



# Canadian Social Economy Hub Centre canadien d'économie sociale

coordinating research to build the social economy

November 2009, Volume 4, Number 2

## E-BULLETIN



Marie Bouchard, Mike Lewis, Debbie Dergousoff, Ian MacPherson, J.J. McMurtry, John Anderson, and Darryl Reed at the CIRIEC Conference in Sweden, October 2009.

Welcome to the November 2009 edition of the Canadian Social Economy Hub (CSEHub) E-Bulletin. CSEHub was initiated in 2005 as part of the National Research Program on the Social Economy, and is funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council. Our goal through the E-Bulletin is to provide updates on events and projects within the CSEHub and its six regional research nodes across Canada. For additional information, please visit: [www.socialeconomyhub.ca](http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca)

## NEW WEBSITE

THE CSEHub's website has a new look!  
Please visit: [www.socialeconomyhub.ca](http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca)  
to explore its many resources,  
links, events and opportunities.

Canadian Social Economy Hub  
Centre canadien d'économie sociale  
coordinating research to build the social economy



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### Welcome to Canadian Social Economy Hub

The Canadian Social Economy Hub (CSEHub) acts as a facilitator promoting collaboration among its regional research centres across Canada (Quebec, Atlantic, Southern Ontario, Prairies and Northern Ontario, BC and Alberta and the North), and creating opportunities and exchanges with international networks. CSEHub reaches out to practitioners, to researchers and to civil society, through the regional research centres and their community partners. It undertakes research as needed in order to understand and promote the Social Economy tradition within Canada and as a subject of academic enquiry within universities.

[Read More >](#)

### What's New

#### Telelearning Session 15: Poverty Reduction

- 2 weeks 19 hours ago  
What are some public policy trends and instruments supporting poverty reduction in Canada? What are some community-based approaches to poverty reduction in Canada? If you...

#### CSEHub Content Analysis of Research Table

- 6 weeks 22 hours ago  
This table researches a snapshot of all the resources in which the

## What's Inside:

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## WHAT'S NEW

### New Knowledge Mobilization Specialist



The staff at CSEHub and CCEDNet welcome Rachelle McElroy as the newest addition of their working team. Rachelle loves being engaged in community for positive change. For the past 10-

years she has been forwarding sustainability in many facets of community, including NGOs, government, business and institutions. Rachelle's interest in social entrepreneurship was sparked while conducting her Master's in Strategic Leadership Towards Sustainability at the Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH) in Sweden and while attending classes at the Kaos Pilots laboratory - the world's most adventurous entrepreneurial school. Rachelle continues to be amazed by the creativity and commitment of social enterprises and cooperatives around the world. Rachelle also serves as board chair of City Green Solutions in Victoria, BC. She is originally from Québec, and is excited to be working in a bilingual organization.

### Resources for Developing an Understanding of the Social Economy in the Canadian Context

Compiled by Brianne Fester, Research Assistant, CSEHub

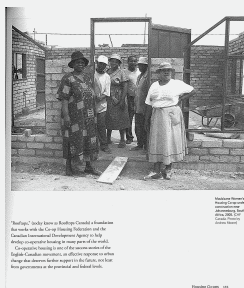
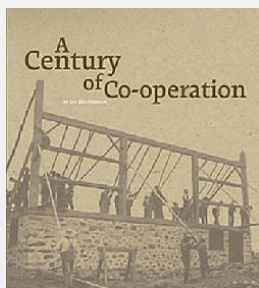
The list below is a collection of literature that could be potentially beneficial for those who would like to gain insight into the Social Economy. For complete listings, visit:

[www.socialeconomyhub.ca](http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca)

