

## Highlights of the 2016 International Summit of Cooperatives

**Unparalleled opportunity to network, learn and cooperate  
under the theme of “Cooperatives: The Power to Act”**

**Co-hosts:** International Co-operative Alliance and Desjardins Group

The Summit is the *leading economic platform for business development in the cooperative and mutual movement*. In 2014, more than **40%** of the 3,000 international **participants were CEOs, VPs, Board Members, Directors and Managers**. Close to 10% of **young professionals** aged 20 to 35 from the 5 continents also attended the Summit under the [Young Leaders Program](#).

From **October 11 to 13** in **Quebec, Canada** you will have the opportunity to do the following:

- **Tap into [new business realities](#) and [global socioeconomic and geopolitical trends](#)**  
Review the current social, economic and geopolitical situation, and delve deep into the key factors leading to success, including [innovation](#), [working in the digital age](#), [commitment to community](#), [access to capital](#), [big data](#) and the [collaborative economy](#).
- **Listen to more than [200 high-profile speakers](#)**  
Confirmed speakers include **Robert Reich** (influential Economist and former United States Secretary of Labor), **Joseph E. Stiglitz** (eminent Theoretician and winner of the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences), **Mark R. Kramer** (FSG co-Founder and shared value advocate), **Jeremy Rifkin** (world-renowned Economist and influential political advisor), **Navi Radjou** (eminent innovation and leadership advisor) and **Maria Ubarretxena Cid** (Mayor of the City of Mondragon), along with an impressive list of influential Chief Executive Officers and Chairpersons, such as **Melina Morrison** (Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals), **Thierry Blandinières** (InVivo), **Inja Park** (iCOOP Consumer Activities, iCOOP KOREA) and **Robynn Shrader** (National Co+op Grocers), to name but a few.
- **Discover [14 international studies](#)**  
Access a wealth of new ideas, strategies and up-to-date management information that will improve your capacity to act and foster the growth of your organization. These studies will also shed new light on sectoral issues and best practices.
- **Take part in [7 sectoral meetings](#)**  
Discuss sectoral challenges and opportunities in the following areas: [Agriculture and Agri-Food Industries](#), [Banking and Financial Services](#), [Insurance](#), [Health and Social Services](#), [Wholesale and Retail Trade](#), [Industry, Services and Energy](#) and [Forestry](#).
- **Schedule meetings prior to arrival based on business objectives**  
Use the [B2B Meeting Accelerator](#) to maximize your presence. Organize meetings, filter participant profiles, send meeting requests and manage your agenda by allowing the Meeting Accelerator to optimize your meetings based on the availability of participants.
- **Stand out and take part in a collective brainstorming session on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

[Showcase your contribution to SDGs](#). Following an event that was held at the United Nations headquarters last July, where ICA demonstrated the engagement of the cooperative movement toward SDGs, this activity will nurture common concrete actions related to [food security](#), [employment](#), [access to healthcare and social services](#), [poverty and social inclusion](#), along with [climate change and sustainable development](#).

- **Participate in [pre-Summit activities](#)**

Explore possible partnerships in [International Development](#) (October 10), share solutions related to [Rebuilding after Natural Disasters](#) (October 10) or address the challenges of economic development during the [Cooperative Umbrella Apex Organizations Meeting](#) (October 9).

- **Attend many [Rendez-vous](#)**

Network, learn and cooperate in connection with many matters of interest related to cooperatives and mutuals during cocktail receptions, forums and discussion groups organized by our partners.

- **Travel with your spouse!**

Registered spouses can take part in many of the cultural activities included in the [Spouses' Program](#).