



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

DIRECTORS

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR

Thank you to all the members and participants who joined us last year in Vancouver for our Annual Institute! 2022 has been an exciting year for ACE.

We had some new directors who joined the Board: H       Turcotte and Emily Nail. The Board has held a total of four meetings in 2022.

Cathy Statz stepped down as Chair, but she remained a resource person for ACE by taking on the role of President Emeritus. The Board of Directors would like to express their special thanks to her for her excellent support and guidance during the transition period.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2022

Considering that 2022 has been a year of transition and change, the Association has had good financial results. ACE handles US & CAN dollars, and we have two separate bank accounts. As a reminder, the budget and reports are given in US dollars. Since our fiscal year starts on January 1st and ends on December 31st, our financial statements for 2022 are: total income of US \$94,983.38 and total expenses of US \$64,271.39. This left a surplus of US \$30,712.29. On the income side, membership dues amounted to US \$3,633.19 and revenues related to the Institute to US \$39,029.34. For expenses, those related to the administration amounted to US \$45,000 and expenses related to our projects to US \$9,74.88. Every year, many efforts are made to solicit funding for our projects and to organize the Institute. Thank you to our financial partners and sponsors in 2022!

Social Media Activity

We are growing! We have 1,6K followers on **Facebook** (@ace.educators.coop), 160 followers on Instagram (@ace.educators) and 214 followers on **LinkedIn**. Our mailing list has 1,834 contacts. Visit our Website to sign up today!

Steve Dubb
Chairman

Gary Hampton
Vice Chair

John Parks
Treasurer

Audra Krueger
Secretary

Jaime Cuevas
Director

Charity Schmidt
Director

Kate LaTour
Director

H       Turcotte
Director

Emily Nail
Director

Cathy Statz
President Emeritus

ACE STAFF



Joséphine Adegnon
Executive Administrator

PROJECTS

Ed.coop – E-learning platform

Resulting from a long journey that began in 2016, ACE has been able to build a website highlighting co-op learning materials and a place where cooperative learners and educators can connect. The E-learning platform Ed.coop offers free, open and curated learning paths on different co-op subtopics (from agriculture to inclusion) and is intended for a variety of audiences from board directors to the co-op curious, as well as a showcase of the various digital co-op libraries, news, events, etc. We gather and review co-op educational material – everything from PowerPoints to online games to YouTube videos and academic articles in English, French and Spanish.

Over the years, more than 200 people participated in the building of this site, which creates collections of resources that flow together in a curated learning experience for self-learners and educators. These learning paths are composed of content that co-op organizations like yours have created. It links people out to your sites, hopefully elevating the exposure of co-op organizations doing exceptional education work. It continues to develop links among this ever-growing community. It also aims to prevent people from reinventing the wheel and investing their time and money in creating content that is already openly available for them to use. To keep the community around these resources growing and engage with more and more organizations doing amazing co-op educational work in the field, **WE NEED ALL OF YOU**. Please submit your resources and/or events at info@ace.coop.

Planting the seeds of change

In March 2022, ACE got awarded a grant by the **CHS Foundation** in support of *the Ag Ready Program: Using Technology to Educate & Prepare Students for Exciting Futures in Ag Co-ops*.

We developed a new learning path specifically designed for students and recent graduates in the field of agriculture. The purpose of this course hosted on our e-learning platform (ed.coop) is to give ag students some information about what co-operative businesses are and what kind of jobs are available, to prepare them for job fairs that will be held in fall 2023.

To design this course, we used an innovative approach through artificial intelligence (AI) in order to overcome the usual challenging triad of time to be allocated, available funds and internal capacity. Through this project, our goal was to start offering asynchronous, stimulating and innovative content including some gamification in order to track some metrics on how our content and courses are perceived. We also listened to the members' wish to stick to our mandate and focus strongly on cooperative education. Many thanks to the CHS Foundation for their engagement and for the financial support.

2022 ACE Institute

ACE hosted its first back-in-person and hybrid Institute in Vancouver, BC, Canada, from July 19 to 22 after two years of virtual ones forced by the pandemic. This Institute was about "Sharing Our Stories" and focused on Justice, Reconciliation & Co-operative Education. We had exciting and inspiring sessions about EDI in cooperative education, a tour of local co-ops, and our Awards Ceremony. This Institute ended on a presentation to reveal our next destination: San Juan, Puerto Rico, ten years after our last Institute on the island and for a year of celebrations, since 2023 is the hundredth anniversary of the Puerto Rican co-operative Movement.