1. Alderson, L., and Conn, M.; (1994) "Making Communities Work: Women and community economic development."
2. Bouchard, M. J., Ferraton, C. and Michaud, V.; (2006) "Database on Social Economy Organizations: The Qualification Criteria."
3. Chantier de l'économie sociale (Neamtan and Downing) (2005); "Social Economy and community economic development in Canada: the next steps for public policy."
4. Conn, M.; (2006) "Why Women."
5. Defourny, J. and Pestoff, V.; (2008) "Images and Concepts of The Third Sector in Europe."
6. Fairbairn B.; (2008) "A Rose by Any Name: The Thorny Question of Social-Economy Discourse in Canada."
7. Lévesque, B.; (2006) "The Social Economy as Scholarly discipline and Socio-Economic Practice."
8. Loxley, J. and Simpson, D.; (2007) "Government policies toward community economic development (CED) and the Social Economy in Québec and Manitoba."
9. McMurtry, J.J.; (2009) "Living Economics: Canadian Perspectives on the Social Economy, Co-operatives, and Community Economic Development."
10. McMurtry, J.J.; (2004) "Social Economy as political practice."
11. Moulaert, F. and Ailenei, O.; (2005) "Social Economy, Third Sector and Solidarity Relations: A Conceptual Synthesis from History to Present."
12. Ninacs, W. and Toye, M.; (2002) "A review of the theory and practice of social economy / économie sociale in Canada."
13. Quarter, J., Mook, L. and Richmond, B. J.; (2003) "What is the Social Economy?"
14. Vaillancourt, Y. (2008) "Social Economy in the co-construction of public policy."

### A Century of Co-operation

This summer, the Canadian Co-operative Association published a commemorative book on the history of Canada's co-operative movement. Authored by pre-eminent co-op historian, and CSEHub Co-director Ian MacPherson, the book includes a collection of images from across Canada, illustrating our history from the early days to the present time. For more information, visit [www.coopscanada.coop](http://www.coopscanada.coop)



## WHAT'S NEW

### Occasional Paper Series on Public Policy

**"Advancing the Social Economy for Socio-economic Development: International perspectives."**

by Crystal Tremblay, [www.socialeconomyhub.ca](http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca)

This report is the first of three documents within the Public Policy Occasional Paper Series to investigate different areas associated with the Social Economy.

This first paper is an international literature review on the Social Economy, and has been completed by UVic Phd Student Crystal Tremblay with input from the Public Policy Facilitating Committee. An additional paper analyzing public policy trends and instruments is now being completed, and a third paper on next steps for public policy in Canada is being drafted. Engagement activities on these papers and their findings, together with interaction on public policy priorities going into the Summit in Ottawa in 2010 is being organized.

#### More on Public Policy Research

by Rupert Downing

Over 20 stakeholders attended a session hosted by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Association on October 21. They provided feedback on the importance of a supportive public policy environment at the federal, provincial and municipal level. There was particular interest in international policy developments in Latin America.

SEED Winnipeg and the Canadian CED Network hosted a session in Winnipeg on October 22 with particular emphasis by participants of the importance of indigenous leadership and self determination.

A session on the global movement for the Social Economy based on the Hub research was held at the CED Gathering in Winnipeg on October 23 with a lively discussion on how our efforts to strengthen the Social Economy can be linked to international solidarity. Further sessions are planned for Calgary (with BALTA) on November 24, and Iqaluit (with the Northern Node) from November 26-27. Partners are welcome to contact the Hub to arrange further engagement opportunities.

In addition, five Knowledge Mobilization Thematic Papers are being commissioned by the Hub with partners to highlight research and findings relevant to a future Canadian public policy agenda, on subjects such as: social enterprises and

social innovation; new business models for sustainability; social financing; management and governance, and; procurement. Regional events will be organized in 2010 around these papers to engage stakeholders in discussing next steps for public policy.

### J.J. McMurtry Book

***Living Economies: Canadian Perspectives on the Social Economy, Co-operative, and Community Economic Development.***



"This book is the first to present, in an accessible manner, the various perspectives being used to explore and analyze this "third sector" of the economy, which includes co-operatives, credit unions, non-profit organizations, the voluntary sector, and social enterprise — activities that emphasize the creation of public good as their primary goal."

