



Agriculture and  
Agri-Food Canada

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# Co-operatives in Canada: Sustainable

Co-operatives Secretariat  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada  
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Canada 

# Co-operatives in Canada

## Financial and Non-Financial Co-ops

***Over 8,400 incorporated Co-ops (including c.u. and c.p.)***

***4 out of 10 Canadians are members of a co-operative***

***Over 70,000 Volunteers (boards, committees, etc.)***

***152,000 employees***

***Over \$209 billion in assets***

### Financial Co-ops

10.5 million members

1,140 credit unions/caisses populaires

64,600 employees

3,400 points of service

\$192 billion in assets

### Non Financial Co-ops

5.9 million members

5,715 reporting co-operatives

87,700 employees

\$27.7 billion volume of business

\$17.8 billion in assets

# Le soutien du gouvernement canadien aux

- Informe les partenaires fédéraux sur les coopératives et leurs besoins en matière de politiques et programmes.
- Encourage le dialogue entre les partenaires des coopératives.
- Facilite l'interaction entre les coopératives et le gouvernement fédéral.
- Fournit de l'information valide sur les coopératives et le modèle d'entreprises coopératives au secteur, aux universitaires et aux développeurs économiques communautaires.

# Le Secrétariat aux coopératives

1. Développement de politiques
  - Un environnement législatif, réglementaire et politique qui est sensible à la réalité des coopératives
  - Une expertise et des conseils sur les enjeux coopératifs au sein du gouvernement fédéral
2. Recherche
  - Identification des lacunes, des enjeux et des occasions pour les co-opératives
  - Amélioration des connaissances sur les coopératives
  - Accès pour les canadiennes et canadiens à l'information (directement ou indirectement) sur les coopératives
3. Programmes
  - Soutien financier pour le développement et le renforcement des coopératives

# Programs:

- **Co-operative Development Initiative (2003 -2008)**
  - \$15M over 5 years
  - Increases co-operative development capacity:
    - “Advisory Services”
    - Innovation and Research projects in federal priority sectors
  - Delivered in collaboration with CCA and CCC
- **Agricultural Co-operative Development Initiative (2006-2009)**
  - \$4.25M over 3 years
  - Support for farm producer co-operatives in bio-fuels and other agricultural value-added initiatives
  - Delivered by the CCA and CCC

# CDI Renewal

- Continuity Year: 2008-2009
  - Ag-CDI (\$1.75M)
  - CDI (\$2.48M)
- Longer-term renewal of CDI
  - In process
- Co-operatives Secretariat's role shifting to policy, knowledge development and management, and strengthening relationships

# Government and Sector: complementary efforts to build a sustainable co-op sector

## **ACE**

- To strengthen cooperatives and the cooperative movement by promoting innovative educational responses to social and economic changes.
  - Cooperative research
  - Linking universities, coops and organizations
  - Building capacity
  - Cooperative education resources

## **Co-operatives Secretariat**

- To strengthen economic growth and social development of Canadian society through co-operative enterprise.
  - Policy development
  - Programs
  - Research
  - Relationship building

**For more information:**

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