

Co-Directors

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- Director, Government Affairs and Public Policy, Canadian Co-operative Association

◆ **Dr. Sonja Novkovic**, Academic Co-Director
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Collaborators

◆ Dr. Leslie Brown, Mount Saint Vincent University

◆ Quintin Fox, Canadian Co-operative Association

◆ Peter Hough, Canadian Worker Co-operative Federation

◆ Dr. Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives, University of Saskatchewan

◆ Dr. Catherine Leviten-Reid, Cape Breton University

◆ Dr. Ana Maria Peredo, Centre for Co-operative and Community-based Economy, University of Victoria

◆ John Restakis, British Columbia Co-operative Association

◆ Dr. Luc Thériault, University of New Brunswick

Partners

◆ Joanna Buczkowska, University of Victoria

◆ Co-op Atlantic

◆ Elizabeth Hicks, Mount Saint Vincent University

◆ Dr. Michael Gertler, University of Saskatchewan

◆ Jessica Gordon Nembhard

◆ Wendy Keats, Co-operative Enterprise Council, N.B.

◆ Dr. André Leclerc, Université de Moncton

◆ Dr. Jo-Anne Lee, University of Victoria

◆ Judith Lipp, Toronto Renewable Energy Co-op

◆ Prof. Ian MacPherson, Professor Emeritus, University of Victoria

◆ Dr. J.J. McMurtry, York University

◆ Dr. James Rowe, University of Victoria

◆ Karla Skoutajan, Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada

◆ Rural and Co-operatives Secretariat

◆ Dr. Ryszard Stocki, University Wyższa Szkoła Biznesu - National Louis, Poland

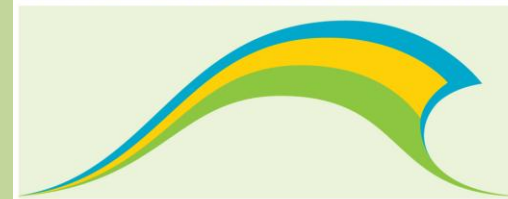
◆ Conseil canadien de la coopération et de la mutualité

◆ And many others...

OUR OBJECTIVES

- **Produce and disseminate knowledge** about the impacts of the co-operative form of organization;
- **Create tools** to measure the value added by co-operatives;
- **Deepen existing linkages** and networks within the co-operative movement;
- **Inform public policy** on the role and value of co-operatives; and
- **Build capacity** (within academia and co-operatives) to put co-operative principles into practice.

Réseau de recherche pour mesurer la
DIFFÉRENCE COOPÉRATIVE



Measuring the Co-operative Difference
RESEARCH NETWORK

A suite of research projects measuring the value added of co-operatives and their social, economic and environmental impacts on Canadians and their communities



Program Coordinator

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Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
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Canada

www.cooperativedifference.coop

In February 2010, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) awarded a five year \$1 million Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) grant to the Canadian Co-operative Association in partnership with four Canadian universities (listed in the clusters to the right). The CURA established a suite of research projects that measure the social, economic and environmental impact of co-operatives.



RESEARCH QUESTIONS

This CURA seeks to answer the following questions, among others:

- What is the precise nature of the co-operative difference?
- How can it be fostered?
- What are the effects of the co-operative difference on co-op performance, co-op members, and the broader community?



National Cluster

Partners: *The Canadian Co-operative Association, the Rural and Co-operatives Secretariat, le Conseil canadien de la coopération et de la mutualité, Toronto Renewable Energy Co-operative, provincial associations and other academic and co-operatives partners*

National Cluster Projects

- Survey of co-operatives – measuring longevity, social and economic impact
- Co-operative Development Initiative (CDI) and Innovation
- Examining the value and potential of national co-op sector federations
- Co-operatives and alternative energy production
- Mapping the 170 year history of the Sussex Co-op, New Brunswick

Prairie Cluster

Partners: *University of Saskatchewan, Advantage Credit Union, Affinity Credit Union, Quint Development Corporation, Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada and other community partners*

Prairie Cluster Projects

- Measuring the impact of credit unions on wealth building in communities
- Measuring the Co-operative Difference in Housing

Western Cluster

Partners : *University of Victoria Centre for Co-operative and Community-based Economy, BALTA (British Columbia and Alberta Social Economy Research Alliance), British Columbia Co-operative Association and a multi-disciplinary academic team along with other community partners*

Western Cluster Projects

- Integrating approaches to the co-operative difference
- Survival rates of co-operatives in British Columbia
- Co-operative Inquiry: Co-operatives and marginalized communities in British Columbia
- Co-operatives in British Columbia : Infrastructure support

Atlantic Cluster

Partners: *St.Mary's University, Mount Saint Vincent University, Canadian Worker Co-operative Federation, Université de Moncton, various local co-operatives, international partners & other community partners*

Atlantic Cluster Projects

- Co-operative sustainability and planning practices : Lessons from consumer co-operatives in Atlantic Canada
- Co-op Index : Diagnosing co-operatives for member/employee participation and adherence to principles and values
- Theoretical advances in economic and management models

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