



NEWS AND VIEWS

APRIL, 2008

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ACCA *News and Views* will be published at the beginning of each month. Please submit news items or information you would like to share to acca@acca.coop.

In this issue ...

ACCA Member Profile: Canadian Workers' Cooperative Federation.....	2
ACCA News.....	3
New Cooperatives in Alberta – April 1, 2007 to March 28, 2008	3
BALTA Social Economy Mapping Survey	4
Glen Tully Re-elected Federated President	4
BALTA – Opportunity for Student Research Assistantships	5
CCA Announces 2008 Internships	6
Social Entrepreneurship – Self-financing Our Community Destiny	7
Government of Canada Announces Funding For 10 Co-Operative Projects....	8
The First Course for Fundraising Professionals.....	10
Calgary Co-op Announces Board Election Results.....	10
Members Overwhelmingly Favour Creating Canada's First Province-wide Credit Union	11
Community Economic Development Officer – Sanikiluaq, Nunavut	12
The Multicultural Health Brokers Co-operative Workshop	13

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ACCA Member Profile: Canadian Workers' Cooperative Federation



The **Canadian Worker Co-operative Federation** was founded in the spring of 1991 to be the national, bilingual association of worker-owned co-operatives. There are approximately 65 worker co-op members, 75 worker co-op developer members and 15 associate members. Strong working relationships have been developed with the large worker co-op sector in Quebec, the fledgling US worker co-op federation (which was founded in 2004), and with the international movement through the International Co-op Alliance affiliate CICOPA, where CWCF has since 2003 had Board representation.

The Vision of CWCF is: *To be a growing, cohesive network of democratically controlled worker co-ops that provide a high quality of work life and support the development of healthy and sustainable local economies, based on co-operative principles.*

The mission statement of the Canadian Worker Co-operative Federation is to:

1. Strengthen our worker co-op members.
2. Support the development of new worker co-ops.
3. Strengthen the Federation and its governance.



Since the fall of 2005, CWCF has administered CoopZone, for the benefit of the larger co-operative sector. CoopZone is a forum for co-operative development in Canada, with two components: a Network of Co-operative Developers, and a web site with information, tools and resources, at <http://www.coopzone.coop>.

Benefits of Membership/Services Offered by CWCF

Members can access hard-to-find information regarding worker co-ops on issues such as EI eligibility, taxation, other worker co-ops, etc. Members of the CWCF have access to the CWCF RRSP program. They receive discounts on registration fees as well as travel subsidies to attend the annual CWCF conference. The CWCF is committed to ensuring that worker co-operatives have a level playing field with other forms of business, and members share in this benefit. Further, CWCF is partnering with others in the co-op sector to deliver advisory services to worker co-operatives under the CDI program. The CWCF administers a small capital fund, capitalized by Human Resources Development Canada. The Worker Co-op Fund helps to capitalize worker co-operatives and provide leverage to obtain conventional financing. It works in conjunction with the Worker Co-op Developers Network, which provides the development capacity.



ACCA Annual General Meeting

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The Annual General Meeting of the Alberta Community and Co-operative Association will be held in Calgary, Alberta on Wednesday, April 30, 2008. [Registration forms](#) are available on the ACCA website.

ACCA Summer Co-operative Youth Program

Registrations for the 2008 ACCA Summer Co-operative Youth Program are now being accepted. We have four phases to our program: the NEW Pre-Teen Program for ages 11-12, the Teen Program for ages 13-14, the Youth Program for ages 15-16 and the Grad Program for ages 17-18. Registration forms can be found on our website at <http://www.acca.coop/SummerBrochure08.pdf> or you can contact our office at (780) 963-3766.

New Cooperatives in Alberta – April 1, 2007 to March 28, 2008

ACCA is pleased to announce the incorporation of the following new co-operatives in Alberta. Congratulations to you all.

