

**Provincial Support for Co-operative Sector: A Comparative Snapshot Across Canada**

Prepared by the Ontario Co-operative Association, August 2008

Province	Sector Profile*				Government Representation**			Other Representation***		
	# of Co-ops	# of Members	# Working in Sector	Sales/Assets (billions)	Department	Budget	No. of Staff	Provincial Association / Federation****	Budget***** (per annum)	No. of Staff
<b>Quebec</b> Popl: 7,676,097	3,300 (plus 39 mutuelles)	8.8 million	88,000	\$160	Ministry of Economic Development, Innovation & Exports: Direction des coopératives Coopératives de développement régional (CDR) Dept. of Finance - Regulation	\$5.4 million (\$1 million towards wages + \$80,000 for additional operational costs + \$4.3 million co-op develop. fund) *****	17 in total: 1 Director 5 Staff 11 Professionals	Conseil québécois de la coopération et de la mutualité	\$1,800,000	14
<b>Ontario</b> Popl: 12,726,336	1,300	1.4 million	15,500	\$30	Ministry of Finance: Financial Services Commission of Ontario (FSCO): Primarily administrative functions including: registration; review of offering statements; filing amendments to articles of incorporation, conversion, continuance, amalgamation, dissolution; telephone inquiries; policy development and stakeholder relations Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs	No budgetary provisions specific to co-operatives, as work FSCO staff do is driven by issues in the co-op sector at a given time, and therefore vary - e.g., 2007/2008 expenditures rela. to co-ops was approx. \$262,000 n/a	2.3 FT (assoc. with co-ops only) n/a	Ontario Co-operative Association (Anglophone sector) Conseil de la Coopération de l'Ontario (Francophone sector) Several sectoral federations	\$1,083,335 \$1,015,621 n/a	6 (3 FT + 3 PT) - incl 1 PT Dev. Off. plus contract workers and interns plus numerous volunteers 6 (5 FT + 1 PT) plus contract workers, interns and vol. n/a
<b>Alberta</b> Popl: 3,435,511	754	1.6 million	11,375 (for non-financial sector only)	\$33.5	Alberta Agriculture & Food: Rural Utilities Division Service Alberta - Regulation Credit Union Deposit Corporation	No budgetary provisions - part of Ministries overall admin. expenses n/a \$6.9 million	12 FT (perform some non-co-op functions) 1/2 of a FT position for co-ops n/a	Alberta Community and Co-operative Association Conseil de développement économique de l'Alberta Several sectoral federations	\$650,000 n/a n/a	4 FT + 1 PT plus 2 contract workers (1/2 of a FT position is for co-op devel.) 9 (incl. 7 co-op development officers) n/a
<b>Manitoba</b> Popl: 1,180,004	412	800,000	4,272	\$10	Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Rural Development (MAFRI) - Co-operative Development Services Dept. of Finance - Regulation	\$250,000 (new '08 initiative/still in progress)	3 FT "Co-op Business Development Specialists" 1 PT (Deputy Registrar of Co-ops) & 1 PT (Admin. support)	Manitoba Co-operative Association Conseil de développement économique des municipalités bilingues de Manitoba Several sectoral federations	\$100,000 \$2,000,000 n/a	1 FT 24 (21 FT + 3 PT) (incl. 4 co-op development officers) n/a
<b>Nova Scotia</b> Popl: 933,793	400	308,000	7,000	\$5.1	Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations - Co-operatives Branch NS Economic Development NS Department of Community Services Nova Scotia Business Inc. Nova Scotia Department of Finance Nova Scotia Securities Commission NS Department of Environment & Labour Innovacorp	n/a	1 FT + 3 PT regional	Nova Scotia Co-operative Council Conseil Coopératif Acadien de la Nouvelle-Ecosse (francophone co-ops) Several sectoral federations	\$500,000 n/a n/a	1 FT + 6 contract n/a n/a
<b>Newfoundland &amp; Labrador</b> Popl: 508,548	95	57,000	1,400	\$132 million	Dept. of Innovation, Trade & Rural Development Regional Co-op Developers Network (RDN) Regional Developers Board Dept. of Government Services & Lands Dept. of Natural Resources	n/a	10 (devote PT to co-op work) 1 PT (co-op registrar)	N-L Federation of Co-ops Several sectoral federations	\$250,000 n/a	1 n/a
<b>CANADA*****</b> Popl: 32,777,304	9,271	17 million	160,000	\$225	<b>Federal Co-operatives Secretariat</b>	<b>\$1.4 million</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Canadian Co-operative Association</b> <b>Conseil Canadien de la Coopération</b>	<b>1.8 million (domestic)</b> <b>12.6 million (internat.)</b> <b>\$700,000</b>	<b>38</b> (incl. 7 core staff plus 25 Intl. Dev. Officers plus 6 (finance and admin.) <b>3.5</b>
francophone portion only	3,500	8.8 million	90,000	\$155						

Note: All provincial population stats were adopted from a Statistics Canada table, published in *The Daily* on March 29, 2007.

Note: Membership stats for all provinces are meant to reflect membership of co-operatives and credit unions combined.

Note: In the case of Québec, the co-op/credit union membership stats reflect a combination of both individual and business members, which in part, accounts for the reason why the number of members is greater than the actual population.

Note: In the case of Canada, the co-op/credit union membership stats reflect a total of 17 million. The CCA estimates that approximately 13 million represent individual members, and the remaining 4 million are made of business members.

**Reference:**

\* These co-op statistics, while taken from diverse yet reliable sources, including the Federal Co-operatives Secretariat, The Canadian Co-operative Association and various provincial associations, are meant to be considered as representations, as some numbers may have changed slightly depending on the year the statistics were gathered. They have been verified to be as accurate as possible.

\*\* Main provincial government departments involved in co-op development and promotion are listed. These have been verified by either the associations and/or the government departments.

\*\*\* Please note that there is often more than one association dedicated to co-operatives in each province - one representing the anglophone and one supporting francophone co-ops located therein. The distinct budgets for each have been noted.

\*\*\*\* Some of the provinces have what are referred to as "sectoral federations." These are organizations set up to represent a particular co-operative sector (e.g., housing, childcare, etc.). Their exact numbers, budgets and staff have not been accounted for in this summary.

\*\*\*\*\* These numbers are reflective of the 07-08 operational budgets for each association, and do not solely reflect the budget for co-op development initiatives, but of all the strategic areas that make up the association. Provincial associations' budgets are often made up of various member dues, sponsorships and collaborations and some government funding sources. They also depend greatly on volunteers, interns and contract workers to accomplish their day-to-day tasks and overall objectives. The budgets may vary slightly from year to year, depending on the specific projects being performed at the time.

\*\*\*\*\* This amount is an annual partnership fund between the province and the Quebec co-op sector. It is used towards co-op development initiatives, including the financing of technical assistance for both new and existing co-ops

\*\*\*\*\* Stats on first line reflect total no. of co-ops across Canada (francophone & anglophone combined), while second line represents only francophone co-ops across Canada.