



NEWS AND VIEWS

SEPTEMBER, 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.

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

ACCA Member Profile: Agrifoods International Cooperative Ltd.

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Fraser Valley Milk Producers Association, Northern Alberta Dairy Producers, Central Alberta Dairy Producers, and Dairy Producers Cooperative Ltd. were formed in the early 1900s to ensure that dairy producers had a place to process and market their milk.

Agrifoods International Cooperative Ltd. was born in 1992 with a merger between Fraser Valley Milk Producers Association, Northern Alberta Dairy Producers, and Central Alberta Dairy Producers. In 1996 Dairy Producers Cooperative Ltd. joined Agrifoods. In 2001 the co-op sold all the processing except Ultima Foods to Saputo. Ultima Foods is a yogurt processor that is jointly owned by Agrifoods International Cooperative Ltd. and Agropur, another cooperative in Quebec.

Today Agrifoods International Cooperative Ltd. continues to be owned and provide services to milk boards, processors, and dairy producers in Alberta, British Columbia and Saskatchewan. We provide raw milk transportation, bulk transportation of semi process products and jointly own Ultima Foods who manufacture Yoplait yogurt.

Agrifoods membership is limited to dairy producers who are currently actively dairying or who had equity when they quit dairying. Currently there are approximately 2,700 share holders.



3rd Annual

Rise & Shine Breakfast Forum



Wednesday, October 15, 2008

7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

“Field to Table: Value-added Co-ops and Food Security in Alberta”

Join us to examine and identify:

- the role of co-ops in addressing food security issues
- co-op opportunities throughout the value chain
- connecting the rural and urban aspects of food security.

Speakers Include:

- **Herb Barbolet**, Centre for Sustainable Development, Simon Fraser University
- **Rod Bradshaw**, Calgary Farmers Market New Generation Co-operative
- **Donald Daigle**, The Really Local Harvest Co-operative, New Brunswick
- **Andrea Gunner**, Agriculture Consultant and Manager, BC Organic Milling Co-operative
- **Tom Wa’Kighoma Tibamwenda**, Chairman of the Uganda Co-op Alliance (UCA)
- Representative from Peace Country Tender Beef Co-op Ltd

Table discussions will follow the presentations with the objective of developing ideas and strategies for co-op projects that address the issues and opportunities.

Venue: Executive Royal Inn, Leduc

(directly west, across the QEII Hwy, from the Edmonton International Airport)

Cost: \$50 per person/\$350 table of 8

(bursaries available upon request)

To register:

Contact **Liane** at ACCA

Phone: (780) 963-3766

Email: lcourchesne@acca.coop

You must register by October 10th!

Registration forms may be downloaded from [the ACCA website](http://theACCAwebsite.com).

Director of Co-operative Development

Congratulations and our best wishes to Carol Murray, who moved to the British Columbia Co-operative Association as of August 1. We would also like to welcome Richard Stringham as ACCA's new Director of Co-operative Development. Richard has a long history of working in the co-operative sector, most recently as the Member Engagement Coordinator for the Canadian Co-operative Association's International Development Program.

2008 Youth Program Report

The 2008 ACCA Co-operative Youth Program was a tremendous success. This year's enrollment of 309 was the highest in the last three years. The participants learned about co-operatives, credit unions, and agriculture, developed skills in public speaking and communication, and learned about the impact their leadership could have on their communities.

About 90% of participants were sponsored by co-operative, agricultural, and private organizations. Without the generous support of these organizations, many youth and volunteer staff would not have experienced the program.

ACCA extends many thanks to this year's volunteers; the program was a great success because of your efforts. Thanks to all of you for contributing your time and for your dedication.

2008 Agriculture Update for Professionals

The ACCA, in partnership with Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development, The Agricultural Policy Framework, and the Chartered Accountants of Saskatchewan are pleased to announce the 2008 Agriculture Update for Professional seminars.

This year's seminar is focusing on a number of pertinent issues facing your agriculture clients. With the ever-expanding complexities of farm land ownership rules contained in the Income Tax Act, a session updating the opportunities and options to optimize your client's filing position will be presented.

