



NEWS AND VIEWS

MARCH 2010

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ACCA *News and Views* will be published at the beginning of each month. Please submit news items or information you would like to share to acca@acca.coop.

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Member Profile: Central Alberta Co-op



After serving central Alberta independently and working closely together for over 60 years, on February 3, 2008 Innisfail and Spruce View Co-op have amalgamated, forming Central Alberta Co-op. With the addition of Green Way Farm Supply in March, 2008, Central Alberta Co-op offers their membership a wide variety of sales and services.

What we do

At our Innisfail locations, we are pleased to offer our membership and the community a full food market located at the co-op mall, a home and agro centre, full service gas bar with touchless carwash, bulk petroleum delivery and a cardlock. At Spruce View, we have a food market, home and agro centre, full service gas bar and a cardlock. As an added bonus in Spruce View, you will find a branch of Eckville District Savings and Credit Union. All of our crop protection, fertilizer, agronomy and grain handling services and products are located at our Green Way location.

It pays to be a member of Central Alberta Co-op! In 2008, we allocated over \$1.9 million dollars back to our membership. We issued 6534 cheques totalling \$1,277,855.

What we pride ourselves

We are “your community builder”. In 2009, Central Alberta Co-op donated over \$50,000 to local service groups, sports teams, schools, 4-H groups and local food banks. You will see our sponsorship sign at Daines Rodeo, 4-H shows and curling bonspiels. The dollars you spend at Central Alberta Co-op stay in the community!

“Central Alberta Co-op provides exceptional service and quality products following co-operative principles.”

Vision statement

“Central Alberta Co-op will be the preferred choice in central Alberta for products and services.”

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2010 Summer Co-operative Youth Program



Summer Volunteer Staff

The 2010 Staff Training will take place from April 29-May 2, 2010 at the Goldeye Centre. We have a great weekend planned with exciting guest speakers! Registration packages and information can also be found on our website.

DEADLINE for staff applications is March 10, 2010.

Summer Programs 2010

We are hard at work preparing for the 2010 ACCA Summer Co-operative Youth Program. We are excited to announce the return of our **Pre-Teen Program** for participants in grades six and seven along with our regular Teen, Youth and Grad Programs. Brochures and posters containing information and registration for these programs are now available on our website soon. Please contact the office at 780-963-3766 if you would like some promotional materials mailed out to you.

Additional information regarding these programs can be found on our website at www.acca.coop/youthcamps.html

Join our Facebook Fan Page –
ACCA Co-operative Youth Program.



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Youth Program Wish List 2010

Full or partial donations are appreciated. Thank you for your support!!!

- Permanent black markers(thick) – 8
- Pens (black or blue)
- White glue – 3
- Glue sticks – 5
- Scissors (sharp) – 5
- Notebooks (small) – 350
- Candles (tall white) – 75
- Masking tape – 12 rolls
- Brown paper lunch bags – 180
- Small envelopes – 300
- Gently used fax machine
- Balloons (black, red, white) – 4 packages of each
- Flip chart paper – 15 pads
- Mousetraps – 15
- Wool (bright colors) 10 rolls, 4 black rolls, 4 white rolls
- Plastic table cloths – 15
- Rechargeable batteries for digital camera (12+)
- Certificate paper – 350 sheets

CANTEEN

Quantities are approximate. These are just examples of some of the things that would be enjoyed in the canteen

- Pop (approx. 225 cans) water (approx. 200 bottles) for – Coke, diet Coke, Nestea, Barq's Rootbeer, Sprite, Mountain Dew, Aquafina water, Crystal Light
- Peanut free chocolate bars(approx. 20 boxes of 24) – Coffee Crisp, Rolo, Aero, Aero Chunky, Kit Kat, Mars, Crunchie, granola bars, Twix, Caramilk etc – MUST HAVE peanut-free symbol on box
- Chips (approx. 125 bags) variety of Lays, Doritos, Pretzels, Cheetos
- Candy – Nibs, Topps Ring Pops, Mega Double Lollies, Wonka Nerds, Skittles, Wonka Gobstoppers, Mentos, Candy necklaces
- 5-cent candy – approximately 22 containers
- Small dollar store items for Secret Friend gifts

Winter Co-operative Youth Program

The Alberta Community and Co-operative Association is excited to present their 2010 Winter Co-operative Youth Program.