Name of Cooperative	Location	Type of Business
The Cooperative of the Edmonton Korean Businessmen's Association	Edmonton	Ethnic
Alberta Pharmacy Co-op	Calgary	Retail
Calgary Arby's Co-op Inc	Calgary	Marketing
Alberta Rhodiola Rosea Growers Organization NGC Inc	Leduc	New Generation
Canmore Community Cooperative Workshop and Gallery	Canmore	Other
Sandstone Ranch Grazing Cooperative	Carston	Grazing
Cooperative Radio Communautaire Centre-Est	Calgary	Other

BALTA Social Economy Mapping Survey



Link to survey:

<http://www.socialeconomy-bcalberta.ca/mapping.html>

Connecting social goals with our economic lives has never been more important. In recognition of this significance, BALTA is working to identify the size and scope of social economy organizations in British Columbia and Alberta through an online survey. The data we collect will be used to promote and strengthen the sector, to establish support networks within it, and to provide information to policy makers, practitioners, academics and the public.

We need your support in this endeavor. Please encourage your colleagues working in social enterprises, non-profit organizations, co-operatives and credit unions to spend 10-15 minutes filling out the BALTA survey. The information provided by this research project will not only capture a picture of the existing social economy, but will help us strengthen this vital sector in Western Canada.

Fill in the BALTA Survey before 15 April 2008, and your group will be eligible for the BALTA SURVEY “Lunch on Us” DRAW to win a \$150 dollar gift certificate.

Help us put BC and Alberta’s Social Economy on the map.

Glen Tully Re-elected Federated President

Glen Tully was re-elected president of the board of [Federated Co-operatives Limited](#) at the board’s reorganization meeting following the co-op’s AGM earlier this month. 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 the co-op’s home office in Saskatoon, SK.

BALTA – Opportunity for Student Research Assistantships

The BC-Alberta Research Alliance on the Social Economy (BALTA) is seeking qualified students to fill several paid research assistant (RA) positions as part of its 2008-2009 research program.

For further information, see our interim website:

www.socialeconomy-bcalberta.ca/jobs.html

BALTA is interested in preselecting applicants to conduct research related to the social economy in one or more of the following areas.

- Community renewable energy
- Local food systems
- Land trusts/land tenure
- Forestry/non-timber forest products
- Affordable housing
- Social care and services
- Public policy
- Infrastructure and financing

Further areas of research may emerge in planning, so it is worth applying if you have a general academic interest in the social economy.

It is expected that the research will entail one or more of the following:

- Surveying and mapping social enterprise activities and best practices in BC and Alberta as related to one or more of the key research themes listed above
- Conducting case studies of existing social enterprises in the key areas in BC and Alberta
- Review of municipal, provincial and/or federal legislation which are directly relevant to one or more the above research areas

This is a pre-selection process whereby interested applicants can be added to a qualified applicant pool. Selection will be based on the applicant's demonstrated research experience and theoretical and/or practical experience in the social economy or social enterprise.

If you have any additional questions about the RA postings or about the BALTA project, please contact: Sara Jane Brocklehurst, BALTA Academic Coordinator at sjbjoat@shaw.ca.

CCA Announces 2008 Internships

For more information, contact
Monique Charron
1-866-266-7677 ext. 224
Monique.charron@coopscanada.coop

The Canadian Co-operative Association has been (conditionally) approved for nine Youth Experience International (YEI) Internships for 2008-09. CCA's Youth Experience International Program offers young graduates the work experience they need to secure good jobs - in Canada or abroad. It also provides them with an opportunity to discover the world and themselves. For more information on go to [the CCA website](#).

The nine internship positions include:

