

Co-operative Spotlight

May 2010

An overview of Saskatchewan co-operative sector news and activities

SCA Welcomes Youth Program Staff

The SCA office is a busy place these days, thanks to the annual arrival of our student summer employees. This year we have two Program Assistants, Lara Schroeder and Sasha Hanson Pastran, as well as a Program Facilitator, Alesha Goodwin.

Program Assistants work with Co-op Camp volunteer staff to ensure smooth operation of the summer camps and attend as many as four camps in July and August. "This is a demanding but very rewarding summer job," says Lara, who is returning for her second summer. "My favorite part is the transformation that occurs in both the staff and participants throughout their time at camp. It is great to see people develop their self confidence, leadership skills and co-operative knowledge." Continued on page 2



Summer students Sasha Hanson Pastran, Lara Schroeder and Alesha Goodwin (L-R), wearing the 2010 SCYP "I Heart Co-ops" t-shirt

Historic Funding Agreement Announced

Saskatchewan Co-operative Association is pleased to announce a new funding agreement between Enterprise Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Co-operative Association (SCA).

The government of Saskatchewan will be providing \$65,000 in funding in each of the next two years, which will increase SCA's capacity to support and promote co-operative development in Saskatchewan, with particular focus on addressing seniors' needs.

"The agreement between SCA and the government will help promote the development and expansion of co-operatives in Saskatchewan, as well as looking into how the co-operative model can be used to expand seniors' housing," Enterprise Minister Ken Cheveldayoff said. "Enterprise Saskatchewan's Co-operative Sector Team recommended we move forward with this initiative which will benefit both co-operatives and seniors in the province."

"The funding provided by the Government of Saskatchewan will provide valuable

resources to promote the co-operative business model," SCA Executive Director Victoria Morris said. "The agreement will concentrate on assisting communities in providing services to seniors that include

housing and other initiatives. By providing support for new and existing co-operatives, we will be better able to fill some of the void in providing affordable and secure housing for Saskatchewan seniors."

The historic two year agreement will allow SCA to leverage federal funding

utilized each year to support and promote co-operative development in the province as well as in-kind support from SCA members and other partners.

An announcement event held Friday, May 14th at the SCA office was attended by Ken Dekker, Interim CEO of Enterprise Saskatchewan; Jim Deane, Chair of the Co-operative Sector Team of Enterprise Saskatchewan; Beryl Bauer, President of Saskatchewan Co-operative Association and many other co-operative colleagues.



SCA President Beryl Bauer, Co-op Sector Team Chair Jim Deane and Enterprise Saskatchewan Interim CEO Ken Dekker at the official funding announcement

15th Annual Co-op Classic

A fundraiser for the Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program & the Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada



Friday, July 9, 2010

Harbor Golf Club & Resort, Elbow, Saskatchewan

Registration / Sponsorship information coming soon!

SCYP Staffer Recognized for Commitment to Youth and Community



SCYP staffer Val Bennett is recognized by Innovation Credit Union for her commitment to youth and her community.

Innovation Credit Union has recently recognized Val Bennett for her volunteerism and commitment to her community. Among Val's many volunteer activities, she has been a long-time volunteer with the Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program. This year will mark her 11th year as a staff member!

The success of the youth program depends on staffers like Val, who are committed and dedicated to the program. Val is quick to share her experiences with her colleagues and community and takes time to do extra recruitment and promotion at schools in her area. Word of mouth is the number one recruitment tool for the youth program, so Val's enthusiasm is very helpful in ensuring the viability of the program. Val always goes above and beyond and is an exemplary staff person and inspiration for youth. Congratulations Val!

Saskatchewan Projects Receive CDI Funding

The following Saskatchewan projects received funding under the Innovative Co-operative Projects component of Co-operative Development Initiative in 2009-10.

- Regina Car Share Co-operative, Regina, \$16,250
- Good Food Junction Co-operative, Saskatoon, \$20,000
- Many Nations Co-operative Ltd., Saskatoon, \$47,475

This was the first round of funding under the renewed CDI program, which will be in effect until 2013. A full list of projects that received funding is available at: http://www.coopscanada.coop/en/orphan/ICP_projects_2009

Register Now for 2010 National Summit

The 2010 National Summit on a People-Centred Economy will be held in Ottawa, May 30 – June 1. For the first time, several of the leading co-operative, community economic development and social economy networks in Canada are coming together for an unprecedented gathering of community leaders, researchers and civil society representatives.