For the entire review, or to purchase this book, please visit: [www.emp.ca/index.php/book-catalogue/property/university/living-economics](http://www.emp.ca/index.php/book-catalogue/property/university/living-economics)

### Content Summary

1. Introducing the Social Economy in Theory and Practice (J.J. McMurtry)
2. Co-operatives and the Social Economy in English Canada: Circles of Influence and Experience (Ian MacPherson)
3. The Social Economy in Québec and Canada: Configurations Past and Present (Yves Vaillancourt)
4. Building the Social Economy Using the Innovative Potential of Place (Doug Lionais and Harvey Johnstone)
5. Educating for the Social Economy (Jorge Sousa)
6. Social Accounting for Sustainability in the Social Economy (Laurie Mook and Jennifer Sumner)
7. Aboriginal Perspectives on the Social Economy (Wanda Wuttunee)
8. Building Bridges with Government: The Social Economy in Practice (Denise Guy and Jen Heneberry)

J.J. McMurtry is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Business and Society Program at York University.



## EVENTS/CONFERENCES

### LATIN AMERICAN CONNECTIONS

by Rupert Downing

The Co-Director of the CSEHub, Rupert Downing, attended the eighth Latin American conference on post graduate studies and research on territorial development and public policy, in Manizales, Colombia. Alexandre Charron, the international coordinator of CCEDNet also attended, along with representatives of several Canadian universities (SFU, McGill, York, Toronto) that are involved in an international network on knowledge and cooperation for development funded by the International Development Research Council ([http://ccd-ckd.cebem.org/index\\_eng.php](http://ccd-ckd.cebem.org/index_eng.php)). The Conference and network is co-organized by the Centro Boliviano de Estudios Multidisciplinarios (CEBEM).

CSEHub's public policy research findings were shared with participants from across the region and contacts were made for future collaboration with universities and civil society organizations in Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Brazil and other parts of the region. The partnerships between universities and civil society organizations strengthen the "economia solidaria" and are widespread and well developed. An example includes the Latin American Research Network on the Social and Solidarity Economy (<http://www.riless.org/>), and the Latin America Caribbean Network for the Social and Solidarity Economy that is part of the Global Network "RIPESS" ([http://www.ripesslac.net/enlaces\\_latino.php](http://www.ripesslac.net/enlaces_latino.php)). Meetings were also held with the Colombian Association of Universities, the Colombian Centre for Research and Popular Education, the Rural Development Division of Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, and a number of other universities in Bogota. There is an important effort by Colombian universities to network on solidarity partnerships, particularly in the context of "peace building" in that country. Following on from the Manizales conference an online forum has been organized running from October to December on public policy for the social economy with over 130 participants from across Canada and Latin America. Several case studies are being presented for discussion, and research findings shared amongst student, researcher, government and practitioner participants. Rupert Downing and Alexandre Charron (on behalf of CCEDNet) are organizing the forum with CEBEM

in Bolivia, and will be following up with other engagement activities for a global dialogue on strengthening co-construction of public policy for the social economy in 2010 funded by the Alliance for a Responsible, Plural and Solidarity-based Economy ([http://aloe.socioeco.org/projet.php3?id\\_rubrique=67&lang=en](http://aloe.socioeco.org/projet.php3?id_rubrique=67&lang=en)). Contact Rupert Downing ([redowning@shaw.ca](mailto:redowning@shaw.ca)) or Alexandre Charron ([acharron@ccednet-rcdec.ca](mailto:acharron@ccednet-rcdec.ca)) for more information.

### CCEDNet Conference

June 3-5, 2009, University of Winnipeg  
[www.ccednet-rcdec.ca](http://www.ccednet-rcdec.ca)

This year's National CCENet Conference took place in the centre of North America, in the heart of the continent - for three days of learning, networking and celebration. The theme was **Full Circle: Sharing a Vision for the 7th Generation**, and the inspiration came from an original law kept and maintained by generations of Aboriginal people: just as our actions will affect generations to come, we are living in a world that was shaped by those before us. The conference included over 45 learning and information sharing sessions, as well as exciting site visits and networking opportunities.