Internship Title	Country	Host Organization
Administration and Finance Officer	El Salvador	Sociedad Cooperativa Prod. De Marañón (SCPM)
Youth Savings Officer	Ghana	Ghana Cooperative Credit Unions Association Limited
Impact Assessment Officer	Ghana	Social Enterprise Development Foundation of West Africa (SEND)
Project Assessment Officer	Ghana	Social Enterprise Development Foundation of West Africa (SEND)
Project Coordinator	Honduras	La Federación Hondureña de Cooperativas de la Reforma Agraria or Honduran Federation of Agricultural Reform Cooperatives (FECORAH)
Administration and Finance Officer	Honduras	La Federación Hondureña de Cooperativas de la Reforma Agraria or Honduran Federation of Agricultural Reform Cooperatives (FECORAH)
HIV/AIDS and Gender Program Officer	Malawi	The Malawi Union of Savings and Credit Co-operatives (MUSCCO)
Administration Officer	Nicaragua	Central of Multi-sectoral Farmer Co-operatives or La Central de Cooperativas Campsinas Multisectorial de Productores de Oriente R. L. (CECAMPO)
Environmental Protection Officer	Uganda	Uganda Co-operative Alliance (UCA)
Project Researcher	Ukraine	Canadian Co-operative Association, Field Office

Social Entrepreneurship – Self-financing Our Community Destiny

To see some of the initiatives LaVerne Erickson has successfully launched in the past, check out these web sites:

www.chemainustheatrefestival.com
www.festivalinn.com
www.rosebudschoolofthearts.com
www.rosebudtheatre.com
www.canadianpassionplay.com
www.canadianbadlands.com

About the Presenter

LaVerne Erickson is a mix of artist, entrepreneur and visionary. As an artist he has composed a great deal of choral music and his paintings hang in public and private collections. As a planner he has helped communities develop community plans. As an educator he has taught at the elementary, secondary, college and university levels. He founded the Rosebud School of the Arts, the Canadian Badlands Passion Play in Drumheller, and the Chemainus Theatre Festival on Vancouver Island. He coined the name “Canadian Badlands” and serves on the board of this initiative as it becomes Alberta’s next international tourism icon. LaVerne lives with his wife Arlene in Rosebud, Alberta. They are parents of an adult son and daughter.

Imagine Red Deer as a city in which its citizens are able to finance the social infrastructure they want, without total reliance on grants or initiatives from the provincial and federal governments. Come and hear a free presentation by LaVerne Erickson on how we as citizens can use our RRSPs and other financial vehicles to fund needed social infrastructure such as affordable housing, student residences, arts and culture facilities, social enterprise etc. It takes place at 7:30 PM. Wednesday, April 16th at the Red Deer Lodge (Piper Creek Room) For those who are inspired by the vision of what is possible and want to move forward without delay, there will be a follow-up session at 10:00 AM the next morning at the Snell Auditorium of the Red Deer Public Library.

LaVerne Erickson has a wealth of experience structuring community initiatives using multiple financial vehicles such as mortgages, condominium structures, and community held corporations, along with conventional financing, to build needed community assets. For more information about social enterprise visit the web site www.enterprisingnonprofits.ca.

This event is sponsored by:



Government of Canada Announces Funding For 10 Co-Operative Projects

Second-Phase Funding for Co-ops in Biofuels and Value-Added Agriculture Initiatives

The Honourable Christian Paradis, Secretary of State for Agriculture, has announced the first 10 co-operative projects to qualify for funding under the second phase of the Agriculture Co-operative Development Initiative (Ag-CDI). This initiative is designed to ensure that farmers and rural communities have opportunities to participate in and benefit from increased Canadian bio-fuels production and value-added agriculture. Of the 10 new projects, three are bio-fuel related and seven qualify under the value-added agriculture initiative.

“The Government of Canada is pleased to support these co-operative projects through our bio-fuels strategy,” said Secretary of State Paradis. “We are encouraged by the interest and enthusiasm as Canadians come together to respond to market opportunities, and by the range of value-added sectors represented in this round of applications.”

“The three small-scale regional bio-fuel and bio-energy projects that were approved show strong vision coming from the particular sector – one in which farmers, rural communities and the environment all have a sustainable future,” said Secretary of State Paradis. “The other successful applicants are working to strengthen the marketing and distribution system for local food production and are meeting market demand for natural health.”

Ag-CDI is financially supported by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and co-managed by the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) and the Conseil Canadien de la Coopération, in partnership with the Co-operatives Secretariat.