Winter Workshops

The ACCA Winter Workshop schedule is currently being compiled. Check [the website](#) often and look for the full calendar to be in the October *News and Views*.

Non-residency is becoming more of an issue when farm family members reside in the US. This trend appears to be increasing, especially with non-resident children. This session will outline not only filing tips but also various traps that one must plan for in a non-resident situation.

Over the years this seminar dealt with matrimonial property issues but not on the “how to” to make a viable farm property settlement. With the ever increasing divorce rate in our agriculture industry, this session will provide practical strategies to consider.

An update session on Agriculture Programs and Policy will be provided with a preview of the next generation of income support programs as well as our tips and traps section that will affect your client.

Guest lecturers include Mr. Dean Gallimore from KPMA and Mr. Greg Gartner from Felesky Flynn.

Co-operative Development Grants Awarded

ACCA is pleased to announce that the following organizations are the recipients of co-operative development grants for 2008:

- Assiniboia – student housing co-op in University of Alberta area
- Calgary Folklore Centre – centre for musicians in Calgary community
- Chief Mountain Gas Co-op
- Inn Roads – 10-unit housing co-operative in Edmonton
- Keegano – housing co-op in Edmonton
- Sangudo – community west of Edmonton
- Northern and Southern Alberta Co-operative Housing Association

These co-op development grants are provided as part of the federal Co-op Development Initiative’s Advisory Services (CDI-AS) program. The goal of the Advisory Services component of the CDI program is to provide expert assistance to groups who want to start new co-ops or who need help to manage existing ones. A total of \$10,000 of grants were presented.

National Co-Op Association Calls for More Co-Op Development in Pre-Budget Brief to Feds

It is apparent from the title of its pre-budget brief to the Standing Committee on Finance that the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) has a clear message for the federal government—Canada needs more co-operatives: Renew and Expand the Co-operative Development Initiative.

The report states: While the co-operative sector is active in many areas that are part of federal government policy mandates, and while there are many other important policy initiatives, such as the Co-operative Investment Plan (a tax credit for co-op members who invest in agricultural or worker co-operatives, and now exists only in Quebec) and the expansion of International Development Aid to 0.7% of Gross National Income, CCA and CCC [the Conseil Canadien de la Coopération, the association for Francophone co-ops] believe that the most important policy for co-operatives this year would be a renewed and expanded Co-operative Development Initiative (CDI), which would create new co-operatives and help emerging ones get off to a healthy start.

CCA and CCC, along with their networks of provincial, regional, and sectoral partners (including CCA), are launching a fall lobby campaign to renew and expand CDI. The new proposal and materials to help with the campaign will be available the first week of September at www.CoopsCanada.coop/CDI.

To access this free service contact ACCA's Director of Co-operative Development, Richard Stringham, PAg at: coopdev@acca.coop or phone: 780-669-9720.



ICA First Ever International Co-op Trade Fair



The ICA has organized an international co-op trade fair in Lisbon, Portugal, Oct 23-35. The trade fair is an opportunity to showcase Canadian co-operative products and services as well as source products for purchase and sale in our cooperatives. ICA Expo is also an opportunity for all Canadian co-ops to demonstrate their cooperative solidarity and promote co-op to co-op trade.

The Expo has already attracted over 200 exhibitors from over 30 countries and has secured the participation of both co-op and non-co-operative buyers including some of the largest commercial buyers including Wal-Mart, Tesco, Carrefour and others. ICA Expo is expecting over 15,000 commercial visitors in addition to coverage by the international media. ICA members in Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Georgia, Korea, Malaysia, Nigeria, India, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Russia, and the United Kingdom as well as others have already confirmed their participation. Right now, over 80% of the exhibitors will be presenting agricultural products, but there will also be representatives presenting handicrafts as well as financial services.

There will also be business information sessions on bio-energy, and marketing. All exhibitors are guaranteed a minimum of five buyer meetings with international buyers who have been hosted by the fair to ensure a large participation. They will also receive support on how to do trade including an Exhibitors manual.

More information can be found at www.icaexpo.coop.