## EVENTS/CONFERENCES

### CASC Conference

May 27-29, 2009, Carleton University, Ottawa

[www.coopresearch.coop/conference-archive/2009-conference](http://www.coopresearch.coop/conference-archive/2009-conference)

The Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC) is a multidisciplinary network of researchers that was developed to promote research on co-operatives in Canada. Their 25th annual meeting took place during the Social Sciences and Humanities Congress at Carleton University in Ottawa from May 27- 29, 2009. About one hundred people attended. Jorge Souza (University of Alberta) reported on efforts to prepare a history of the Association, an interesting project reflecting the ups and down of Co-operative Studies in Canada in recent years. The meetings also marked the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Co-operative Association (and as it was known until 1986, the Co-operative Union of Canada). Ian MacPherson presented a paper to mark that occasion.

The conference was rich in presenting papers on a variety of topics. Some of the themes that attracted the most attention were: the roles of co-operatives in food security and community wellness, co-operatives and youth, co-operatives and public policy, and co-operatives and Indigenous peoples. Thirty-six papers were presented and five major panels were presented. Over thirty of the presenters are also engaged in CSERP activities and projects. In addition to his paper on the history of the CUC/CCA, Ian MacPherson joined Janel Smith in presenting a paper on the their work on the history of The Canadian Social Economy traditions.

Thanks to the efforts of the Co-operatives Secretariat and the national co-operative organisations who are considering preparing a paper on the future of co-operative studies. It was the start of a long overdue discussion. Hopefully, it will continue at future CASC meeting and other venues.

The organizers of the CASC meetings worked closely with the organizers of the ANSER meetings. Several joint sessions were held and, like last year, the two conferences held a joint banquet. For the conference archive and list of papers and presentations, please visit their website.

by Ian MacPherson

### ANSER Conference

May 27-29, 2009, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario

[www.anser-ares.ca](http://www.anser-ares.ca)



The Association for Non-profit and Social Economy Research (ANSER) is a Canadian association that works to build a collaborative community of scholars and researchers, and to

develop a Canadian body of knowledge that encompasses such fields as community economic development, philanthropy, nonprofit management, and volunteering. They held their annual meeting during the Social Sciences and Humanities Congress at Carleton University in Ottawa from May 27-29, 2009.

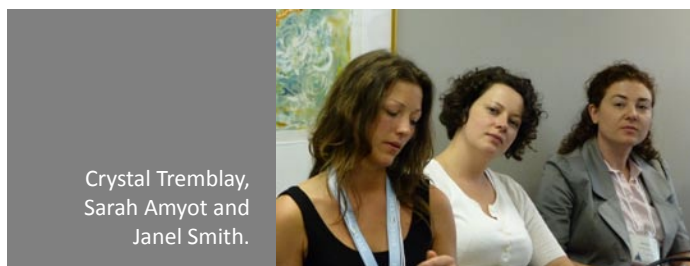
The following CSEHub staff members contributed presentations to the event:

**“Developing a National Framework for Assessing Social Economy Content in Canadian Senior Secondary Schools.”**  
by Annie McKittrick and Sarah Amyot

**“Exploring practitioner-university engagement through research: the Social Economy CURAs,”** by Peter Hall and Janel Smith

**“Strengthening Public Policy Supports for the Social Economy in Canada,”** by Crystal Tremblay.

Ian MacPherson participated on the panel: **“Perspectives on Social Economy History and Practice.”**



Crystal Tremblay,  
Sarah Amyot and  
Janel Smith.

## EVENTS/CONFERENCES

### Student Conference on the Social Economy

May 26th, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario

<http://socialeconomy.info/en/content/student-conference-social-economy-ottawa-may-26th-2009>

During the Social Sciences and Humanities Congress, CSHub Student Network Coordinator Neil Nunn organized “The Student Conference on the Social Economy.” It was an inspirational, educational, and fun day. They heard from eleven student presenters, and were fortunate to have Ted Jackson as the Keynote speaker. They also heard from Ian McPherson and Rupert Downing (Co-directors of CSEHub), and Paula Speevak-Sladowski and Catherine Levitten-Reid who welcomed those at the conference on behalf of the Association for Non-profit and Social Economy Research (ANSER) and the Canadian Association for Studies in Cooperation (CASC).



Students and CSEHub Co-Director Rupert Downing presenting at the Social Economy Student Network Conference.

