



NEWS AND VIEWS

SUMMER, 2007

We have moved!

Our new address is

#104, 5013 – 48 Street

Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1L8

Phone: (780) 963-3766

Fax: (780) 968-6733

Website: www.acca.coop

E-mail acca@acca.coop

(E-mail and website remain the same as before, and our staff e-mail addresses will also continue unchanged.)

In this issue ...

National Co-op Congress a success	2
Attend the 2007 Rise & Shine Breakfast Forum	2
North-East Gas Co-op Joins ACCA.....	3
ACCA Board of Directors	3
Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd. Receives Accreditation from Measurement Canada.....	4
2007 Youth Program.....	4
Can You Volunteer a Few Hours for Overseas Co-operative Development? ...	5
ACCA needs your help!.....	7
National Indigenous Economic Education Foundation (NIEEF) Scholarships	7
ACCA Publishes Strategy Paper.....	8



Search



First



Previous



Next



Last



Quit



Page

National Co-op Congress a success

Congratulations to the Canadian Co-operative Association and the Newfoundland-Labrador Federation of Co-operatives for organizing the second annual joint national and provincial co-operative association AGM and Congress in St. John's. Using the theme, 'Harness the hidden potential,' the congress showcased several regional enterprises and initiatives, while also bringing many national and provincial co-operatives to Newfoundland to disseminate information and share ideas. Details on the congress will be posted shortly to the CCA website www.coopscanada.coop.

Attend the 2007 Rise & Shine Breakfast Forum

ACCA is pleased to again host our annual Rise & Shine Breakfast Forum on co-op development on Monday, October 15, 2007 at the Royal Glenora Club in Edmonton, Alberta. The theme this year is "Principle Six: Co-ops Helping Co-ops."

A panel of experts will address questions such as Why help other co-ops? What are the success stories across Canada and internationally? What can you do to mentor or support existing and developing co-ops?

Join your colleagues from credit unions and agricultural, housing, worker and retail cooperatives at this year's Breakfast Forum on co-op self-help as a key to co-op success. Tickets are \$50 each or \$350 for a table of 8.

Stay tuned for more updates!



Search



First



Previous



Next



Last



Quit



Page

2

North-East Gas Co-op Joins ACCA

Contact person: Ronald Fox, P. Eng.
E-mail: negas@telus.net

We are delighted to welcome a new Auxiliary member, the [North-East Gas Co-op](#), which is located in Bonnyville, Alberta. New members bring strength and new ideas to ACCA. Welcome to Russell Fox and the members of the co-op.

North East Gas Co-op
Box 7249, Bonnyville, AB T9N 2J2
Phone: 780-826-4002, Fax 780-826-2095

ACCA Board of Directors

At the ACCA AGM on May 30, 2007, three new board members were appointed to the ACCA Board. The following is the current Board of Directors for ACCA.

Russell Wolf, Chair, representing [Federated Co-operatives Limited](#)
Terry Murray, Vice-Chair, representing [Wildrose Agricultural Producers](#)
Bill Purdy, Director, representing [Credit Union Central](#)
Debbie Adolphson, Director, representing [UFA Co-operative Limited](#)
Terry Geib, Director, representing [Calgary Co-operative Limited](#)
Andrea Rogers, Director, representing [Canadian Workers' Co-operative Federation](#)
Keith Harding, Director, representing [Northern Alberta Co-operative Housing Association](#)
Dean Chessor, Director, representing [Central Alberta REA](#)
George Andrews, Director, representing [Alberta Federation of Rural Electrification Associations](#)
Harvey Yoder, Director, representing [Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops](#)
Neil Haggard, Director representing [Mountain Equipment Co-op](#)
To Be Determined, [The Co-operators Insurance Group Limited](#)



Search



First



Previous



Next



Last



Quit



Page

3

Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd. Receives Accreditation from Measurement Canada

Effective April 12, 2007, the organization that represents Alberta's rural natural gas utilities has been granted Measurement Canada accreditation for the inspection, verification, and reverification of volume conversion devices associated with gas meters.

Under the Electricity and Gas Inspection Act, all electronic measuring devices must be reverified by Measurement Canada, or an organization accredited by Measurement Canada. Until now, all accredited organizations were only allowed to reverify devices in shop.

The Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd. is the **first** organization accredited for *in situ* (in the field) verification in Canada. "The savings to the co-ops will be substantial due to the fact that the devices no longer have to be removed from operation and sent in to an accredited shop for reverification," stated Ed Keef, Measurement Manager for the Federation of Alberta Gas Co-ops Ltd.

"The successful development and implementation of a quality management system is a complex task and all persons involved are to be congratulated on this achievement," as noted by Sonia Roussy, Vice President, Innovative Services Directorate for Measurement Canada.

For more information, contact Dave Scheideman, Executive Director, by phone at 780-416-6543.

2007 Youth Program

The ACCA Co-operative Youth Program is in full swing. Four programs have been completed with the fifth just beginning. There is still room in the remaining youth program beginning July 29 and teen program beginning August 4. Please visit the ACCA website at www.acca.coop for registration information.



Search



First



Previous



Next



Last



Quit



Page

Can You Volunteer a Few Hours for Overseas Co-operative Development?

