



co-operatives | coopératives
and mutuels | et mutuelles
canada

Co-operatives
and Mutuels

Become a
Member

To Build

A strong Co-operatives
and Mutuels Sector

Who Are We

Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada (CMC) is a member-driven association that supports and represents Canadian co-operatives and mutuals through advocacy, communications, networking, and education.

We help develop and promote the interests of approximately 7,000 small, medium, and large Canadian co-operative businesses through our member-centric vision to build Canada's co-operative economy.

Strategic Priorities



Leadership



Advocacy



Member Engagement



Networking

Vision

Network our national community of co-operatives and mutuals to advance their economic, social, and political objectives.

Mission

Unite, promote, and contribute to the development of co-operatives and mutuals through: advocacy, communications, engagement, networking, and education.

Guiding Principles

1. Run by its members and at the service of members;
2. Observing the historical traditions on which the movement is built;
3. Equal service delivery to both linguistic communities (fully bilingual services);
4. Promoting an inclusive approach;
5. Considering the potential of each organization and of its members;
6. Valuing the uniqueness and the qualities of each of the organizations;
7. Recognizing the strength and relevance of the co-operative principles as an engine for socio-economic development in francophone minority communities;
8. Adopting a delivery system which takes regional specificities into account as well as the unique situations and needs of the different members (big and small);
9. Delegating power and responsibilities to the most efficient and capable level;
10. Equity in governance;
11. Equity in financing;
12. Equity in representation.

What We Do

National Events

ANNUAL CONGRESS

CMC hosts a national congress every year. This unique event traditionally draws hundreds of Canadian and international representatives from the co-operatives and mutuals sector. This allows sector leaders of today and tomorrow to share best practices, listen to and engage with highly respected thought-leaders, learn, network, and build lasting relationships.

NATIONAL TABLES & FORUMS

CMC hosts national round tables and forums where participants are able to provide input and hear from others on emerging sector priorities. Currently, there are two national tables: one dealing with governance and the other dealing with leadership.

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

CMC is a member of the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA). Through its involvement, CMC is a member of the ICA G20 Working Group. CMC also takes part in quarterly meetings with other national co-operative/mutual association leaders from the U.S., U.K., Australia, and New Zealand to share best practices and advance international collaborations.

Advocacy

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

CMC provides professional advocacy services linked to federal regulatory and policy decisions affecting co-operative and mutual enterprises. It also provides timely updates for its membership on all major federal funding policies, such as economic statements, federal budget, and all relevant major announcements.

REPRESENTATION

CMC promotes its member interests at a variety of events around Canada, shares expertise on strategic issues for co-operatives and mutuals, and advocates for a more co-operative economy in Canada and internationally.

Research

STUDIES & REPORTS

CMC regularly advances research priorities that are critical to supporting growth in the co-operative economy. Through collaborations and alliances, CMC can expand its knowledge base and improve its understanding of how co-operatives and mutuals can further benefit Canada. Research also helps CMC develop critical data required for effective advocacy efforts.

Programs

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

CMC offers professional development opportunities and webinars for management, employees, and members.

CAREER/RFP SERVICE

CMC offers a free job and RFP posting center on its website. Members are able to post opportunities and/or recruit talent.

CANADIAN CO-OPERATIVE INVESTMENT FUND

Founded by CMC, the Canadian Co-operative Investment Fund (CCIF) is a \$25 million alternative funding source that provides loans, equity and quasi-equity to co-operatives across Canada. The fund works to bridge gaps in access to capital, so co-operatives can reach their goals and strengthen their communities.

SCHOLARSHIPS

CMC coordinates [academic scholarships](#) on behalf of the [Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation \(CASC\)](#), as well as the [Ian MacPherson Legacy Fund](#). It also supports the [Canada's Emerging Co-operators committee \(CEC\)](#), which is responsible for an [Emerging Co-operators Education Fund](#).

Access to Information

CMC COMMUNIQUÉS

CMC proactively publishes communiqués to keep members informed. This includes:

- *Co-op/Mutual Sector News*. A news bulletin emailed twice a week, keeping readers informed on news that is happening in the co-operative sector across Canada.
- Impact Reports, which cover all advocacy and member engagement activities.

CO-OPERATIVE AND MUTUAL DATABASE

CMC created Canada's most comprehensive database on co-operatives and mutuals. It has data on approximately 95 per cent of Canada's co-operatives and mutuals. This tool is "foundational" to advancing CMC's mission to unite and promote co-operatives and mutuals.

Why Join Us

Strengthen Your Business

BUILD SECTOR EXPERTISE

- Develop your knowledge and skills by participating in CMC webinars, congress, and other special events and programs.
- Find new opportunities within the CMC network to grow your business.
- Share resources, unite on important issues, develop new tools, and share best practices with others.
- Connect with co-op leaders and those on CMC's youth-led Canada's Emerging Co-operators committee.

STAY INFORMED

- Keep up-to-date with developments in the co-operative/mutual sector.
- Get access to national resources for best practices on how to advance your co-operative or mutual enterprise through the good and bad times.
- Access research and data on the sector to support business strategy and lobbying for change.
- Keep your finger on the pulse of trends within the co-op/mutual sector.

Expand Your Reach

DEVELOP YOUR NETWORK

- Make use of CMC's extensive network to form new partnerships and source new opportunities or talent.
- Connect with partners at CMC Congress.
- Contribute to CMC working groups and subject-matter expert meetings.
- Connect with other social economy stakeholders through CMC.

INCREASE YOUR VISIBILITY

- Make your co-op stand out by promoting your initiatives on CMC's social media and Co-op Sector/Mutual Sector News.
- Host and/or be a speaker at CMC conferences, webinars, and workshops.

Make Your Voice Heard

INFLUENCE DEBATES & CONVERSATIONS

- Have your interests represented through CMC advocacy initiatives.
- Make use of CMC research documents
- Share your views with a national audience at CMC events.

GET INVOLVED IN CMC'S DECISION MAKING

- Get involved in CMC governance.
- Use the right to vote at the CMC Annual General Meeting.
- Stand for election as a CMC board member.
- Nominate individuals and co-operative enterprises from your network for annual CMC awards.

We Work Together

Board of Directors

15 Board Members from across Canada

John Kay

Realize Strategies
Co-operative
President

Karen Miner

International Centre for
Co-operative Management,
Saint Mary's University
Vice-President

Alexandra Wilson

The Co-operators
Vice-President

James Bettcher

United Farmers of Alberta
Co-operative Limited
Director

Pascal Billard

Coopzone
Director

Stéphane Forget

Sollio Co-operative Group
Director

Julien Geremie

Co-operation
Council of Ontario
Director

Randy Graham

Federated Co-operatives
Limited
Director

Erin Morgan

Ontario Co-operative
Association
Director

Mark Needham

Arctic Co-operatives Limited
Director

Reba Plummer

Canadian Worker
Co-operative Federation
Director

Timothy Ross

Co-operative
Housing Federation
of Canada
Director

Stéphane Trottier

Desjardins
Director

Jeannie Van Dyk

Agropur Dairy
Co-operative
Director

Post Vacant

Emerging Co-operators
Representative
Director

CMC Staff

Hugues Bourgeois

Interim Executive Director

Daniel P. Brunette

Director – Advocacy
and Partnerships

Lesley Foster

Manager – Communications

René Bernatchez

Manager – Finances

Marie-Pier Duquette

Manager, Member Engagement

Martin Roy

Senior Specialist, Operations

Grace Busanga

Coordinator – Communications



co-operatives | coopératives
and mutuels | et mutuelles
canada

canada.coop