Position Postings with the CCA



Technical Cooperant Positions: CCA/CUCUC

The Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) is the national apex association for English-speaking cooperatives in Canada. CCA represents more than seven million co-operative and credit union members of 3,000 co-operative organizations in Canada, covering sectors of the economy including finance, insurance, agriculture/food, wholesale and retail (consumer goods), housing, health, and day-care. CCA's mission is "Providing Leadership To Promote, Unite and Develop Co-operatives and Credit Unions in Canada and Around the World"

The Council of Ukrainian Credit Unions of Canada is a representative organization comprised of 13 credit unions from five provinces in Canada. Ukrainian Credit Union membership surpasses the 70,000 mark with assets totaling over \$1.2 billion. Ukrainian Credit Unions in Canada play an important role within their respective communities contributing time and money to instill the Ukrainian community spirit within Canada. Together with CCA, the Council helps administer the credit union development and strengthening program in Ukraine and relies on its member credit unions to contribute through their expertise and knowledge.

There are currently three positions available. Click on the link for more information.

- [Technical Co-operant Posting](#), Credit Union Marketing Seminar Facilitator, Ukraine
- [Technical Co-operant Posting](#), Credit Union Risk-based On-site Inspection Expert, Ukraine
- [Technical Co-operant Posting](#), Credit Union Rehabilitation Programming, Ukraine

Please e-mail your resume to:
Bohdan Kozy
Manager - Ukraine Credit Union
Strengthening Project
Canadian Co-operative Association
Khreshchatyk 15, Suite 6
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Technical Assistance in the Productive Development of Canola

CCA's Americas Regional Field Office, in collaboration with the Lima Regional Government, has formulated and approved a project that initially supports the sustainable production of canola in the Peru highlands, looking to reach the integral agro-industrial development that benefits the more vulnerable economic segment of the Peruvian population.

CCA's high priorities are basically the Peruvian highlands' indigenous populations, and the specific objectives of this project target the communities of Huancahuasi and Picoy. These communities are located at an altitude of 3800 metres above the sea level.

Canola is a relatively new crop in the country, where only experimental sowings have been made. There are no specialized or experienced professionals in the cultivation of important areas of Canola. Therefore, in order to achieve the project's objectives, external technical assistance in canola's cultivation is required.

[Complete details and terms of reference are available here.](#)

CCA Resource Volunteers

The Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) is seeking three Credit Union Resource Volunteers (CURVs) to provide professional support to Credit Union managers and staff in developing countries through an electronic web-based discussion forum. The total estimated time requirement per week will be between three and five hours for a minimum of six months. This is an ideal assignment for someone recently retired from the credit union system, or someone currently in the system that has an interest in international volunteering and who is looking to gain experience in this field. CCA is looking for one person for each of the following resource areas:

1. Lending Process and Portfolio Management
2. Governance for Board and Management
3. Financial Management

[Complete details and terms of reference are available here.](#)

Communications Manager

The Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) is a national association for co-operatives in Canada, representing more than nine million co-operative and credit union members from over 2,000 organizations. CCA members come from many sectors of the economy, including finance, insurance, agri-food and supply, wholesale and retail, housing, health and the service sector. CCA provides leadership to promote, develop, and unite co-operatives and credit unions for the benefit of people in Canada and around the world

CCA is looking for a Communications Manager to co-ordinate overall organizational communication activities, to manage domestic communications and to develop a new communications strategy to enhance CCA's media and public presence.

There are four main areas of responsibility:

1. Communications Strategy and Co-ordination
2. Publications and Speeches
3. Website and Electronic Materials
4. Media

A full job description is available upon request, and can also be found on CCA's website www.CoopsCanada.coop

Young Farmers Summit of the Americas, December 7-13

Contact Darrell Toma (session speaker and program Chair):
Toma and Bouma Management Consultants
#300, 10328-81 Ave
Edmonton, AB T6E 1X2
dtoma@shaw.ca or
ph: 780-413-9262
www.tomaandbouma.com

The International Summit will share information on “Best Management Practices” in the agri-food sector (primarily for young farmers, 18 to 40 yrs and interested parties). Canada has never hosted an event of this nature. With the high importance of international trade and agriculture, it provides the key learning opportunity for young farmers to meet, network and learn about “Best Management Practices”.