“This initiative delivers in more ways than one. In addition to being good for this environment, the funding is helping farmers to become directly involved in bio-fuel production, help them access new markets for their crops, and create new development



For additional information about the Ag-CDI program, contact:
Patti Giovannini
Program Manager
Agricultural Co-op Development Initiative (Ag-CDI)
275 Bank Street, Suite 400
Ottawa, ON K2P 2L6
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Fax. 613-567-0658
Patti.Giovannini@coopscanada.coop

opportunities for our rural communities,” said Carol Hunter, executive director of CCA. “Co-operatives have always been one of the best tools to help producers re-position themselves and reclaim some ownership and control in their industry.”

The second round recipients are: Vancouver Island Heritage Foodservice Co-operative Association; Alberta Rhodiola Rosea Growers Organization; Craik Bioproducts and Eco-Mart Co-op; Farmers Markets Association of Manitoba Co-op Inc.; EVERPURE Biodiesel Co-op; Local Initiative for Future Energy Co-op Inc; Niagara AgriTourism Centre; Coopérative de machinerie BGB ltée; The Blueberry Industry Co-operative Ltd; and Eastern Farmers Co-operative Society Ltd.

The Ag-CDI program will run until March 31, 2009, with two more rounds of applications planned. The deadlines are April 2, 2008, and September 8, 2008.

Ag-CDI also provides educational and other supports to help ensure the success of new bio-fuel and value-added co-ops in agriculture. These include peer support networks, a national conference, co-op training materials and events, and efforts to strengthen the internal capacity and support available to these co-ops in the critical start-up period.

The Agricultural Co-operative Development Initiative (Ag-CDI) is still accepting applications from farmer-led bio-fuel and value-added agricultural co-operatives. The next deadline for submissions is April 2, 2008. The final deadline for the program will be September 8, 2008. You can find program guidelines and application forms at this link: www.coopzone.coop/en/ag-cdi

The First Course for Fundraising Professionals

Are you new to the fundraising role, or do you need to learn more about fund development?

The Association of Fundraising Professionals' (AFP) First Course in Fundraising offers a complete overview of the development function, featuring state-of-the-art information and techniques. This two-day program includes case studies and projects for groups and individuals, making the learning experience both substantive and enjoyable.

Executives new to the development field will learn how to organize and manage fundraising programs, gain basic skills in a variety of techniques and prepare for a career in development. Volunteers will find the First Course valuable preparation for gift solicitation. Trustees and CEOs will discover useful tools to shape the direction and clarify the expectations of the development office.

On Wednesday 23, April and Thursday 24 April, the AFP First Course course will introduce the novice fundraiser to the fundamental concepts and techniques of fundraising and development.

For all information and to register, see the details at www.ecvo.com/events.

Calgary Co-op Announces Board Election Results

At its annual general meeting on March 12, incumbent directors Stuart Cantrill, Barry Ashton and Terry Geib were re-elected to the [Calgary Co-op](#) board of directors each for a three year term. Terry Geib will continue as representative of Calgary Co-op on ACCA's Board of Directors.

The board of directors also appointed its board officers for 2008-2009. Stuart Cantrill was re-appointed board chair, Terry Semeniuk was appointed vice chair, and Terry Geib was re-appointed board secretary. Also serving on the board of directors are Barry Ashton, Johanna Bates, Alex Ingram, Randy Kott, Laura Sullivan, and Lisa Wise.

Members Overwhelmingly Favour Creating Canada's First Province-wide Credit Union

The members of [Servus Credit Union](#), [Common Wealth Credit Union](#), and [Community Savings](#) voted overwhelmingly in favour of an amalgamation of the three entities at their respective meetings this month. The new credit union will commence operations November 1, 2008 with approximately \$9 billion in assets and will serve approximately 400,000 members in 63 Alberta communities through 92 locations.

Twelve new Board members, four from each of the founding credit unions, were named in the amalgamation agreement. The Board of Directors will begin their transition and governance work immediately. The first point of business will be to select a Chairman of the Board of Directors, and President and CEO by the beginning of May.