### Atlantic Colloquium:

### BuildingPolicy 4 the Social Economy

Sept 30-Oct 2nd, 2009

Mt. Saint Vincent University Halifax, Nova Scotia

[www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/english/colleqE.asp](http://www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic/english/colleqE.asp)

This Colloquium brought together government policy shapers, cutting edge researchers, community builders, and the next generation of Social Economy Leaders – students. This meeting was hosted by the Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network, in collaboration with the Québec and Northern nodes and the Canadian Hub of the SSHRC-funded economy suite.

This multi partner, multi network meeting explored recent research findings to lay the foundation for a dialogue on bridging Social Economy practice and policy.

Annie McKittrick, Manager of CSEHub presented a poster presentation on the paper, “Assessment of Social Economy Content in Nova Scotia Secondary School Curriculum” written by Sarah Amyot and Annie McKittrick.

CSEHub Co-director Rupert Downing presented the CSEHub’s public policy research inclusive of Crystal Tremblay’s research paper, “Advancing the Social Economy for Socio-economic Development: International Perspectives.”



Laurie Mook and Annie McKittrick at the Colloquium



## EVENTS/CONFERENCES

### CIRIEC Conference

October 1-2, 2009, Östersund, Sweden

[http://socek.se/ciriec\\_research\\_2009](http://socek.se/ciriec_research_2009)

The 2nd International CIRIEC Research Conference on the Social Economy was held in Östersund, Sweden on October 1-2. The first research conference was held in Victoria, hosted by CSERP, in 2007. It attracted over 300 participants and more than 160 papers were delivered. Östersund was an interesting choice for the venue. Mid-Sweden University, the host institution, has developed an extensive interest in the field in recent years and the County of Jämtand, in which it is situated, offers interesting examples of how the Social Economy works in an area where tourism and agriculture are important, unemployment is growing and government cutbacks are significant.

The conference demonstrated a number of important issues for anyone interested in the Social Economy, including considerations of issues confronting the varieties of institutional forms, the management of Social Economy institutions, barriers to the development of the Social Economy, and interactions with public organisations and private firms.

The conference concluded with a session, largely put forward by Canadians, on the theme of internationalizing the Social Economy, with a special focus on the co-operative sector. It was a rich event, highlighted by generally excellent papers and a special effort by the hosts to show the relationship between the Social Economy and local culture through folk songs, other music, and satire. Their efforts were much appreciated by everyone.

by Ian MacPherson



J.J. McMurtry and Ian MacPherson presenting at the CIRIEC Conference

## OUR INITIATIVES

### Telelearning Sessions

These sessions are organized to feature Canadian Social Economy experts, and facilitate knowledge sharing through dynamic and interactive sessions. There are usually two speakers, and after their presentations, the floor is open to questions from interested participants. These are exciting networking opportunities, and chances for people to learn about current ideas and strategies. Please visit the CSEHub website for a complete listing of past sessions, including podcasts and background reading materials. Here is an example of the most recent session.

#### Session 15: Poverty Reduction

October 21st, 2009

1. What are some public policy trends and instruments supporting poverty reduction in Canada?
2. What are some community-based approaches to poverty reduction in Canada?

Jean Marc Fontan, Professor at UQÀM/Co-director of the Social Economy Community-University Research Alliance in Québec; and Shauna McKinnon, Director of the Canadian Centre for Policy led this engaging telelearning session moderated by Jessica Notwell, Manager of the Women's Economic Council. To listen to the podcast, and find additional resources, visit: [www.socialeconomyhub.ca](http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca)

A French telelearning session on Poverty Reduction answered the same questions, but featured different speakers. Ethel Côté, from the Centre Canadien pour le Renouveau Communautaire, and Juan-Luis Klein, professor at UQAM were the featured speakers, and the session was hosted by Pascale Knoglinger. It took place on October 26th.

#### Upcoming Session: Social Economy and Public Policy November, 2009

This session will take place late-November and will partially feature the public policy content from Crystal Tremblay's research paper, "Advancing the Social Economy for Socio-economic Development: International Perspectives." Stay tuned for more details.

