

6th Annual Rise & Shine Breakfast Forum

ACCA is pleased to announce that this year's Rise and Shine event will focus on Accessing Local Capital.

Consider this all too common story. Throughout the province, there are many successful small and medium sized businesses whose owners are thinking of retiring. Unfortunately, for many of them, there is no succession plan. Furthermore, potential entrepreneurs may be in the community or ready to move to the community, but they lack the access to capital. Consequently, the respective community is at risk of losing yet another successful business.

Yet there are some encouraging stories that show us that capital can be accessed from the local community for these types of situations. How have they done so and are there ways to further enhance the ability to access local capital?

ACCA invites you to join us for our Rise and Shine event for the morning of November 30th . Once again, we'll be using videoconferencing as the vehicle to connect groups from across the province. It's your community's opportunity to learn about the ways that it can draw upon the local capital to sustain local businesses.

Video conferencing facilities are available throughout the province at various facilities such as Community Adult Learning Councils and Community Futures offices. If your group is interested in participating, contact ACCA to determine if there is a site near to you.

Contact Richard Stringham, Director of Co-operative Development at: coopdev@acca.coop or phone: 780-823-0230.

2012 Agriculture Update for Professionals

Once again, we have an action packed agenda. It will be interactive using the anonymous voting software we introduced in the 2010 course. The focus continues to be on your Agricultural clients as it has been for the past 32 years that this course has run, but will include many items which also have non-agricultural application.

As always the course will be topical - drawing on suggestions from course participants and some new legislation. A big piece of new legislation this year is the New Wills and Succession Act which changes the rules on who gets assets when someone dies without a will, what happens when people die at the same time, whether a will is revoked on marriage and opens the possibility for a matrimonial claim after a spouse has passed away. We also have new tax legislation with both the Federal Budget and the Technical Bill (which promises to finally make some long anticipated changes to the rollover and capital gain exemption rules for farmers).

As a result of the new legislation, it seemed worthwhile to discuss the use of trusts in planning as well as the taxation thereof.

We will also be focusing on tax planning for farmers in light of the inevitable - death. This will cover both the more basic as well as complex. Planning discussed will be both in anticipation of death but also post-mortem planning to avoid a potential for double tax.

Given the relative explosion in people purchasing vacation properties in both Canada and the U.S. - we will spend some time on the issues resulting from those purchases and possible planning opportunities.

Finally we will cover a number of Tips and Traps which will include many recent technical interpretations received from Canada Revenue Agency, what to do if we accidentally over-elect on an eligible dividend from a farm company, the possibility of doing a corporate split if the company owned land is now being rented out (split with the family), and many more.

For an agenda of the day, dates and registration information, click here to link to our website.

2012 International Year of Co-operatives

2012 is the International Year of Co-operatives and many members of the co-operative community have been busy planning in order to make this a memorable year in Alberta. Please visit the Alberta Co-op Cafe at <http://tinyurl.com/coop-cafe> to see some of the ideas, which have been suggested. These ideas along with others generated at some meetings in Calgary and Edmonton have been synthesized into a Draft Plan for IYC in Alberta. To support these IYC initiatives, the ACCA has hired Sarah Arthurs, a member of Prairie Sky Co Housing Co-operative and a director with First Calgary Financial Credit Union to be the IYC Coordinator.

We are working towards a simultaneous national launch event in January 20 including a number of centers throughout Alberta. We will be encouraging and supporting events throughout the year especially on Co-op Day and during Co-op week. Finally the year will conclude with an IYC conference at the U of A, November 15 - 17, 2012. We are developing a communications plan to keep Co-ops and members apprized of what is unfolding.

Do you know what International Years are currently happening? It is currently the International Year of Forestry, the International Year of Chemistry and the International Year of People of African Descent. Let's make it our goal that many (MOST) Albertans will know that 2012 is the INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CO-OPERATIVES and that they are probably a member of at least one!!! Please feel free to contact Sarah Arthurs with any questions or suggestions. She can be reached at iyc@acca.coop and 403 860 3980 and looks forward to speaking with and working with you.

Career Focus Internship Program

YOUTHFUL INNOVATION....

A Valuable investment opportunity at a low cost.

The Career Focus Internship Program has become a very successful program for both the interns and the host organizations.

Alberta Community and Co-operative Association would like to thank the following organizations for giving 7 interns the opportunity to learn "Real World" experiences by offering them a 12 week work placement and in many cases permanent full-time employment.

Raising Spaces Inc.

Centralta Tourism Society

Homegrown Foods Ltd.

College of Alberta Professional Forest Technologists

DesignPics

Exova

SPARK

We have the following interns looking for positions:

Bachelor of Arts - Double Major in Political Science and Philosophy

Bachelor of Arts - Major in Japanese Language and Literature, Minor in East Asian Studies

For more information on the internship or becoming a host or an intern, please click [here](#).

Our office is moving!!!

As of October 1st, 2011, our office is moving upstairs to #202. Please change your records accordingly