Co-operative Enterprise Council

Supporting and Strengthening the Co-operative Movement in New Brunswick



A Bountiful Harvest Season!

http//:www.cecnb.ca



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Minister of Justice supports a new Co-op Act for New Brunswick

A recent letter to the Co-op Ambassador Committee from Justice Minister Marie-Claude Blais congratulates the co-op sector for coming together in a bid for a new Co-op Act for New Brunswick. Following an advocacy campaign and meetings with government officials earlier this summer, Minister Blais confirmed her intent to "inform Cabinet of the challenges facing co-operatives and the need for new legislation" and has asked for the Committee's help in drafting the new Act.



The Co-op Ambassador Committee brings together both English and French co-ops, credit unions and caisses populaires from across the province in a unified effort to brin about positive change for co-operatives. Minister Blais was impressed by the cohesiveness of the group and her letter stated that "Such unity contributes to the efficiency and effectiveness required to bring such a project to a fruitful conclusion."

To begin the process of drafting a new Act, a Legislation Working Group has been established from within the Ambassador Committee that includes Dr. André Leclerc, Chair of the Université de Moncton's Co-op Studies Program, Dr. Luc Theriault from University of New Brunswick's sociology department, Leo LeBlanc, Corporate Secretary for Co-op Atlantic, Eric Tusz-King of the Canadian Worker Co-op Federation, Wayne Dempsey and Ken Elliot from Brunswick Co-op Housing, Melvin Doiron of Coopérative de développement régional -Acadie, and CECNB staffers David Daughton and Wendy Keats. The Legislation Working Group held their first meeting in late June to develop a action plan. Stay tuned for ongoing developments!



And a very special congratulations to the Ambassador Committee's Co-Chair, Camille Thériault, for receiving the Ordre du mérite coopératif et mutualiste canadien at the joint CCA-CCCM Congress in Halifax in June!

TBA Collective Co-op's MESSTIVAL a smashing success

One of New Brunswick's newest co-ops, the TBA Collective Co-op, is burning up the art and music scene with a whole range of events that profile local talent. A recent example was the hugely successful Messtival, a visual arts and music event held in Anagance in mid-August. Featuring more than twenty bands, musicians and artists

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from across Atlantic Canada, this event drew about 400 people from across the region. In addition to musical talent, fans were entertained with lazer tag, yoga, massage, and a psychedelic lightshow in the stage.

TBA's Jonah Haché (who graced the podium at CECNB's last AGM) had this to say about this year's event, "It was a magical day of live music, live art and good vibes. The river beside the stage was well appreciated. The food was super healthy and almost all local. From an organizers perspective, it couldn't have gone smoother. It was so easy this year. Being year four really put us in a place where we've established our basic infrastructure and are now just having fun with it."

The TBA is a collective of artists, musicians and other great people who organize events and take on projects that profile and promote various creative endeavours. "TBA unites and exposes emerging and established artists and musicians, and contributes substance and originality within

the cultural community." See http://www.tbacollective.com/ for more info.

Design our CECNB logo and win an Apple iPad or tickets to Messtival 2012!

In celebration of International Year of the Co-operative, CECNB is looking for a new log and we want YOU to help us design it! You don't have to be a graphic artist...anyone who can draw on a napkin is eligible. Just send us your logo ideas and they will be entered into the contest. The winner will receive an Apple IPad valued at \$500 and the runner up will get 2 free tickets to next year's Messtival!

Four years ago, CECNB was just an idea, sparked by a group of co-operators who felt New Brunswick needed a Council to:

- Support the development of new co-operatives
- Increase the public profile of NB co-operatives
- Increase the participation of youth and young families in the co-operative movement
- Advocate with government on issues of interest to co-operatives
- Provide opportunities for co-operatives to network, share information and collaborate

Today, CECNB is an integral part of the NB co-operative movement and has had significant success in achieving its goals. We want our new logo to reflect the spirit of CECNB and its members and we are wide open to suggestion. So send us along your ideas and enter to win!

