



9TH ANNUAL CO-OP CONFERENCE + GALA

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14 2009

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS · 680 PLAINS ROAD WEST · BURLINGTON

CO-OP CONFERENCE 9 AM - 5:30 PM · CO-OP SPIRIT AWARDS GALA 5:30 - 9 PM

ONTARIO.COOP/GALA



CO-OPS WORK
EXCEPTIONAL SOLUTIONS
FOR EXCEPTIONAL TIMES

SHARE. LEARN. CELEBRATE ONTARIO'S VI

CO-OPERATIVE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 14 · 9 AM - 5:30 PM

- Introduce your staff, board and volunteers to co-operation
- Gain practical knowledge through workshops and group sessions
- Discuss sector issues and challenges
- Network with co-operators, sector stakeholders and others

SPIRIT RECOGNITION AWARDS GALA

OCTOBER 14 · 5:30 - 9 PM



A celebration honouring best practices and innovation in Ontario co-operatives, and celebrating the contributions made by Ontario co-operators. Nine new Award recipients will join 81 others in the Spirit Awards Hall of Fame.



Schedule

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14 →

NETWORKING

NETWORKING BREAKS 10-10:30 am 2:30-3 pm

LUNCH Noon to 1 pm

COCKTAIL RECEPTION 4:30 to 5:30 pm

Meet, mingle and network with leaders, managers and board members from co-ops and credit unions, co-op sector stakeholders and champions of the co-op movement.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



PLATINUM



DIAMOND



GOLD

The CUMIS Group
Iler Campbell LLP
Lerners LLP
Ontario Student
Co-operative Association

9:00 TO 10:00 AM

KEYNOTE:

CO-OPS WORKING IN EXCEPTIONAL TIMES

ANDREW MacGILLIVRAY
PRESIDENT AND CEO,
GAY LEA FOODS CO-OPERATIVE

The co-op model has had its share of turbulence yet continues to be a source of strength in the face of challenging times. Andrew MacGillivray shares the journey of Gay Lea Foods over the last half-century, describing how the co-op adds excitement to the dairy aisle, while solidly investing in its members and supporting their communities.

10:30 AM TO 12:00 PM

→ CHOOSE ONE MORNING SESSION:

M1 CO-OPS & THE LOCAL FOOD MOVEMENT

MARTHA GAY SCROGGINS
LOFT CO-OP

RANDY WHITTEKER
ONTARIO NATURAL FOOD CO-OP

LINDA GRIMO
NIAGARA LOCAL FOOD CO-OP

Co-operative enterprises can create new markets for farmers, offer meaningful work and support for worker-owners, and provide fresh, sustainable food for consumers. Learn how co-ops are supporting a local food system and creating new ways to produce and distribute food.

M2 SOCIAL MEDIA 101

JAMES BURCHILL INFUSIONSOF

Organizations of every size are constantly faced with new ways to make communication and member outreach more effective. Navigating through the electronic alternatives and determining how to implement them can be daunting. Get the basics of social media and understand how to use it (or not!) in your co-op.

M3 CREATING FERTILE GROUND FOR CO-OP DEVELOPMENT

PETER HOUGH
CANADIAN WORKER CO-OP
FEDERATION / COOPZONE

CATHY LANG C. LANG CONSULTING

New and existing co-ops require an effective development framework of funding, expertise and specialized resources to support their start-up and growth. Our speakers will discuss what should be in every co-op development toolkit, based on their collective years of experience.

BRANT & DIVERSE CO-OPERATIVE SECTOR.

SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS

All proceeds support the Co-operative Young Leaders Program (CYL). CYL is a series of week-long sessions to engage young people in co-ops and credit unions, and to develop future young leaders. In operation since 1967, this year more than 200 youth and 40 volunteer facilitators participated in the program. Bring your cheque books and credit cards!



GETTING THERE

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS 680 Plains Road West, Burlington

BY CAR Near Hwy 403 & 6. Free parking.

BY BUS Hamilton and Burlington city busses stop directly in front of the RBG Centre. Take the Route 1 Plains/Fairview bus.

BY TRAIN Take VIA Rail or GO Transit to Aldershot Station. Take the Route 1 Plains/Fairview bus to the RBG Centre.

BY AIR Fly into Hamilton International (YHM) or Toronto's Pearson International (YYZ) airports.