## OUR INITIATIVES

### Researchers of The Month

In an effort to provide accessible insight into current Social Economy research, CSEHub regularly asks a Social Economy researcher a few key questions about their work, and records their responses. These mini-interviews are then posted on the CSEHub website, along with a short biography of the researcher and any relevant links to the projects or institutions with which they are associated. If you have suggestions for a Social Economy researcher that you would like us to interview, please email [sekm@uvic.ca](mailto:sekm@uvic.ca). Here are a few examples of recent researchers of the month:



**Lucie Dumais** is a Sociologist and political scientist. She has worked in academia for 20-years in both Ontario and Québec. Her current research includes evaluative studies on disability and immigration (in Québec and in Canada) with special attention to social enterprises and employment supports for disabled people and immigrants, as well as comparative studies of policies and programmes.

#### Research Topics:

- Occupational health, work organizations, and social policy
- Interdisciplinary settings, university-community partnerships (with unions and community groups), evaluation methods.

#### Research Experience:

- Faculty member at the Université du Québec à Montréal
- Teaching Social Policy courses at the School of Social Work
- Director of Laboratoire de recherche sur les pratiques et les politiques sociales (LAREPPS) with Dr. Christian Jetté
- Chair of knowledge transfer at l'Alliance de recherche universités-communautés en économie sociale (ARUC-ÉS).

For more information about Lucie, please visit: [www.travailsocial.uqam.ca/Page/dumais\\_lucie.aspx](http://www.travailsocial.uqam.ca/Page/dumais_lucie.aspx). For the mp3 interview with Lucie, please visit: [www.socialeconomyhub.ca](http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca).



**Paul Cabaj** cut his teeth in food systems through work on his family's farms, as a farmer's market vendor and restaurant owner. He currently works with the Canadian Centre for Community Renewal (CCCR). CCCR is focused on identifying and scaling up best practices which assist communities increase their resilience to the crosscutting challenges of peak oil and climate change, including a community's capacity to feed itself in the challenging environment ahead. Paul has worked on a over dozen local

food related initiatives ranging from academic case studies and policy development, to market research and business planning particularly for local businesses and cooperatives. For an example of some of Paul's thoughts go to: [www.cedworks.com/customer/search.php?substring=size+does+matter](http://www.cedworks.com/customer/search.php?substring=size+does+matter)

For more information about Paul, please visit: [www.cedworks.com/ccstaff.html](http://www.cedworks.com/ccstaff.html). For the mp3 interview with Paul, please visit: [www.socialeconomyhub.ca](http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca).



## OUR INITIATIVES

### Emerging Leaders in the Social Economy Research Scholarship Program

This scholarship program is intended to promote original research by “emerging leaders” in the Social Economy that will advance knowledge for the sector, and advance the capacity of successful candidates to further strengthen the Social Economy in their academic and practitioner sectors in Canada.

The Program provides scholarships of up to \$3,000 per recipient towards salary replacement, national/international travel, or other actual costs of conducting research and producing a research report for publication by CSEHub. Jody Bauche was the recipient of the first scholarship, announced in May, 2009. The second round of winners are: Melissa Fong, Emily McGiffin, Josina Vink and David Thompson.

**Jody Bauche** is the first youth to receive the Emerging Leaders scholarship. She has worked as a community practitioner in the field of early childhood development and social services for nearly twelve years. Her main focus is finding sustainable and holistic ways to improve conditions



for First Nations communities in BC. She is currently working as an Aboriginal Early Childhood Development Coordinator for southern Vancouver Island.

“It’s common knowledge that British Columbia has one of the highest child poverty rates in the country and Indigenous children are at the centre of poverty in our province. My hope is that my research will help further a conversation and dialogue with regional chiefs around the importance of preserving our culture for future generations.” Part of accomplishing her goal is to travel to New Zealand to research the Maori’s implementation of the quadruple bottom line (environmental, social, economic and culturally sustainability) to see how BC can learn from their experiences and practices.