Also this month, Red Deer-based Community Savings followed through on a 2006 announcement and opened its first Calgary branch. "When we announced that we planned to open five branches in Calgary, it was part of our vision to create a service-oriented network of branches throughout Central and Southern Alberta," says Murray Haubrich, President and CEO of Community Savings. "Now it's a fundamental hub of the province-wide coverage that we will be able to provide when we complete our merger in the fall."

Community Economic Development Officer – Sanikiluaq, Nunavut

The Municipality of Sanikiluaq requires a Community Economic Development Officer (CEDO) with a strong background in business development, economic development planning and strategies, financial management, proposal writing and demonstrated effectiveness as a communicator and business promoter.

Responsible to the Senior Administrative Officer, the CEDO is responsible for:

- Community Economic Development;
- Assisting individuals and groups in all aspects of business planning and development, and proposal development, monitoring and evaluation;
- Promotion of opportunities in the traditional and informal economy;
- Providing leadership and advice in community based planning, communication, facilitation and organization;
- Developing and delivering a two-year CEDO training program for a local resident.

Desired qualifications include a recognized Degree or Diploma in Economic Development disciplines plus 3–5 years relevant experience.

Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Benefits include subsidized housing plus a comprehensive Northern Benefits package.

The successful candidate will be required to consent to a detailed back-ground check. This opportunity will be available until a suitable candidate is selected.

Sanikiluaq is an Inuit community of 800+ located in the Belcher Islands in Hudson Bay, accessible by air from Montreal and Winnipeg.

Please forward applications and resumes to:
Senior Administrative Officer
Hamlet of Sanikiluaq, NU
Fax: 867-266-7924 or
sanisao@qiniq.com



The Multicultural Health Brokers Co-operative Workshop

Ethical Responses to Stories of Pain: Private Conversations, Public Issues
Thursday, April 24, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and Friday, April 25, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

This two day workshop will identify public policy issues that arise out of counseling and therapeutic conversations and will address the broader contextual issues that are so often forgotten or overlooked. The Family Centre considers that many, though not all, of the problems that bring people for counseling or therapy arise out of inequality and injustice at the personal, family, community and state levels.

The New Zealand Family Centre Team will share their therapeutic work with poor families, the thinking behind it, and the emergence of a range of community development and research projects that grew out of the therapeutic work and have led to significant social policy debate. They will also suggest ways therapeutic organizations can begin to develop social justice responses in therapy, through community initiatives and research, to the many social structural problems that clients refer to in therapy. A range of cultural, anti-poverty and gender equity community initiatives will be presented.

The research will address issues that arise out of their work in the New Zealand Poverty Measurement Project, various culturally focused projects and a range of other studies in their research portfolio. The Family Centre Social Policy Research Unit is now well established and contracted regularly by Government Departments and all the leading research funders in New Zealand. Their work has had a significant impact on the social policy debate in New Zealand.

The presenters

Taimalie Kiwi Tamasese is the Samoan Co-ordinator at the Family Centre. She is a family therapist, community development worker, a social policy analyst and researcher. She has published in all these areas. Kiwi leads contracted workshops and educational events regularly in New Zealand and throughout the world.

Maria Maniapoto is a Maori researcher, educationalist and community worker at the Family Centre. Her tribal heritage is Ngati Maniapoto and Ngai Tuhoe. Maria leads the 'Just therapy' teaching programme on the international post graduate course on Discursive Therapies run through Massey University. She is deeply involved in the Maori community and experienced in evaluation, social and cultural research.

Charles Waldegrave is a psychologist, a family therapist, an Anglican priest, a social policy analyst and researcher. He is the Pakeha (European) Co-ordinator of the Family Centre. He leads the Social Policy Research Unit there and is also a joint leader of the New Zealand Poverty Measurement Project. He has published extensively in all the above areas. Charles leads workshops and educational events regularly in New Zealand and throughout the world.

A registration form is available for download from [the ACCA website](#)

Location of workshop

Inglewood Christian Reformed Church
12330 – 113 Avenue (parking lot next to church, please do not park in the bank lot)