



NEWS AND VIEWS

APRIL, 2007

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Report from the Executive Director

BALTA (B.C. Alberta Research Alliance)

Michele Aasgard and Carol Murray attended a meeting in Vancouver which focused on research priorities and opportunities for research on social enterprise and co-operatives work in BC and Alberta. Carol's team is looking at affordable housing and Michele's is focusing on natural resources and communities. The Alberta group is planning on meeting in the next few weeks to look at Alberta opportunities.

Tradeshows

ACCA recently attended six tradeshows: the [Credit Union Central Alberta](#), [Wildrose Agriculture Producers](#), [Farm Tech 2007](#), the [Alberta Agriculture Societies Association of Alberta](#), [Alberta Federation of REAs](#), and the [Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties](#). These were successful tradeshows for ACCA. Thanks to Credit Union Central board/staff and the Alberta Federation of REAs board/staff for providing us with a complimentary booth.

Training Workshops

A winter scheduled training workshop along with a scheduled workshop for Federated Co-operatives Limited and United Farmers of Alberta Co-operative Limited were delivered in November, December and January.

ACCA also attended a meeting with the [Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues](#) and the [Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties](#) to discuss the possibility of partnering on some courses and workshops.



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Co-operative Development

- Packages for the 2007 Co-operative Merit Awards and the Co-operative Development Initiative Advisory Services grants have been circulated.
- Michele Aasgard attended the Canadian Co-operative Associations 2007 Institute of Co-operative Studies as one of the team facilitators.
- ACCA hosted a conference call with [Northern Alberta Housing Co-operative Association](#) (NACHA, Keith Harding), [Southern Alberta Co-operative Housing Association](#) (Brenda Tewiel, new Executive Director for SACHA) and [The Communitas Group](#) (Lynn Hanley) regarding the newly created Affordable Housing Task Force.
- Michele Aasgard also attended an Agriculture Co-operative Development Initiative Conference held in Ottawa.

Co-operative Development Initiative

ACCA will again be the host organization for the [Co-operative Development Initiative](#) for the final year of Federal Government Funding for co-op development. The Co-operative Development Initiative Prairie Hub Advisory Services strategic plan was once again approved for 2007–2008. A portion of the approved \$180,000 will provide some funding for co-operative development in Alberta. ACCA will re-sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Canadian Co-operative Association and the CCC to act as the host organization for the Co-operative Development Initiative, Prairie Hub Advisory Services. ACCA manages the administration of the initiative in the prairies.



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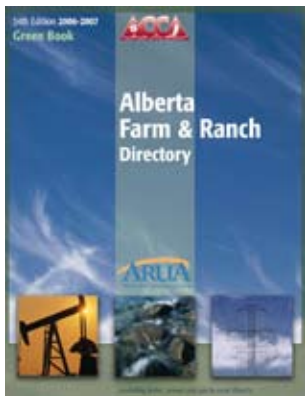
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Alberta Farm and Ranch Directory



Attention listers and advertisers! The 2007 [Alberta Farm and Ranch Directory](#) is being prepared, and it's time for you to update your listing or confirm your ad.

More than 15,000 copies of the directory are distributed to various areas (primarily throughout Alberta) as follows:

- Bulk mail (11,000) drop in various farming communities in rural Alberta
- Agricultural and Educational Organizations
- Fairs, Exhibits, Agricultural Conferences, etc.
- Government Offices: MLAs, MPs, etc.
- Greenbook Advertisers and Listers
- ACCA Member Organizations

Readership is estimated at 30,000. All listers will receive a free copy of the directory, and all advertisers will receive a free listing and complimentary copies. As added exposure, the directory is downloadable all year long from the ACCA website.

All updates must be received no later than April 30, 2007. For further information on acceptable forms of artwork, please contact [Dianne Schoepp](#).

AGM May 30, 2007



The [Alberta Community and Co-operative Association](#) Annual General Meeting will be held at the Royal Glenora Club in Edmonton, Alberta on May 30, 2007 commencing at 1:30 p.m. Along with the ACCA AGM, the 2007 Co-operative Merit Award luncheon will also be held. Please visit the ACCA website over the next two weeks where more information on the AGM and the Merit Award Luncheon will be posted.



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The RTAB complete action plan is available by [clicking here](#).

The Strategic Planning Meeting for Rural Team Alberta (RTAB) was held on March 1.

Rural Teams (RTs) act as intergovernmental and interdepartmental collaborative forums in support of rural and northern citizens and their communities. The key outcomes are improved communication, coordination, cooperation, and collaboration on rural issues by federal, provincial and non-government organizations. By working towards these outcomes, RTs will support the creation of an environment that will foster economic and social opportunities to improve quality of life, self-reliance and the development of viable rural and northern communities. ACCA is one of three non-government organizations that have been invited to take part in RTAB.

The breadth of RT membership uniquely positions them to accomplish the roles outlined below in building broad partnerships around rural/northern/remote issues, priorities and initiatives. These roles represent the main or key functions of RTs and are not designed to be all-encompassing or to capture the full breadth of RT functions or activities. They are listed in no particular order as differing circumstances, political and regional realities etc., dictate when and how these roles are put into action.

1. Networking and Fostering Collaboration
2. Educating and Informing
3. Intelligence Gathering



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We are well on our way with the youth program for 2007. The program brochures and posters as well as the staff registration packages were mailed out in January and early February and staff teams have been filling up quickly. We also have several participants registered.

We received a package from [Alberta Milk](#) which contained enough pens and sticky note pads to be used at the program this summer. Many thanks to Alberta Milk for this contribution.