The Winter Co-operative Youth Program is a 3½ hour educational hands-on learning experience for youth in grades five and six. We have the students learn ways in which they can work together harmoniously. We teach the students about co-operative ideals and how these ideals can benefit them and their community and we teach them about different leadership styles in hopes that they will understand what style works best. Lastly, we have the students draw and act out what agriculture means to them and how it affects their daily lives.

In the past, this program has been a huge success and ACCA will continue to visit schools in various communities throughout Alberta. We are currently looking for schools that are interested in hosting a Winter Co-operative Youth Program. The cost of our program is very minimal and all we ask is that our travel costs be covered. Please contact our office at acca@acca.coop if you would be interested in hosting a Winter Co-operative Youth Program or if you would like some more information.

Bright Young Minds Available to Your Organization

The Career Focus Internship Program provides organizations with qualified interns while building the skills and knowledge of a new generation of leaders.

The program is designed to provide a direct service to organizations by finding skilled students to help fill organizational needs.

By hosting interns, organizations can gain assistance with specific projects of importance to their operations while building their future.

Need for New Leadership

Have you envisioned who will succeed your organization's board and staff positions over the next ten years? The need for new leadership has never been so great. We need

people who possess not only the necessary skills to perform their jobs, but also the vision and dedication.

The Career Focus Internship Program aims to:

- Develop skilled and visionary leaders
- Promote awareness and increased knowledge
- Encourage youth career development in the co-operative and non-co-operative sector in Canada

Why host an intern?

- Access Young, Skilled Talent: Experienced, visionary students can add value to your operations and management.
- Meet Personnel Needs: Complete special projects or specific assignments with competent short-term employees.
- Capitalize on Cost Effective Recruitment and Training: Assess new recruits without long-term commitment. Interns employed by host organizations upon completion of program require less training.
- Strengthen the Co-operative Movement: Develop future leaders.

How the program works

The internship incorporates three components:

- Meaningful internship, of at least 4 weeks, that allows the intern to develop specific employability skills
- Mentoring program to ensure mutual learning benefits for the host organizations and the interns
- Educational activities organized for the intern to demonstrate the values and principles of co-operative and non-cooperative organizations

The Career Focus Internship Program operates in part as a placement service, matching the needs of the host organizations with the interests and background of potential interns.

The program provides:

- Access to a candidate pool of motivated, skilled students with diversified backgrounds, and/or interest
- Screened intern applicants who meet internship specifications and requirements
- Communication with interns before, during, and after internship
- Educational activities for interns to enhance their learning experience

The Matching Process

The Career Focus Internship Program custom matches the needs of the host organizations with the interests and background of potential interns.

1. The host organization identifies the needs and requirements for their internship.
2. ACCA initiates direct recruitment efforts and advertises internships on its website.
3. Youth submit their application for the internship.
4. ACCA will forward suitable candidate applications to the host organization.
5. The host organization interviews youth and informs ACCA of their selection.
6. ACCA will inform the youth and receives confirmation from students.

The Career Focus Internship Program provides organizations with qualified interns, while building the skills and knowledge of a new generation of leaders.

The program is designed to provide a direct service by finding skilled youth to help fill organizational needs.

By hosting interns, organizations can gain assistance with specific projects of importance to their operations while building the future of the organization.

At the present time I have interns who have graduated with Civil Engineering, Multimedia, Oilfield and Production Field Operations, Home Support Field Worker, Bachelor of Science and many more.

For more information, please call or e-mail Dianne at 780-963-3766 or e-mail dschoepp@acca.coop.



Co-op Awards Nominations Deadline Approaching

Further details regarding the criteria and nominations forms are available on the ACCA website at: <http://www.acca.coop/nominations.html> or contact ACCA at 780-963-3766 to request forms. For more information, contact Richard at coopdev@acca.coop

March 15, 2010 is the deadline for nominations for Alberta Co-operative Awards. Nominations may be made in any of the awards categories including:

- The Co-operative Merit Award for outstanding and continuous service.
- The Young Co-operative Leader Award for individuals 30 years of age or younger who exemplify co-operative values and principles.
- The Inspiring Young Co-operators Award for individuals or co-operatives or credit unions which have responded to needs and values of younger members or which have motivated younger individuals to participate in the organization.
- Co-operative Innovations Award which recognizes individuals or organizations for innovations in co-operatives or credit unions.
- The Co-operative Visionary Leadership Award which recognizes leadership that has inspired, looked beyond, captured values of members, and persevered.

