



ALBERTA COMMUNITY & CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

# GATHERING OF ALBERTA CO-OPERATIVES

OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup> & 18<sup>TH</sup>

STONY PLAIN, AB

## PARTNERSHIP GUIDE

### Conference Objectives

- Create networks with other champions to identify common goals
- Build momentum for future co-operative initiatives
- Identify opportunities for co-operatives to make an impact in our economy.

To celebrate Co-op Week 2018, we are inviting co-operators from across the province to Stony Plain to learn and network together at the Gathering of Alberta Co-operatives. It will feature an opening reception, conference, leadership awards, and include mentorship opportunities, hands-on workshops, and a ton of networking. The Gathering connects with boards of directors, senior management, young leaders, government officials, economic development officers, and new and emerging co-operatives. Our attendees represent all sectors of the economy, and from all corners of the province. In past years the event has featured renowned speakers such as Peter Couchman and Bill Oemichen.

This partnership guide provides an overview of the Gathering and how to get involved.

### Knowledge Sharing and Mentoring

- The co-operative sector has an abundance of skills, experience, and knowledge.
- All programming at the Gathering will connect co-operators to learn from one another.

### Growing the Sector

- How much of Alberta's GDP will be attributed to co-operatives in the next five years? How will membership grow?
- What new co-operatives will exist? How will co-operatives stay ahead of the changes in our economy?

### Leading the Sector

- No organization can outpace the quality of its leadership. We will explore and discuss the core competencies for co-operatives to attract, retain, and develop excellent leaders to advance the goals and meet member needs.

## Event Overview

The Gathering of Alberta Co-operatives comprises of different events and activities within the context of the conference pillars. We will be working with partners to develop a strong and relevant program within this tentative agenda

	<b>Wednesday October 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Thursday October 18<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>AM</b>	Growing the Co-operative Sector Keynote Presentations	Plenary Session on Leadership Mentoring Sessions Keynote Speaker
	Leadership Awards Luncheon	Closing Lunch
<b>PM</b>	Concurrent Sessions: Co-op Tours, strategy workshops, and more	
<b>Evening</b>	Networking Event	

More details around program content, speakers, and events, will be coming soon and posted on our website

### GET INVOLVED

Engaging the sector ensures the Gathering hits the mark and creates the most value for participants and partners. We offer several different ways to get involved. Opportunities range from being a marquee sponsor, to mentorship, and proposing workshops. We're always eager to hear how you would like to support this event and be recognized for your great work!

#### **Champion Sponsor (minimum of \$5,000.00)**

The Champion Sponsor brings this event to the next level. It increases our ability to engage more co-operators, bring in top experts, and deliver a high-profile event. Champion Sponsors also have opportunities to create conference content, mentor, and to lead sessions.

Champion Sponsors also receive

- Marquee position in all marketing and communications
- Free registration for two attendees
- Shareable content (blog-posts, etc.) will be featured on the conference website

#### **Driver Sponsor (minimum of \$2,500.00)**

Drivers are passionate for building a strong co-operative sector. Your sponsorship allows more people to participate at the Gathering. You will also be invited to create content for the gathering and to be a mentor

Drivers also receive:

- Free registration for two attendees
- logos included in communications
- Sponsor profile and article on conference website

#### **Sustainer (minimum of \$1,000.00)**

We're looking for at least five sustainer organizations interested in raising their profile within the co-operative sector. Support from sustainers ensure we can offer more bursaries for co-operators from new and emerging co-operatives to attend.

Sustainers also receive:

- Free registration for one attendee
- organization's logos in communications
- sponsor profile on our website.
- Recognized as the sponsors for all the networking breaks.

#### **Advocate (minimum of \$500.00)**

All co-operatives great and small play a role in building a strong co-operative sector. If you are a smaller organization looking to support sector development, this perfect venue to create an impact.

Advocates also receive:

- Organizations logo on all communication materials
- sponsor profile on our website.

#### **Other ways to get involved:**

##### **Mentorship**

This year we will foster meaningful connections across the sector using mentorship. Mentors will be paired with mentees and small groups to provide insight and expertise to the next generation of leaders. Mentors will be recruited from the conference sponsors and other leaders who are committed to a strong co-op sector. Mentors will be recognized on our website and at the event.

##### **Program Development**

Have an idea for a workshop, a panel? Is there an issue you'd like to discuss? Send us a brief description or drop us a line!

We're looking high and low to come up with content (workshops, panels, etc.) to animate the conference pillars of mentorship, growing the sector, and leadership.

**Follow up: If you have any questions, or would like to learn more, please do not hesitate to contact Seth Leon at 587-216-2144 or [sleon@acca.coop](mailto:sleon@acca.coop)**