**Research Update from Jody:** After some considerable reflection over the last couple months I have decided to narrow the scope of my research to one simple question ‘do Maori values factor into economic decision making in New Zealand’. In Canada First Nations culture is often defined by the similar values of: respect, honor, love, honesty, inter-generational, reverence for the earth and the environment, generosity, kindness and truth. Although these values often contradict most western business

models I believe that they can be interwoven in some business policies and practice in order to create a more holistic and sustainable economy.

My research to date has been focused on finding the right institutes in New Zealand to help support my inquiry while simultaneously building linkages with Maori communities. So far I have made connections with the University of Auckland, the High Commissioner of New Zealand and the Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research.

Since September I have been busy building relationships with two local Chiefs that I intend to work with upon my return to Canada after my research is completed. The intent is to bring real and practical suggestions for how to build community based economies for First Nations communities now and for future generations.

**Emily McGiffin** has worked at the intersection of food, community and land stewardship for the past 10 years. She lives on an organic farm in the rural community of Hazelton BC where she is actively involved in sustainable food production and



community economic development. As well as working as a freelance writer and contractor, Emily is studying for an MSc. in Rural Development through the external system of the University of London UK. Her research project, Hungry for Change: Food communities and rural economic revival, examines the food community of the Upper Skeena and Bulkley Valley, exploring ways in which food related initiatives and growing consumer awareness are bringing new faces, new ideas and new opportunities to the region.

## OUR INITIATIVES

**Melissa Fong** is a graduate student at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto in the Department of Adult Education and Community Development. Ms. Fong also received a B.A. (Sociology & Geography) and B.Ed. from The University of British Columbia and practised as a public school educator in Vancouver, B.C.



Additionally, she has served as a housing researcher, activist, and popular media writer since 2005. Working also in Washington, D.C. and the San Francisco Bay Area to take on policy research, she has researched widely the role of the racialization of poverty in the subprime mortgage industry in the United States. Ms. Fong's current research interests lie within the broad topic of contestations within the city, and coincide with anti-poverty social movements, the production of space and racial discourses.

Ms. Fong's Master of Arts thesis assesses Canadian settlement houses as critical sites for anti-poverty work. She is working with partners from Toronto Neighbourhood Centres to research the development of politicized education and organizing that strengthens an anti-poverty strategy.



**Josina Vink** is a social innovator, a researcher, a community builder, and a storyteller. She recently graduated from Simon Fraser University with an Honors Bachelor of Business Administration, a Minor in Dialogue, and a Certificate in

Sustainable Community Development. She is now working as a hopeful practitioner specializing in the areas of rural social enterprise, housing, community health and social innovation. In addition to her work as a Research Analyst for SHS consulting, Josina is working with the newly formed Social Enterprise Rural Alliance (SERA) in Durham, Ontario to create new social enterprises in rural communities and strengthen the movement for rural social enterprise across Canada.



**David Thompson:** After completing his degree at Algoma University in Community Economic and Social Development; David was able to find employment at NORDIK Institute and stay in the north. At

NORDIK, he practices holistic community development in the creation of community-based research projects and business plans. Along with the NORDIK team, David has been involved with local food security projects, research on the social economy, and business planning with non-profits. In 2008, David had the opportunity to visit Colombia for a community-based research project on the social economy with rural communities.

David's current research includes a study on the impact of the labour movement on the social economy of Sault Ste. Marie. The purpose of this study is to explore the nature and extent of labour's involvement in the social economy of Sault Ste. Marie as a way of celebrating and making more visible the major contribution that labour has made in the community.

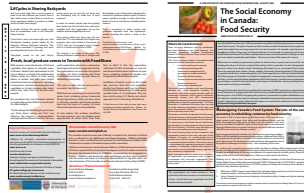
David is currently completing an MBA in Community Economic Development at Cape Breton University. His interests include djing, x-country skiing, and playing Wii Fit with his wife Cayla.

Some of his favourite websites include:

- [www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com)
- [www.reddit.com](http://www.reddit.com)
- [www.nordikinstitute.com](http://www.nordikinstitute.com)

## OUR INITIATIVES

### Thematic Newsletters



Since the spring, CSEHub has produced five new thematic newsletters featuring different themes within Canada's Social Economy. Please visit the CSEHub website to find the

following newsletters: [www.socialeconomyhub.ca](http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca).