For more detailed information on this event, or to register, please follow the link:
http://cyff.ca/young_farmers_summit.html

Discover How a Co-Operative Structure May Meet Your Group’s Business Needs

Often the perception people have of co-operatives is based upon their experience in their communities. Yet the co-operative model of business has an amazing versatility. For example, most Albertans are familiar with co-operatives in which the consumers are the member-owners purchasing goods or services from their co-op. Many rural Albertans have also experienced co-operatives in which producers are the member-owners and deliver their product to the co-operative. Fewer Albertans are aware of employee-owned co-operatives in which the member-owners work for the co-operative and democratically elect their board of directors from amongst their membership. While worker owned co-operatives are more common in other parts of Canada and in some other parts of the world, there is an emerging interest in this province.

Groups seeking to create a business enterprise may not be aware of co-operative alternatives such as the worker-owned co-operatives or other approaches. In response to this need, ACCA offers an outreach to groups in which a member of our team of facilitators will present information on the co-operative model for your group. By the end of the session, your group should have an idea as to whether or not a co-operative enterprise could be a fit for your needs.

For more information, contact:
Richard Stringham
Director of Co-operative
Development
coopdev@acca.coop
780-669-9720

Sustainable Development Technology Canada Announces Latest Call for Clean Technology Funding Applications

Ottawa, Ontario, September 3, 2008 – Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC), the largest single funder of clean technology in Canada, announced today that the \$550M SD Tech Fund™ is open for Statements of Interest (SOI) for its fourteenth round of funding until October 22, 2008.

“We want to hear from clean technology developers across Canada about the technology solutions they bring to environmental issues,” said Vicky J. Sharpe, President and CEO of SDTC. “By providing entrepreneurs with early-stage funding when it is most needed SDTC helps propel innovative clean technologies to commercialization thereby building tomorrow’s industry leaders while tackling our environmental challenges.”

SDTC is a not-for-profit corporation created by the Government of Canada to finance and support the late-stage development and pre-commercial demonstration of clean technologies. SDTC provides seed-stage funding to clean technology projects at this critical juncture when capital and scaling costs become formidable challenges and the risk profile deters most other investors.

To date, SDTC has allocated \$342 million to 144 clean technology projects. An additional \$800M million has been leveraged from project consortia members, for a total portfolio value of \$1.14 billion. The pre-market validation that SDTC has brought to its portfolio companies has enabled significant follow-on funding from the Venture Capital community and Project Finance players.

SDTC is actively seeking applications for technology innovations in all areas of sustainable development that deliver clean water, clean soil, clean air, and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

In particular, SDTC sees tremendous growth potential for technologies that address issues related to clean water and clean soil. Water purification, conservation, waste and storm water treatment, in addition to soil decontamination and soil quality improvement solutions, are areas in which SDTC is seeking to fund projects.

“Water and soil solutions are still at the nascent stage in Canada. Developing new technologies to address the growing environmental challenges facing the industrial, resource extraction and municipal sectors represents an enormous economic opportunity for innovative companies to capitalize on,” said Sharpe.

SDTC has released a series of SD Business Case™ reports which identify additional priority investment areas. These reports are available in the Knowledge Centre section of the SDTC website at www.sdgc.ca.

Information on the application process and funding requirements can be found at www.sdgc.ca/en/SOinfo.htm.

SDTC holds two rounds of funding each year. The next call for SOIs will open February 25, 2009.

About SDTC

SDTC is an arm’s-length foundation which has received \$1.05 billion from the Government of Canada as part of its commitment to create a healthy environment and a high quality of life for all Canadians.

SDTC operates two funds aimed at the development and demonstration of innovative technological solutions. The \$550 million SD Tech Fund™ supports projects that address climate change, air quality, clean water, and clean soil. The \$500 million NextGen Biofuels Fund™ supports the establishment of first-of-kind large demonstration-scale facilities for the production of next-generation renewable fuels.

SDTC operates as a not-for-profit corporation and has been working with the public and private sector including industry, academia, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the financial community and all levels of government to achieve this mandate.

For more information,
please contact:

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