ACCA's Annual General Meeting

The Alberta Community and Co-operative Association (ACCA) will be holding our Annual General Meeting on Friday, April 30, 2010 at the Holiday Inn on 67th, Red Deer, AB. The AGM will begin with registration at 1:45 p.m. The meeting will commence at 2:00 p.m. Prior to the AGM, we will be holding a Members Only Forum. The forum will focus on the potential for using the co-operative model in elder care. The forum will be held at the same location, Holiday Inn on 67th, Red Deer, Alberta.

After the conclusion of the forum, the 2010 Co-operative Awards luncheon will be held, again all at the same location. If no Co-operative Award nominations are received, there will be a networking lunch in its place. The registration for the forum will begin at 8:30 a.m. and the forum will commence promptly at 9:00 a.m. If you will be joining us for the luncheon and AGM only, registration will begin at 11:15 a.m. If you are joining us for the AGM only, registration will begin at 1:45, with the AGM commencing promptly at 2:00 p.m.

Visit our website at www.acca.coop.

Presenters needed at Alberta Rural Development Network's First Conference

For more information, contact:

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Sherwood Park, AB T8A 2H5
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This is a Call for Presentations to be delivered at the Alberta Rural Development Network's Creating Rural Connections Conference at the University of Lethbridge, May 11 to 13, 2010.

We strongly encourage rural community members and others to consider making a presentation. Presentations must focus on rural projects/programs, rural research or training/learning opportunities in rural Alberta.

The deadline for presentation applications is March 15; the application form is attached. Information on the conference will be available shortly at www.ardn.ca

Aboriginal Co-operatives Conference

“Putting the Collective Spirit to Work” is the theme for the upcoming conference hosted by the Saddle Lake Band in Alberta. Participants at the conference will hear the stories of successful aboriginal co-operatives from across the country and explore the potential for application of such co-operatives in their situations.

The results of a feasibility study of a First Nations artisans co-operative will also be shared as the Saddle Lake Band invites other communities to participate in the Cree-operative artisans group.

Presenters include Dr. Ian MacPherson, a researcher and author on the subject of co-operatives who is well recognized in the international co-operative community. Pearl Calahasen, Member of Alberta's Legislative Assembly for Lesser Slave Lake is also confirmed as a keynote speaker.

Dates for the session are March 25 and 26. Watch ACCA's website for information in the next few days, or email Dianne at dschoepp@acca.coop and ask to be put on the mailing list for information.

Concentra, Credit Unions Go Platinum!

[Concentra Financial](#) and three credit unions have received “Platinum” honours by being named as one of “Canada’s Best Managed Companies” for at least six consecutive years.

Concentra, together with [Coast Capital Savings](#) , [First Calgary Savings](#) and Servus Credit Union, were named as members of the “Platinum Club” when this year’s list was announced on February 16.

The annual competition is sponsored by Deloitte, a major management consulting firm, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, the National Post and the Queen’s University School of Business. Companies are selected through an independent process that evaluates the calibre of their management abilities and practices.

UFA Names Interim CEO

[UFA Co-operative Limited](#) has named Bob Nelson as its interim president and CEO.

Mr. Nelson became UFA’s vice-president of Petroleum Operations in 2005, just one year after joining the co-operative. Prior to joining UFA, Bob held a variety of positions during a 23-year career with Shell Canada.

He will serve as UFA’s president and CEO until the search for a permanent chief executive is complete.

Deadline Extended for CCA Governance Awards

The [Canadian Co-operative Association](#) (CCA) has extended its application deadline for its Co-operative Governance Awards until April 9.

The deadline was extended to give organizations more time to submit their applications, and to streamline the deadlines for all of CCA’s annual awards. The

Canadian Co-operative Achievement Award, the Global Co-operator Award and the Pioneer Inductees to the Canadian Co-operative Hall of Fame all have an April 9 deadline.

Go to www.coopscanada.coop/en/about_cca/Awards for more information on the awards.

.coop: Connect with Co-Ops around the World

Have you ever wondered why many co-operative organizations use .coop in their web or email addresses instead of .com, .ca or .org?

.Coop is the internationally-recognized domain name for co-operative enterprises. More than 4,000 co-operative organizations – 282 of them in Canada – use the .coop domain to identify themselves as co-ops.