M4 EMPLOYEE & VOLUNTEER BURNOUT

BERNIE MITCHELL
THE CO-OPERATORS

BARRY HANNAH GROWMARK

Pressure is mounting on co-operative enterprises to "do more with less," placing ever-increasing workload demands on staff and volunteers. How do co-ops counter the threat of burnout and the risk of losing their best employees? What tools exist to keep staff and volunteers healthy, balanced and focused?

M5 DOCUMENTING THE STRENGTH OF CO-OPERATIVES

SOCIAL FINANCE PART 1

JEN HENEBERRY ON CO-OP

JENS LOHMUELLER
COMMUNITY PARTNERS GROUP

When compared to other business corporations, co-op financial information is often presented differently, making it difficult for lenders to quantify their social, democratic and economic strengths. Learn how to "read" co-op financial statements and increase your comfort-level in financing co-operative enterprises. *Part 1 is primarily geared towards lenders and financiers.*

1:00 TO 2:30 PM

PLENARY

100 YEARS OF CO-OPERATION: THROUGH GOOD TIMES AND BAD

How has the co-operative movement fared over the last century? How can we ensure sustainability and growth in the future? Join **Dr. Ian MacPherson**, author of *A Century of Co-operation*, in conversation with **Tanya Gracie**, recipient of the 2009 Youth Leader Spirit Award. **J.J. McMurtry**, author of *Living Economics* and course director of the Co-op Certificate Management program, moderates. **Claude Gauthier**, president of the Canadian Co-operative Association, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, introduces the session.

3:00 TO 4:30 PM

→ CHOOSE ONE AFTERNOON SESSION:

A1 SUSTAINABILITY IN A RECESSION

SEAN MCSWEENEY
MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT CO-OP

JENNIFER WILLIAMS
LA SIEMBRA CO-OPERATIVE

SHANNON MUEGGE
FOURTH PIG WORKER CO-OP

Many co-operatives are incorporating sustainability, organics and fair trade into their operations. Does consumer desire for these practices

remain strong in a recession?

Our panellists discuss the challenges of maintaining a triple bottom line.

Curt Hammond, chair of Positive Power Co-operative, moderates.

A2 RECOVERING FROM DISASTER

MICHAEL BASS THE CO-OPERATORS

NORMA JONES
CANADIAN CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

BRENT BELLAMY SCIENCE '44 CO-OP

Planning for the unforeseen can ultimately save time, money and resources should disaster strike your business. Hear first-hand from co-ops that have recovered from a disaster or implemented emergency plans. Learn disaster-recovery best practices from our risk management specialists.

A3 WOMEN IN THE CO-OP MOVEMENT

MELANIE CONN DEVCO

BRIGITTE GOULARD
CREDIT UNION CENTRAL OF CANADA

JANET BOOT GAY LEA FOODS

The co-operative model has been used to help achieve social goals related to women's empowerment, especially in developing countries. Do Canadian co-ops achieve the same goals domestically? **Heather McLachlin**, VP corporate marketing, The CUMIS Group, will moderate.

A4 EXCEPTIONAL AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

JIM CAMPBELL
AGRIS CO-OPERATIVE

DAVE STEFFLER

GRAND RIVER CARSHARE & HAMILTON CARSHARE

The co-op model continues to provide new solutions in a complex world. Discover a traditional co-operative that provides unique products and services, and a ground-breaking co-op that innovatively meets the needs of its communities.

A5 EFFECTIVELY PRESENTING CO-OP FINANCES

SOCIAL FINANCE PART 2

JEN HENEBERRY ON CO-OP

JENS LOHMUELLER
COMMUNITY PARTNERS GROUP

Co-operatives may be at a disadvantage when seeking financing because the co-op model is generally not well understood among financiers. Understanding how your co-op's financial information can work for you – and how to present it effectively to lenders – is vital. Learn what financial institutions need to see so that your co-op meets its financing needs. *Part 2 is primarily designed for co-op staff and directors.*

SILVER

Alterna Savings
The Big Carrot
CHF Canada

Clarion Marketing & Communications
Ontario Natural Food Co-op
Prentice Yates & Clark

BRONZE

Ag Energy Co-operative
The Canadian CED Network
CL Chamberlain Communication
Farm Credit Canada

Grand River CarShare & Hamilton CarShare
Homestarts
Masterfeeds
Ontario Farmer

FRIEND

Unifirst Canada
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