



Building Bridges - Pour réussir ensemble

**2015 Conference of the Canadian Worker Co-op Federation & CoopZone
In collaboration with the Quebec Worker Coop Network (“RESEAU”)
Lord Berri Hotel, Montreal, QC, October 28-31, 2015**

Program

Plenary sessions & one workshop session per time slot will have simultaneous interpretation. Other workshop sessions have consecutive interpretation.

Wednesday, October 28th

Pre-Conference, Optional events:

6:30 pm Supper – CWCF will suggest a couple of possible nearby restaurants.

8:30 - ? : Networking event at a local worker co-op nightclub with live music: le Divan Orange (“Dear Rouge, Rah Rah and Caveboy”). Music starts at 9:30 pm. (Cover charge, \$10.) Meet in Hotel lobby at 8:30 pm. Led by Corey Wood, Ashar Latif, and Jessica Provencher.

All sessions take place in the Senneville Room unless otherwise noted. Lunches are served in the Il Cavaliere restaurant, and the banquet is in the Senneville Room.

Thursday, October 29th

8:00 am	Breakfast – not included in registration
A:	Facilitator: Jessica Provencher
9 – 9:15 am	Welcome – by CWCF President Alain Bridault, CoopZone Vice President Pascal Billard, and RESEAU President Pierre Charette.
9:15 – 10:25 am	<p>Introduction to the Conference and the Conference Theme. <i>(Including announcing the free developer time.)</i></p> <p>Building Bridges Between Organizations: each of CWCF (Hazel Corcoran), Réseau (Pierre Charette), Forestry Federation (Jocelyn Lessard), Paramedic Federation (Benoît Caron), & CoopZone (Pascal Billard), have 4 minutes to present a snapshot of their organizations: eg: Number and types of members, main sector(s) of activity, how long in existence, number of board and staff members, main services.</p> <p>Ice-breaking / Networking Activity - getting to know other people across borders and structures: Including: how are worker co-ops different in different regions? What are co-ops like in your region or sector? Led by Eric Tusz-King and Jessica Provencher.</p>
10:25 – 10:40 am	Networking Break
10:40 am – 11:25	Keynote: Esteban Kelly , Co-Executive Director, US FWC, Philadelphia, on Building Bridges / Succeeding by coming together; including brief presentation of the US FWC.
11 :25 – 11 :45 am	CWCF AGM Part 1: Reports by Executive Director - Hazel Corcoran, & President – Alain Bridault.
11:45 – 1:00 pm	Lunch – included in registration / For CICOPA-North America Steering Committee members: lunch meeting
1:00 – 1:30	Optional Walking Tour, led by Dru Oja Jay.
B:	Facilitator: Marty Frost

Thursday, October 29th

1:30 – 3:00 pm	Forum¹ Topic #1: Building Bridges across Generations: dealing with the retirement of founding members, how to motivate new members to join and how to integrate new members well. 2-3 presenters, including Paul-Yvon Blanchette, of <i>Les Constructions Ensemble</i> , Carl Lafontaine, la Coopérative le Théâtre Parminou, and a member of La Siembra Co-op. Facilitated by Marty Frost, Devco.
3:00 – 3:25 pm	Networking Break
3:25 – 4:10 pm	Co-op Ignite Session: this is a dynamic, fast-paced presentation style. 6 worker co-ops or others will present. A “Co-op Ignite” presentation is one in which worker co-operators, and some other participants, will each briefly tell their story based on the Ignite approach- as adapted by CWCF. Each participant presents 20 slides, which auto-advance at 21 seconds each, for a total of 7 minutes. A great way to learn a lot in a short time. Brierwood Design Co-op, Ottawa; Belvédère Communications Co-op, Montreal (Matthieu Morin); The Mexican Co-operative Confederation / Mexican worker co-op movement (Dov Orian); SCOP Accolades worker co-op, France, Petit Paris Forestry Co-op (Alain Paradis), etc.
4:15– 5:30 pm	RESEAU AGM (Senneville Room – with simultaneous interpretation) / and Caucus Meetings: Prairies Region Caucus – Beaufort Room / Ontario Region Caucus: Citadelle Room / Developers’ Caucus : Il Cavaliere restaurant (There will not be a BC or Atlantic caucus this year.)
C:	
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Supper (on your own) – CWCF will suggest a couple of possible nearby restaurants.
8:30 pm til ?	Networking Time (including opportunity to play the game of Co-opoly for those who wish). At the same time, we will show the new 22-minute video on worker co-ops, “Own the Change”. (http://www.toolboxford.org/project/own-the-change/) – in English only. Hosted by Victor Das, Unite Digital Marketing Co-op, and Tommy Allen, Urban Eatin Gardeners’ Worker Co-op.
9:00 pm	<i>Late AGM Resolutions Deadline</i>