Contributions to the Youth Program are always welcome. Some of the things that would help us out are:

Photocopy paper: 1 case 8 ½ x 11
Colored paper: 8 reams
Upright folder boxes for supplies
Construction paper
Posterboards: 350
Flip chart paper: 15 pads
Lined paper: 5 reams
Tin foil: 1 roll
Wax catchers for candles
Square sponges: 10
Small hand pencil sharpener: 5
Colored markers (Mr. Sketch): 5 packages
Inkjet cartridges for printer
Cartridges for fax machine
White envelopes (smaller than legal): 350
CDs, cases and labels: 350 each
Pipe cleaners: various colors
Index cards: 1000 cards
Ziploc bags (medium size): 3 boxes
Ziploc bags (large size): 1 box
Wooden cut outs
Hanging nametags with inserts: 100
Inserts for nametags: 150
Rechargeable batteries for digital camera

Certificate paper-350 sheets
Gently used computers and printers
First aid supplies (polysporin, bandages, gauze, hot/cold packs, tweezers, safety pins, latex gloves, adhesive tape, scissors, tensor bandages, cotton balls, maxi-pads, tampons, hydrogen peroxide, mole skin, tylenol, Muskol etc)

CANTEEN: Suggestions and approximate quantities:
Pop (200 cans) water (75 bottles) Coke, diet Coke, Nestea, Barq's Rootbeer, Sprite, Mountain Dew, Aquafina water
Peanut free chocolate bars (21 boxes of 24): Coffee Crisp, Rolo, Aero, Aero Chunky, Kit Kat, Mars, Crunchie, Twix, Caramilk etc- **MUST HAVE** peanut free symbol on box
Chips (150 bags): Lays, Doritos, Pretzels
Candy: Nibs, Freezies, Topps Ring Pops, Mega Double Lollies, Wonka Nerds, Skittles, Wonka Gobstoppers, Mentos, candy necklaces
Baggies for canteen candy



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Glen Tully was re-elected president of the board of [Federated Co-operatives Limited](#) on March 6. The election took place at the board reorganization meeting following FCL's 78th annual meeting held in Saskatoon.

The FCL board of directors consists of 19 members elected from 19 geographical regions in western Canada. The president is primarily responsible for the functioning of the democratic decision making structure that guides the operations of FCL. The FCL presidency is a full-time position, based at FCL's home office in Saskatoon.

Officers:

Herb Carlson, Buchanan, SK (Vice-chair)
Barry Gosnell, Chair, Winnipeg Region
Don Russell, Chair, Saskatoon Region
Russell Wolf, Chair, Calgary Region
Don Fluney, Chair, Edmonton Region
Keith Corbould, Chair, British Columbia Region

Board members:

Glen Tully, Saskatoon, SK
John Sandborn, Benito, Manitoba
Ed Dufault, Naicam, SK
Russell Wolf, Spruce view, AB
Donna Bourgoïn, Swift Current, SK
Judy Clavier, Sunset Prairie, British Columbia

ACCA grant recipients

ACCA is pleased to announce our grant award recipients for 2007. This granting program is funded through the federal Co-op Development Initiative, Advisory Services program.

- *Calgary Farmers' Market NGC Inc.* – this co-op group will be using the ACCA grant to develop a feasibility study for expansion of their co-op.
- *Morinville Municipal Seed Cleaning Co-op Ltd.* – the co-op will use the grant towards the cost of management training.
- *Calgary Alternative Transportation Co-op* – CATCO, a car-sharing co-op, will be bringing in an expert consultant on car sharing co-ops to advise the group on best practices
- *Seniors Housing-Co-op in Rocky View* – this co-op is at a pre-incorporation phase and will be exploring best practices for housing co-ops and developing a feasibility study through community consultation.



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AB CEDNet Co-op Learning Events



alberta community economic
development network co-op

www.abced.ca

The AB CEDNet Co-op will be hosting a series of learning events throughout the province on co-ops and social enterprises. These events serve as the beginning of an annual series of activities across rural Alberta and hosted by the AB CEDNet Co-op. Check the Alberta CEDNetwork Coop's website for more details.

Edmonton CED Learning Event will focus on Co-ops and Social enterprises. Tuesday April 10th, from 6-9 pm, Green & Gold Room of Commonwealth Stadium (free parking provided). A light supper will be provided.

Calgary CED Learning Event

Calgary will be holding a CED info session with a number of co-ops and CED organizations already confirmed for display booths:

- Alberta Community Economic Development Network Cooperative
- Business Alliance for a Local Living Economy Calgary Chapter
- Calgary Dollars/CATCO
- Calgary Drop-In Centre and Rehab Woodworking Program
- EthniCity Catering
- Momentum
- Walk-In Closet
- Women In Need Society

Other locations

The Alberta CED Network Co-op, in collaboration with Community Futures, is holding northern Alberta rural community learning events in the month of April in the Peace River country (event to be held in Grande Prairie on April 11) and in St. Paul (April 18). These events will highlight the success stories of Westlock Terminals



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NGC Ltd., a CED initiative which is also a new generation co-operative, and Branding the Peace, a Peace Country initiative. A similar event will occur in Taber later in May (more information on date and location can be obtained from Rebekah Seidel, Project Coordinator at 403.843.4879).

Founding Meeting

Having just become officially incorporated as a cooperative, the AB CEDNet Co-op will be hosting its founding meeting in Red Deer on May 11, 2007. This meeting will include the election of the Board of Directors and a learning event with guest speaker(s). The network is encouraging participation from around the province to ensure a strong rural voice on its Board and to strengthen its links to rural communities for its next round of rural learning events.



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If you wish to have your name removed from our subscribers list, please send an email to acca@acca.coop.