



## YOU ARE INVITED!

Join us for the launch of the  
Network at the CASC Meeting

Learn about the new **Measuring the Co-operative Difference Research Network** and mingle with the researchers involved. The Principal Investigator and other researchers will share an overview of the research being undertaken as part of this \$1 million Community University Research Alliance.

A light lunch will be provided.

**Thursday, June 3, 2010.**  
12:15pm  
Concordia University  
EV 1-605 (1515 St. Catherine West)

“The fact that 2012 has been proclaimed the International Year of Co-operatives by the United Nations makes this a particularly opportune time to carry out this initiative.”

-John Anderson, Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy, CCA



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## Measuring the Co-operative Difference Research Network

A new suite of research projects, funded through SSHRC as a Community-University Research Alliance, measuring the value added of co-operatives and their social, economic and environmental impact on Canadian communities

[www.cooperativedifference.coop](http://www.cooperativedifference.coop)

## Our Plan

The partners in this research alliance believe that in these uncertain economic times, Canada must tap into its full wealth of knowledge and insight and examine all viable solutions to the challenges that confront our people and communities.

To this end, this research aims to examine the full impact of co-operatives on Canada's **social, economic and environmental** fabric, and demonstrate their value in Canadian communities, while guiding co-operatives themselves in better understanding and improving their impact in these areas.

This research is intended to serve the people and communities of Canada. Therefore, all materials resulting from the project will be shared widely through a variety of means – including a website, online conferences, booklets and brochures, presentations and community forums.

## Co-Directors

### Principal Investigator and Community Co-Director

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

### Academic Co-Director

Dr. Sonja Novkovic, Professor of Economics, Saint Mary's University



## Research Clusters

Our research structure consists of 4 research clusters based at Canadian universities. Each of the Cluster Leaders below will be working closely with many community and academic partners throughout the duration of the research process.

### Atlantic Cluster

Dr. Leslie Brown  
Mount Saint Vincent University

### Prairie Cluster

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

### Western Cluster

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

### National Cluster

Quintin Fox  
Canadian Co-operative Association

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## Our Projects

- **Social and environmental accounting and reporting practices (SEAR) in co-operatives**
- **Diagnosing co-operatives for member/employee participation and its impact on performance (CoopIndex)**
- **Measuring the impact of credit unions on wealth building in communities**
- **Impact of co-operative housing on household income, skills and capital**
- **Impact of co-operatives on community**
- **Infrastructure support for co-operatives**
- **Measuring the longevity, social and environmental impact**
- **Co-operative Development Initiative and innovation**
- **Examining the value and potential of national coop sector federations**
- **Theoretical advances in economic and management models**
- **Co-operatives and alternative energy production**