Please see our website <u>www.cecnb.ca</u> and <u>FACEBOOK PAGE</u>for more information or write to <u>info@cecnb.ca</u>

4TH Canadian Social Enterprise Conference – Halifax, NS, Nov. 20-22, 2011

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The Social Enterprise Council of Canada (SECC) and Atlantic Council for Community and Social Enterprise (ACCSE) invite you to join hundreds of experienced and prospective social enterprise practitioners from across Canada to attend the 4th Canadian Conference on Social Enterprise taking place in Halifax, Nova Scotia, November 20 to 22, 2011. Engaging speakers, policy forums, intensive workshops, site tours and more. Click on the link below to download the agenda and find out more. Conference Information and Registration

ACORN's Meet your Farmer Bike Tours Win National Prize

Congratulations to ACORN who won the national prize of \$10,000 from Stonyfield's *Profit for the Planet Community Challenge* fund for its development of the first-ever pedal-powered tours of organic farms in the Maritimes! Throughout the summer, ove

60 participants visited 10 farms on 3 separate tours in Bouctouche, NB; Summerville, NS; and Freetown, PEI (including CECNB's own Amanda Hachey and David Daughton). All three rides were met with great success; weather was perfect, the food was delicious, the tours were informative, and the bike rides were enjoyed by all. For more info, check out http://farmbiketours.com/



Six New Brunswick co-ops receive ICP funding

New Brunswick will see even more new co-ops established this year with the help of the federal government's Innovative Co-ops Program:

- *Sun Farm Kitchens Co-operative* in Moncton will receive \$25,000 to expand the coop's market in local foods with the use of a solar-powered mobile kitchen.
- Coopérative de solidarité en recyclage et en intégration à l'emploi in Shippagan will receive \$49,000 to establish a co-op that will help integrate people with disabilities in the workplace
- Lotus Co-operative in Moncton will receive \$29,000 to establish a new co-operative marketplace to support local producers
- Coopérative d'énergie renouvelable du Nord-Ouest in St-Basile will receive \$95,750 to conduct studies and consultations into the establishment of a 15 megawatt wind farm.
- Northeastern New Brunswick Wild Blueberry Producers Association in Paquetville will receive \$32,000 to develop a business plan for a new pollination service and recruit new members.
- The *Village of Lamèque* will receive \$20,500 to establish a co-op to support Acadian arts and culture

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Another round of applications to the ICP were received in July and the announcement of the successful projects is expected by the end of 2011.

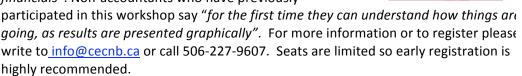
Really local harvest co-op helps promote local food in NB

The Really Local Harvest Co-op has developed three online tools to promote members and local food in southeastern New Brunswick. First is a list of members, their products, co-op news and upcoming events at www.reallylocalharvest.com. Second is a website listing AGROEXPERIENCES available in the region at www.agroexperiencesnb.com. And third, is a Facebook group sharing photos and videos of local NB food http://fr-fr.facebook.com/ReallyLocal Bon appetit!

Sign Up for Professional Development Workshop: Co-op Accounting Registration Now Open

CECNB and Saint Mary's University are partnering together to host a special workshop by Alan Robb (cited as a world leader in co-operative accounting) at Atlantic Central Credit Union in Riverview on October 13th from 10:00 am -4:00 pm. This workshop is

specially designed for co-op , social enterprise and credit union managers, accountants, treasurers, and board members. Mr. Robb is renowned for his diagnostic tool that "gives managers and boards a reliable and understandable method of monitoring performance that focuses on the true bottom-line and is easily prepared from normal monthly financials". Non-accountants who have previously



Special Note: This workshop is eligible for Continuing Professional Development credits (CPD), also called CPLD in some accounting designations (ie. CMA).

Business Succession and Employee Ownership Conference

From October 11-13, 2011, the Business Succession and Employee Ownership Conference will take place in Quebec City with experts from around the world - France Italy, Argentina, the US and Canada – who will share their experiences on establishing

successful worker co-ops and employee ownership conversions. With hundreds of thousands of business owners across North America set to retire in the next 10 years, a window of opportunity exists to significantly create more democratic workplaces. Learn the critical skills needed to successfully convert a business into a

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worker co-op or employee-owned business. Register on or before Sept. 12 for the early bird price.