Friday, October 30th

7:30 am	Breakfast – not included in registration	
A:	Facilitator: Eric Tusz-King	
8:30 – 9:45 am	Forum Topic #2: Diversity: Why is it important for co-ops, boards, management, federations, i.e. the whole movement? How do we accomplish it? To include all types of diversity including gender, First Nations, immigrants, different ages, etc. Esteban Kelly, US FWC; Reba Plummer, Urbane Cyclist; and Maricela Vargas, Nettoieprêt – Worker Co-operative. Facilitated by Eric Tusz-King.	
9:45 - 10:00 am	CWCF AGM Part 2 : Financial Statements, Budget	
10:00 – 10:25 am	Networking Break	
10:25 – 10:50 am	More Co-op Ignite sessions	
	<i>Choose free consulting time (as a developer, or a co-op seeking help), OR the workshop. If you choose free consulting time, after you are done you may quietly enter the workshop session.</i>	
10:50 am - Noon	Free consulting time explained / organized by Kaye Grant. (15 minutes) Citadelle Room.	Workshop A1: Avoiding conflicts, and collective decision-making in a worker co-operative. With simultaneous interpretation. Senneville Room. Presented by Matthieu Piegay, and Xavier Chenu SCOP-Accolades (a worker co-op from France), which does training and development for participatory governance. Introduced by Isabel Faubert.
	Free consulting time with a developer	
Noon – 1:10 pm	Lunch – included in registration	
B:	Facilitator: Eric Tusz-King	

¹ A “Forum” session means that several people with experience present a topic in plenary, each for about 10 minutes, followed by facilitated discussion and discussion in break-out groups.

1:10- 1:40	Insurance Programs for CWCF Members - The Co-operators, Manon Monette		
1:40 - 1:55 pm	France-Québec Collaboration Agreement: MCE Conseils and the Regional Union of Worker Co-ops (“SCOPs”) of Rhone-Alpes have an agreement to forge links between co-op development support structures and also between co-operatives. Six French SCOPs are attending the conference to identify Quebec co-operatives interested in building such partnerships. By Malik Selmi, Acting Executive Director, UR-SCOP Rhone-Alpes, and Claude Dorion, Executive Director, MCE Conseils.		
2:00 – 4:00 pm	Workshops:		
	B1) Worker Co-ops 101 & Opportunity Identification, Eric Tusz-King (Aster Group) and Alain Bridault (Coop Orion). With consecutive interpretation, done by presenters. Beaufort Room.	B2) Finances – How can you improve your co-op’s bottom line? How can you raise needed capital? Marty Frost, Devco, facilitated by Reba Plummer. With consecutive interpretation (Hazel Corcoran). Citadelle Room.	B3) Coming Together to Grow: Facilitated by Jessica Provencher and Dru Oja Jay. With simultaneous interpretation. a) Co-operation within the co-op sector: We will look at what has been done in various regions, and focus on how co-operation among co-ops could be strengthened. What approaches can help us better live principle 6? Jocelyn Lessard, Executive Director of the Quebec Forestry Co-op Federation, will present their Federation’s strategic plan as part of this. b) Municipal Partnerships for Worker Co-op Development: In some cities around the US (e.g., New York City, Madison), coalitions have come together to advocate for municipal support to worker co-op development. What have they done? Could we bring this to Quebec and the Rest of Canada? Senneville Room.
4:15 – 6:15 pm	Worker Co-op Pub Tour: Walking tour to the Café Campus Worker Co-op Nightclub for a tour, discussion and & drink. 20-minute walk from the Hotel. Alternative transportation available for those who need it.		
C:			
6:30 pm - ?	Banquet/Awards (with simultaneous interpretation) / Silent Auction – incl. in registration - Senneville Room Presentation of the Worker Co-op Best Practices Award– Les Constructions Ensemble And the Mark Goldblatt Worker Co-op Merit Award – Isabel Faubert-Mailloux		

Saturday, October 31th

7:30 am	Breakfast – not included in registration		
A:			
8:30 – 10:30 am	Workshops		
	C1) Co-op development supports: The Canadian Co-op Investment Fund; the Co-op Development Strategy of Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada, and the state of lobbying for worker co-op interests. Michaël Béland, CMC and Hazel Corcoran, CWCF. With consecutive interpretation if needed (by presenters). Facilitated by Pascal Billard. Citadelle Room.	C2) The Techniques and Art of Facilitation: Making meetings dynamic. Led by Lisa Gravel, Lupuna , who teaches the Art of Hosting. Introduced by Jessica Provencher, who will also help with interpretation if needed. Beaufort Room.	C3) Sustainability: How can worker cooperatives contribute to addressing climate change? Part workshop / part brainstorming session, facilitated by Yuill Herbert, Sustainability Solutions Group Worker Co-op. With simultaneous interpretation. Senneville Room.
10:30– 10:50 am	Networking Break		
10:50 – 12:00	AGM Part 3: Nominations/ director elections, resolutions/ Conference wrap-up – to include discussion on how we can build bridges, among organizations and co-ops.		
12:00 – 1:25 pm	Lunch –included in registration : Board reorganization meeting		
1:30 – 4:00 pm	Tours of Montreal Worker Co-ops (by bus or metro; returning to Hotel by 4:00.) We will visit two co-ops: 2pm The Ludo-Pedagogical Institute Co-operative, and 3m Café Touski Co-op. Led by Isabel Faubert.		

Acknowledgements Remerciements

The CWCF and CoopZone would like to sincerely thank the following for their financial support of the 2015 Conference

La FCCT et CoopZone aimeraient remercier sincèrement les organismes suivants pour leur soutien financier au Congrès 2015

Major Sponsors Les Commanditaires Majeurs



Other Sponsors D'autres Commanditaires



Canadian Heritage Patrimoine canadien

We acknowledge the financial support of the Department of Canadian Heritage for simultaneous interpretation.
Nous remercions l'appui financier de Patrimoine Canada pour l'interprétation simultanée

Devco: Cooperative development and training



Support does not necessarily imply Vancity's or other sponsors' endorsement of the contents of this document or web page.
Le soutien financier ne signifie pas nécessairement l'approbation de Vancity ou d'autres commanditaires du contenu de ce document ou cette page web.