The National Summit is part of the growing movement supporting economic alternatives in Canada and around the world. Several exciting speakers will offer inspiring examples of the successes and even greater potential this movement offers.

For more information or to register, visit: <http://www.ccednet-rcdec.ca/en/summit>.

Environmental Sustainability of Co-ops Surveyed

Yuill Herbert, Chair of CCA's Ad-Hoc Committee on Environmental Sustainability, invites you to complete a survey on your co-operative's environmental practices. The survey is an initiative of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Environmental Sustainability and is intended to provide a baseline of information in order to guide the work of the committee.

The survey is found at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XCPRNYG> and will take 10 – 15 minutes to complete. The committee is interested in hearing from as many individual co-operative enterprises as possible. Responses are requested by May 31st.

For more information, please contact yuill@sustainabilitysolutions.ca.



Summer staff - continued Sasha is joining the team for her first year as Program Assistant, but has a great deal of experience with SCYP. She attended all levels of the program, was an Alumni Staff member and also worked as a lifeguard at camp. Sasha brings with her a great deal of positive energy, lots of experience making presentations and working with a diverse number of community groups and organizations.

The position of Program Facilitator is new this year but the student is not! Alesha Goodwin returns for her third summer with SCYP and will be working behind the scenes in the SCA office to provide support for the Program Assistants and the rest of the SCA staff. She will also be staffing two camps this summer. Alesha worked with us throughout the winter as the Alumni Engagement Co-ordinator. Be sure to check out the SCYP YouTube Channel to see some of her hard work behind the video camera! <http://www.youtube.com/user/SCYPclips>.



Lakewood Manor Housing Co-op

Excerpted from Saskatchewan Co-operative Association's ongoing series of co-operative profiles, we interviewed Henry Schellenberg at Lakewood Manor to find out more about Housing Co-operatives for seniors in Saskatchewan. Henry currently serves on the Board of Directors and is president at Lakewood Manor Housing Co-operative. He also is on the Board of Directors and is past president of the Co-operative Housing Association of Saskatchewan. Having been involved in co-operative housing in Saskatchewan for 18 years, Henry provides insight into the benefits of co-operative living for seniors and the future of co-operative housing in Saskatchewan. To view the full profile on our website (www.sask.coop), follow the Featured Co-op link on the home page.

What is your role at Lakewood Manor and in the co-operative movement in general?

I am on the Board of Directors and president at Lakewood Manor and on the Board of Directors and past president with CHAS. I have to admit that it is only within the last 18 years that I have been involved with co-op housing and even more recent that I became actively involved. The reason for my current interest is the fact that I believe that co-op housing is a great concept that I wish had been pursued more vigorously in the past and I hope to revitalize it to the point of getting new and better senior co-operative housing built in the near future. I believe it is a better quality of life for seniors than any other type of housing.

What is Lakewood Manor?

Lakewood Manor is a Co-operative Housing facility designed for seniors, located in northwest Regina. Lakewood Manor was officially opened in May 1988. We had an all year long 20th anniversary celebration in 2008, that is, we made special efforts throughout the year to celebrate the anniversary. It was a lot of fun. As far as I know we have never had a mission statement as such, but I think it has been understood from the beginning that our facility is our co-operative home in which we enjoy both the privilege and responsibility of maintaining it as we would our personal home and that we live together as a co-operative family.

What community need does Lakewood Manor address?

Lakewood Manor is not only our home but in a very real sense it provides a community in which we make friends and enjoy each other through morning coffee a couple of mornings a week as well as frequent catered meals. There are card games, shuffleboard, pool and other games almost every day which all can participate in and then there are activities in which individuals and groups can exercise their skills and talents.

Lakewood Manor does not provide homecare services, although some have homecare come in on a regular or temporary basis according to their needs. If their situation comes to a point where this is not sufficient, then we recommend they move to a facility that can provide that. It would be great if we were set up to provide homecare, as some of our members would certainly avail themselves of that service.

Who are the members of Lakewood Manor? How are they expected to participate in the co-operative?

Lakewood Manor is a facility for seniors, which means persons that are retired are welcome, provided they are not in a situation needing care that we do not provide. We have 50 suites (17 single and 33 double) and on average there are about 70 members made up of singles and couples ranging in age from early 60s to 96. As for the people that make up our membership, they come from all walks of life; farmers, teachers, bankers, city workers, salespersons and the list goes on.

We are always looking for people that can and will contribute to the maintenance and care of the facility and otherwise help where assistance is needed. In addition members are

expected to serve on the board of directors and committees. We have a part time caretaker and a bookkeeper. Member participation is important to fill in the gaps and for the most part we always have volunteers willing to do their part. Volunteers participate in maintenance, social, financial and office areas to name a few.