The administrators of .coop have created an interactive [.coop directory](#) that will connect you with all organizations that use the .coop domain. The directory is sortable by region and economic sector, and includes maps showing you the exact location of .coop users. You can also consult the [.coop website](#) to find out whether the name you want to use is available, and they have launched a [.coop auction](#) for certain unused names that are in demand.

Celebrate International Women’s Day with CDF: Online Auction Begins March 8

Dreaming about a weekend getaway at Quebec’s beautiful Mont Tremblant ski resort? Or enhancing your home decor with a hand-carved sculpture by a Haitian artisan? Or even celebrating the coming of spring with some jewellery and scarves handmade by members of women’s co-operatives around the world?

These are only a few of the more than 70 items that will be up for bid during the [Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada](#) (CDF)’s online auction, which will start on March 8, [International Women’s Day](#), and end on March 18.

As of March 8, you can link to the auction from CDF’s website, www.cdfcanada.coop. All proceeds will go toward CDF’s Global Women’s Fund, a fund that supports international development programming that influences the lives of women. For more information, contact Sarah Richardson at sarah.richardson@coopscanada.coop.

Employment Opportunities

- **[Program Manager, Co-operative Development Initiative](#)**: The Canadian Co-operative Association and the Conseil canadien de la coopération et de la mutualité are seeking a Program Manager to administer the Co-operative Development Initiative. Application deadline: March 12, 2010
- **[Director, International Business Development](#)**, Canadian Co-operative Association. Application deadline: March 12, 2010
- Go to <http://tinyurl.com/CoopJobs> to visit CCA's job board. If you have employment opportunities in the co-operative, credit union or social economy sector you would like to have posted on the website, please email donna.balkan@coopscanada.coop.

More Good News for Co-op and Social Economy Research

There's more good news for researchers studying co-operatives and other social economy enterprises. The **[Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada](#)** (SSHRC) officially announced its Community-University Research Alliance grants on February 4, and there are several projects of interest to co-ops.

As previously reported, the **[Canadian Co-operative Association](#)** (CCA), in collaboration with four Canadian universities, was awarded \$1 million over five years to conduct research on the social, economic and environmental impact of co-operatives.

Other CURA projects of interest to the co-op sector include:

- A project to research the relationship between social economy businesses and marginalized social groups, led by University of Toronto professor Jack Quarter. A number of co-operative organizations are collaborators or partners in this project, including the Ontario Co-operative Association (On Co-op), Alterna Savings and the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto.
- A project to research community food security, led by Mount Saint Vincent University professor Patricia Williams.
- A project to research alternative food systems in urban, rural and northern Manitoba, led by University of Manitoba professor Stéphane McLachlan.

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/2010CURA> for the full list of CURA grant recipients.

Call for Nominations: CCA Awards

The [Canadian Co-operative Association](#) (CCA) is calling for nominations for the following awards, which will be presented at CCA's National Congress in Vancouver on June 15.

- [The Canadian Co-operative Achievement Award](#) honours outstanding individual contributions to the co-operative movement in Canada.
- [The Global Co-operator Award](#), which honours an individual or organization who has consistently demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to the international development work of CCA and the Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada. This will be the first year in which organizations as well as individuals are eligible for this award.
- [Canadian Co-operative Hall of Fame Pioneer Inductees](#), recognizing deceased individuals who were fundamental in shaping co-operation in Canada. This builds upon last year's Greatest Canadian Co-operator competition and the induction of 14 co-op pioneers into the Canadian Co-operative Hall of Fame.
- The nomination deadline for these three awards is April 9, 2010.

For more information on the award criteria, the nomination process, or where to send your nominations, click the links above or go to www.coopscanada.coop/en/about_cca/Awards

A 3.9 billion consumer market is waiting for your co-operative products.

ICAExpo 2010 India is the largest event for the co-operative movement aiming at generating business opportunities and increasing the participation of the co-operative movement in the commercial cenarium. More than 6.000 m² will be available exclusively for co-operatives to feature their products and the social role they represent. Make your space reservation and participate in the biggest tradeshow for the co-operative movement.

ICA
EXPO2010
WORLD CO-OPERATIVE EXHIBITION

8 - 10 December, 2010
Bangalore Trade Centre
Bangalore - India
Reservation:
+351 214 827 503

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www.icaexpo.coop

ASIA

- A continent with 3.95 billion inhabitants
- A 7-8% annual economical growth
- The third biggest market in the world
- The fourth biggest economy (PPP)



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