<u>Worker Co-op Management Intensive, 1 November 2018, 9 am – 4 pm</u> FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF A WORKER CO-OP

Financial management, including cash flow, is a major ingredient to the success of co-operative enterprises. This participatory workshop will provide easy to use tools to help your worker co-op improve its financial management. Presented by Russ Christianson.



Russ Christianson has been working with co-operative enterprises for over three decades. He has encouraged and supported the development of over 200 co-operatives, with a 70 percent success rate (for which his gives the founders credit), in a wide variety of sectors including travel, housing, retail, distribution, food processing, renewable energy, health, culture, construction, forestry, and manufacturing. A common theme for all of Russ' work is co-operative sustainability: The collective creation and sharing of wealth within an ecological framework.

Interested in the financial health of your co-operative? Dive into this full day intensive to increase your understanding of financial statements, build a financial health dashboard for your co-operative, and share real-world stories that worker co-operatives face in the board room. Ideal for worker-owners who are on or interested in joining the Board of Directors of their co-operative.

Participants will leave the session with an increased understanding and ability to interpret and analyze financial statements and cash flow. They will also understand financial topics unique to co-operatives such as:

- Financial benchmarks and cash flow
- Distributing patronage returns
- Setting and changing member buy-in amounts
- Divisible and indivisible reserves and how to set them.

This session will build on the topics covered in the CWCF financial basics webinar. Attendees should attend or review this webinar prior to arriving at the session. To make the workshop the most meaningful, attendees should bring a copy of their co-operative's latest financial statements (and budgets if possible); sample financials will also be provided for attendees.

There will also be a presentation by The Co-operators regarding important insurance coverage for your co-operative

Agenda

Morning: * Roundtable introductions and workshop expectations * Review financial basics and terms * Understanding financial statements * Does your co-op need an audit? * Budgeting and financial benchmarks * /Break/ * Small group sessions coaching attendees how to calculate key performance indicators from their financials (or the sample provided) * Discuss the results in small groups * Provide a recap to the larger group on insights from discussion – including cash flow analysis/projections.

Lunch

Afternoon: * Real-world worker co-op stories and financial topics: * Distributing patronage returns (example and best practices) * Divisible and indivisible reserves (why, how to set up, etc.) * Setting and Changing Member Buy-in Amounts.