Perhaps you've heard of the work that co-operatives and credit unions are doing to help those in the developing world improve their lives and communities through the co-operative model. Here is an opportunity to provide some assistance to that work.

We are seeking volunteers to help with a silent auction being held at the World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU) Conference July 30 to August 1. The conference is being held at the TELUS Convention Centre in Calgary. Conference participants will be invited to bid in the silent auction.

The Purpose: Fighting Poverty with the Co-operative Model

Funds raised from the auction will go toward the overseas development of credit unions and co-operatives through the work of the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) and WOCCU.

The Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) CCA provides leadership to promote, develop, and unite co-operatives and credit unions for the benefit of people in Canada and around the world. Through the international development program of CCA, Canadian co-operators pool their knowledge & resources to fight poverty in the developing world. For over a quarter century, CCA has assisted co-operatives of all types and descriptions in over 40 countries through our International Development Program. To learn more about this work [visit their website](#).

WOCCU also provides credit union development overseas. For more information visit the [WOCCU website](#).

Note: The Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada (CDF) is the registered charity that raises funds for CCA's work in sustainable development of credit unions and co-operatives. CDF and WOCCU will be the beneficiaries of the silent auction.



Search



First



Previous



Next



Last



Quit

5

Page

If you are able to assist for one or more shifts, please contact:

Richard Stringham
780-669-9720 or
rstringham@aia.ab.ca

Please respond by Thursday, July 26.

When doing so, please advise:

- how many shifts you are willing to assist with
- which shifts you are available for, and
- any preference you have for shifts and/or co-volunteers, if any

What is involved?

We need people to monitor the auction (i.e., to watch and help conference attendees understand how to place a bid and to keep items in place).

We also need people to help wrap up the auction (i.e., pulling the bidding sheets, making note of who the winning bidders are, preparing the items for the winning bidders to collect).

The tasks are straight forward and we will explain the assignment to you upon arrival at the centre. No previous experience or work with co-operative development or silent auctions is necessary. A smile and willing hands will be appreciated.

Volunteers are needed for each of the following shifts 3 or 3.5 hour shifts.

Monday, July 30

10:30 – 1:30 monitor

1:30 - 5:00 monitor

Tuesday, July 31 (Note: Silent Auction closes at 6:00 pm)

10:30 – 1:30 monitor

1:30 – 4:30 monitor

4:30 – 7:30 monitor and help close the auction

5:45 – 7:30 help close the auction (three additional volunteers needed)

Wednesday, August 1

10:00 – 1:00 Item pickup/cleanup

1:00 – 4:00 item pickup/cleanup



Search



First



Previous



Next



Last



Quit



6

Page

ACCA needs your help!

We at the Alberta Community and Co-operative Association are requesting your help. We're compiling some information on the contributions that you, co-operatives in Alberta, make to the Alberta economy. We are planning to use this data to support our ongoing effort to enlist the support of the Alberta government in co-op promotion and development.

We ask for your assistance in completing the survey, [which is available from our website](#). The survey can be faxed to the ACCA office at 780-968-6733 or return by regular mail to #104, 5013 – 48th Street, Stony Plain, AB T7Z 1L7.

Please provide your response by July 30, 2007.

We greatly appreciate your help in this important matter. The information you provide will help build a stronger co-op sector.

National Indigenous Economic Education Foundation (NIEEF) Scholarships

The National Indigenous Economic Education Foundation (NIEEF) provides scholarships, training and research funding for students involved in Aboriginal community economic development. NIEEF is the charitable organization of the Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers (CANDO).

The NIEEF Aboriginal Scholarship will be awarded to one successful applicant at CANDO's 14th Annual National Conference & AGM. The scholarship is worth \$6,000 spread over a two year period. Selection will be based on passing Grade 12 marks or post secondary GPA (Grade Point Average). Please see attached flyer for more information or contact Ross Mayer, NIEEF General Manager at rmayer@edo.ca.



Search



First



Previous



Next



Last



Quit



Page

7

ACCA Publishes Strategy Paper

ACCA is pleased to announce the publication of our final Strategy Report on Co-op Development in Alberta. The paper is the culmination of a year-long White Paper process that included a survey and consultation with our members, the co-op sector and other key stakeholders.

These responses were captured in ACCA's White Paper on Co-op Development in Alberta that, in turn, formed the basis of a panel and discussion at a Rise and Shine Breakfast Forum held during Co-op Week in October 2006.

The strategies developed during this session, along with reports and information from other parts of Canada, provided a basis for the crafting of the 10 recommended strategies at the core of the Strategy Report.

In brief, the strategies fall into three core streams:

- Promotion
- Resources
- Network & Partnership Building.

The overarching vision for a cooperative development strategy outlined in the Strategy Report is to foster a strong and vibrant co-op sector in Alberta. In order to achieve this, the Report advocates that the following goals be addressed:

- increase the number of co-ops forming in Alberta
- increase the memberships in existing co-ops
- increase the assets of co-ops
- improve the longevity of co-ops.

[The White Paper and Strategy Report can be found on ACCA's website.](#)

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.

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



Search



First



Previous



Next



Last



Quit



Page