1. **Food Security:** CSERP researchers and practitioners across Canada are investigating how the Social Economy is addressing food security. Now CSERP is engaging with producers, communities and other stakeholders to use the research to identify next steps in creating a sustainable food and agriculture policy and system for Canada. This newsletter helps to highlight current research and initiatives.
2. **Indigenous Communities:** Through CSERP, researchers and indigenous community members have had the opportunity to work together to explore the potential of the Social Economy to stimulate locally directed, positive change in diverse cultural and socio-economic contexts. This newsletter highlights some of this work, while providing a starting point for further study.
3. **Education Curriculum and the Social Economy:** Education policy is part of building a supportive environment for the Social Economy. CSERP is supporting research in this area by producing a series of papers that focuses on the relationship between the Social Economy and education. This newsletter discusses these papers and other related education initiatives across Canada.
4. **Microfinance:** The goal of this newsletter is to provide a brief introduction to microfinancing, and to display information on additional resources for the reader to explore how microfinancing solutions would benefit their communities.
5. **Procurement:** This newsletter illustrates the rich stream of debate and research on how we can create people-centred economic systems based on fair and ethical trade. This brief thematic presentation hopes to promote opportunities for further learning and engagement.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2010 National Summit

Spring 2010

[www.ccednet-rcdec.ca/?q=en/conference/national\\_conference](http://www.ccednet-rcdec.ca/?q=en/conference/national_conference)

In 2008, several networks and organizations began to discuss the possibility of holding a National Summit on a People-Centred Economy in 2010. Building a people-centred economy has long been at the heart of cooperative, credit union, social economy and community economic development (CED) movements, along with a broad swath of the non-profit world. All these sectors grew out of the historical struggle against want, impoverishment and deep inequalities. The process leading up to and including the 2010 National Summit seeks to strengthen the foundations for a broadly based movement. It involves deepening relationships, weaving together the actors committed to building an economy that is ecologically, socially and economically vibrant and responsible. The Summit will likely be held at the end of May and beginning of June 2010 in Ottawa.

### Alternative Knowledge and the Social Economy: Student Symposium and Exhibition

January 29-30, 2010



"Alternative Knowledge and the Social Economy" is a two-day symposium and learning opportunity organized by the Social Economy Student Network to share ways of creating and diffusing knowledge relating to the Social Economy. The symposium will include:

- Interactive workshops • Keynote speakers • Film & art exhibitions

We hope to feature both academic and community based research for a full breadth of experience and expertise.

For more information contact the Social Economy Student Network Co-ordinator: [neilnunn@uvic.ca](mailto:neilnunn@uvic.ca)



## RESEARCH NODES

The Canadian Social Economy Hub (CSEHub) acts as a facilitator promoting collaboration among six regional research centres across Canada (Québec, Atlantic, Southern Ontario, Prairies and Northern Ontario, BC and Alberta and the North). It also helps to create opportunities and exchanges with international networks. CSEHub reaches out to practitioners, to researchers and to civil society through the regional research centres and their community partners. It undertakes research as needed in order to understand and promote the Social Economy tradition within Canada and as a subject of academic enquiry within universities.

### Atlantic

Social Economy and Sustainability Research Network  
[www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic](http://www.msvu.ca/socialeconomyatlantic)

### Québec

L'Alliance de recherche universités-communautés en économie sociale (ARUC-ÉS)  
Réseau québécois de recherche partenariale en économie sociale (RQRP-ÉS).  
[www.aruc-es.uqam.ca](http://www.aruc-es.uqam.ca)

### Southern Ontario

Social Economy Centre, University of Toronto  
<http://sec.oise.utoronto.ca/english/index.php>

### Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Northern Ontario

Linking, Learning, Leveraging: Social Enterprises  
Knowledgeable Economies and Sustainable Communities  
<http://usaskstudies.coop/socialeconomy>

### Northern

Social Economy Research Network of Northern Canada  
<http://dl1.yukoncollege.yk.ca/sernnoca>

### British Columbia and Alberta

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Canadian Social Economy Research Partnerships

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