

Request for proposals: An innovative approach to strategic planning

Background

The Canadian Worker Co-operative Federation (“CWCF”) is a national, bilingual grassroots membership organization of and for worker co-operatives, related types of co-operatives (multi-stakeholder co-ops and worker-shareholder co-ops), and organizations that support the growth and development of worker co-operatives. CWCF was incorporated in 1992, has approximately 50 member cooperatives and an annual budget of approximately \$300,000. Activities and services include an RRSP program, an annual conference, an investment fund, newsletters and other communications, outreach and advocacy efforts. CWCF has extensive relationships with other co-operative organisations and associations in Canada.

CWCF is financially viable, with a strong staff and a stable membership. CWCF has ambitions of growing the worker co-operative movement in Canada, an ambition which will require new approaches and strategies beyond those that are currently being employed. For background information on a successful worker cooperative movement, see the document: [The Worker Co-operative Movements in Italy, Mondragon and France: Context, Success Factors and Lessons](#). To understand more about the worker co-op model, see: [Starting a Worker Co-op: A Canadian Handbook](#).

CWCF is seeking proposals to engage staff, board, members and friends in an innovative and stimulating process to develop a multi-year strategic plan.

Project details

- **Timeline:** The strategic plan will be developed between January and November, 2018
- **Budget:** CWCF is a small organisation with limited financial resources, however CWCF is interested in the quality of the proposals and will seek to provide or secure financial resources to implement the selected proposal.
- **Support:** CWCF will work with the selected proponent to support the selected proposal.
- **Objectives:**
 - Identify a multi-year strategic plan that will guide CWCF in growing the worker cooperative movement.
 - Meaningfully engage staff, board, members and friends of CWCF.
 - Build relationships with likely and unlikely allies.

Proposal

The proposal should include:

- Project understanding
- A description of the method
- Team member(s)
- Experience
- Schedule
- Budget
- Three references, including contact information, project descriptions for each of the reference

The proposal should be no longer than 10 pages.

Evaluation

Evaluation will be undertaken by a committee composed of three board members, a staff person and two at-large CWCF members. The evaluation committee will become the steering committee which will support the implementation of the selected proposal.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate the proposals:

Criteria	Weighting
Method	40%
References	30%
Previous experience	20%
Cost	10%

Submission and deadline

Bidders should submit proposals to Kaye Grant, communications@canadianworker.coop, by December 15th, 2017.