Tompkinsville: If you can dream it, you can do it.

Lindsay Kyte is the niece of Joe Labens, a miner with a grade three education who became president of first credit union in English Canada and helped create the first co-operative housing project in North America, Tompkinsville. Last year, Lindsay wrote an inspiring CBC radio documentary called "Journey to Tompkinsville" (check it out at http://www.tompkinsvilleplay.com/Lindsay-Kyte.html) and this year she has topped that with an amazing new play, Tompkinsville, to be launched in 2012 in celebration of International Year of the Co-operative.



Tompkinsville is the true story of a Cape Breton mining town transformed from despondency to independence by a rebel priest and his belief that self-reliance, cooperation and education are the keys to freedom. It is the story of Father Jimmy Tompkins, Father Moses Coady, Mary Arnold, Joe Laben and the Antigonish Cooperative Movement. For more info, see http://www.tompkinsvilleplay.com/

North American Worker Co-operative Conference - Be an Early Bird!

For the first time ever, members of worker co-operatives from all regions of North America will be meeting together and sharing their experiences in Quebec City from October 13-15, 2011. Participants will come from Canadian and US Worker Co-op Federations as well as worker co-ops in Europe and Argentina. Features will include the Youth Worker Co-ops Program, a unionized ambulance worker co-op, a manufacturing worker co-op, a worker-owned pub, and much more. To receive the Early Bird price, make sure you register by September 12. http://www.cooperation2011.coop/indexen.php

What are you doing for Co-op Week?

Do you have plans for Co-op Week (October 16-22) or International Credit Union Day (October 20)? The Canadian Co-operative Association wants to know. They will be posting a list of Co-op Week activities across Canada on the Co-op Week 2011 page of their website at the beginning of October. Send your details to donna.balkan@coopscanada.coop

CCA would also like to thank all the co-operatives across the country who ordered Coop Week posters and leaflets. They will be delivered by courier this week or next, so keep your eyes open for them! E-Newsletter March 2011 Page 6 of 8

First International Summit of Cooperatives to be held in Canada in 2012

Decision-makers and influential figures from the international co-operative and mutualist community will gather in Quebec City, Canada, from October 8th to 11th for the 2012 International Summit of Co-operatives. A milestone event for current and future co-op leaders, the Summit's theme "The Amazing Power of Co-operatives", will offer solutions that promote the development and performance of co-ops and prepare them to meet economic and financial challenges. See www.2012intlsummit.coop

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 4-7: <u>National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) conference</u>, Minneapolis, MN

October 11: Nova Scotia Co-operative Council wine and cheese reception, Halifax, NS RSVP to info@nsco-opcouncil.ca by October 5.

October 14: <u>CECNB Co-ops in Moncton Tour</u>: Visit a housing co-op, a theatre co-op, and grocery co-op. RSVP to <u>Amanda.hachey@cecnb.ca</u>

October 11-15: North American Worker Co-operative and Business Succession Conference, Quebec City, QC

October 17-20: International Forum on the Social and Solidarity Economy, Montreal, QC

October 20, 1 p.m. EDT: Webinar on The environmental imperative: Do co-operative: have something unique to offer? Register

at tps://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/677683569

Nov 20-22: 4th Canadian Conference on Social Enterprise Halifax, NS register here http://accse.ca/eventregistration-inscription/

HOW CECNB CAN HELP YOUR CO-OPERATIVE

Whether you're a new or long-time co-operative, or just interested in finding out more about how to start a co-op, CECNB has something for you. Contact us at 506-227-9607 or info@cecnb.ca

Our services include:

Technical Advice and Support

- Planning and starting a co-op
- Incorporation and bylaws

Training and Workshops

- Leadership and management
- Governance

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- Financing and credit
- Business plan development
- Strategic planning
- Assistance accessing resources
- Research and development
- Evaluation
- Conflict resolution
- Mentoring

- Policy development
- Business planning
- Marketing and promotion
- Collaborative Decision-making

Innovation and Special Projects

 If you have an idea for an innovative or special project, we may be able to help! E-Newsletter March 2011 Page 8 of 8

