



2014 Co-op Connections Eastern Ontario Regional Conference

March 10, 2014 (Ottawa) – On March 18, board, staff and members of co-ops across Eastern Ontario will gather in Ottawa for a one-day conference for co-operatives. This regional assembly builds on the foundation of the first regional conferences held across Ontario during the United Nations International Year of Co-operatives in 2012.

The Co-op Connections Regional Conference – co-hosted by the **Ontario Co-operative Association (On Co-op)** and the **Ottawa Co-op Network** – is just one of three Co-op Connections conferences (Sudbury on March 20 and London on March 27) that will be held in March. Ottawa’s conference will focus on the issues that are important to co-ops in Eastern Ontario, but will also include co-op essentials and tools to address the legislative concerns of the provincial co-op movement (*the Co-op Act*).

“Co-op Connections are a shift in approach for On Co-op, away from an annual Gala and towards regional conferences that will reach a much larger part of the province. Whether you are in housing, daycare, finance, agriculture, or any other sector, our sessions help participants across Eastern Ontario leverage the co-op difference,” said Peter Cameron, Co-op Development Manager for On Co-op.

“The Ottawa Co-op Network is looking forward to welcoming co-op members, the general public and our political representatives from across the region to this exciting conference in the nation’s capital,” said Céline Carrière, a member the Ottawa Co-op Network. Denyse Guy, Executive Director of the Canadian Co-operative Association and city councillor Mathieu Fleury will be on hand to address the participants about co-ops and their impact.

On Co-op notes that this conference will be the beginning of an Ontario regional conference series to continue throughout 2014. An agenda, registration link and more are available at this link:
http://ontario.coop/programs_services/engagement_and_awareness/conferences_round_tables_local_clusters

The Ontario Co-operative Association believes that co-operatives build a better world. We are the trade association that develops, engages, educates and advocates for Ontario’s 1,300 co-operative businesses. On Co-op is an information and resources network with a mission to lead, cultivate and connect co-operatives. Visit ontario.coop.

The Ottawa Co-op Network was formed in September 2011 to bring together co-op and credit union members from across the Ottawa area to network, celebrate and raise awareness about co-operatives. Since we celebrated the International Year of Co-operatives in 2012, our network continues to meet monthly to discuss how we can build upon the momentum of the past year and support and promote co-op business.

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For more information:

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