, and assisted in finding full-time employment for many of the program's graduates within the co-operative sector.

Audrey studied Communications and Spanish at Carleton University and obtained her Master's degree in Communications from McGill University in 1997. She has taken post-graduate courses in Events Planning and Management at George Brown College, and in March 2017, completed an Executive Education course in "Enhancing Business Performance through Co-operative Management Practices," from St. Mary's University/Sobey School of Business. Audrey plays volleyball in her spare time and is the proud mother to a teenaged daughter.

Ontario Co-operative Association
30 Douglas Street Guelph, ON N1H 2S9
519.763.8271 ext. 24
aaczel@ontario.coop