Very few people move out unless they have health needs that cannot be addressed by Lakewood Manor. We still have members that moved in when it was first opened in 1988 and the majority of members currently are

from 10 to 15 years in residence.

What makes Lakewood Manor different from non-co-operative housing complexes in terms of how people interact and relate with each other?

The beautiful part of life in Lakewood Manor compared to non-co-operative is that we are a family living in our own suites with our privacy, yet anytime we leave our suite we are likely to meet up with a neighbor down the hall or in the lounge. We can visit over coffee or join in on a catered meal or join one of the many occasions when there are games. Or we can have a movie night or watch a sports event on TV in the lounge. This is what I call community life for seniors at its best.

How can people find out more about your co-operative?

They can go to our website at www.lakewoodmanor.ca



... Our facility is our co-operative home in which we enjoy both the privilege and responsibility of maintaining it as we would our personal home and . . . we live together as a co-operative family .

SCA Dates to Remember

SCA Annual General Meeting Monday, June 21, 2010

At Federated Co-operatives Ltd.
Saskatoon

15th Annual Co-op Classic July 9, 2010

Registration and sponsorship information will be hitting your inbox in the very near future. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this great fundraiser at Harbor Golf Club & Resort at Elbow, Saskatchewan. Confirmed sponsors for this year's event are Concentra Financial, The Co-operators, Saskatchewan Credit Unions, Muenster Credit Union, CGI and Globe Printers. All proceeds are shared between the Co-operative Development Foundation of Canada and the Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program.

National Co-op Week October 17 - 23, 2010

International Credit Union Day Thursday, October 21, 2010

Co-operative Merit Awards and Young Leaders Award October 18, 2010

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- *Lifetime Co-operative Achievement Award*
- *Co-operative Contribution Award*
- *Co-operative Enterprise Award*
- *Co-operative Young Leaders Award*

The awards will be presented during National Co-op Week in October, at a banquet attended by co-operative and credit union leaders and members, and provincial government representatives.

Thanks to everyone who submitted a nomination!

Co-op Week 2010 will encourage Canadians to Experience the Co-operative Difference

The values, principles and practices that make co-operatives different from other types of businesses -- and the difference co-operatives make to the lives of Canadians -- will be the focus of this year's Co-op Week celebrations, which will take place from October 17-23, 2010.

Canada's two national co-operative associations, the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA) and the Conseil canadien de la coopération et de la mutualité (CCCM), have chosen Experience the Co-operative Difference (Vivre la différence coopérative in French) as the theme of Co-op Week 2010.

"Co-op Week 2010 will be a celebration of the co-operative difference: the advantages co-ops have over other business models, and the enormous difference co-ops have made, and continue to make, to the lives of Canadian and their communities," said Carol Hunter, CCA's executive director. "We want as many Canadians as possible to experience the co-op difference first-hand, not only during Co-op Week but all year round."

As in past years, Co-op Week will also include International Credit Union Day, which will take place on Thursday, October 21. The theme for this year's ICU Day -- Local. Trusted. Serving You. -- focuses on credit unions' trusted, community-focused approach to member service. The ICU Day campaign will also use the tagline Experience the Credit Union Difference in its promotional materials.

"This theme of building trust in a local setting strongly reflects our core commitment to helping to support communities across Canada," said David Phillips, president and CEO of Canadian Central. "We are proud to stand with our partners in promoting positive values and relationships with our members. Even better, these are truly Canadian values."



Promotional materials can be ordered from the CCA and Canadian Central websites beginning in July.

Source: CCA Communiqué

FCL Nominated for SABEX Award

Federated Co-operatives Limited, the central wholesaling, manufacturing, marketing, and administrative services provider for co-ops across Western Canada, is one of four finalists for the 2010 Saskatoon Achievement in Business Excellence awards in the category of "Environmental and Sustainability".

This award will be made to a business that has demonstrated a strong commitment to environmental sustainability by:

- taking action to reduce its environmental footprint, which results in a measurable environmental improvement in its own business;
- providing innovative products or services, which has resulted in a footprint reduction and environmental improvement elsewhere and/or;
- actively promoting and engaging in environmental sustainability with its stakeholders.

The announcement of category winners will occur at the SABEX awards banquet on May 18, 2010. For more information about the SABEX awards, visit the Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce website at <http://www.saskatoonchamber.com/>.