



Member Profile | [Le Conseil de la coopération de l'Ontario](#)

The [Cooperation Council of Ontario](#) (CCO) has been the leading association for economic, social and community development in Ontario since 1964. In 2018, we received a medal from the Senate of Canada for our vital role in the development of the province.

CCO is a social enterprise with both individual and organizational members. There are also several categories of members, each with different advantages.

We offer many services such as social enterprise and co-operative development, community economic development, research and innovation, organizational management and international affairs. Services are available to members and non-members and support community economic development, start up and management of social or co-operative enterprises and social innovation. They are aimed at groups promoting social collective enterprises, social enterprises, co-operatives, non-profit organizations and several government departments and agencies. Some of these services are free, while others are contracted.

CCO was founded in 1964 when Ontario's economic and community leaders, co-operatives and caisses populaires made the decision to build a strong economic and development organization. At that time, Francophone communities in Ontario relied heavily on the co-operative model and social entrepreneurship to empower themselves, enrich themselves, help each other; in short, develop in a healthy and sustainable way. To this day, the co-operative movement is an undeniable pillar of Ontario's Francophone economic landscape.

Several simple explanations exist to better understand the reasons that have made Francophone communities in Ontario fertile ground for co-operation and social entrepreneurship. First, these communities had no choice but to come together to preserve their peculiarities in environments that are often predominantly Anglophone. Secondly, Francophone cultures are cultures that have traditionally favored doing-together to the detriment of individualism. Finally, social and co-operative entrepreneurship makes it possible to maintain the roots and local governance of the various initiatives that emanate from them.

CCO is involved with communities all over Ontario. In the 2018-2019 fiscal year, we redistributed \$266,100 to social enterprises and co-operatives, directly supported 185 social enterprises and co-operatives, and helped 27 new social enterprises and co-operatives. We also gave over 58 different workshops and activities and trained over 1,150 individuals.

2019 has been a year of change for CCO. We're rapidly expanding our operations and recently opened two offices in Windsor and Thunder Bay. We've also grown from a team of ten to 18, rebranded our logo and our image.

CCO recently launched the first bilingual online accelerator program, [ACCELERATOR F](#) dedicated to the development of the French-language markets provincially, nationally and internationally. Canadian or international companies aiming to capitalize on the International francophone markets can apply online before January 10th. <https://www.accelerateurf.com/>

CCO is constantly on the move and bringing new projects, programs and activities that can directly benefit your organization, community or your personal development. Anyone can get involved with the organization by [becoming a member](#) (either as an individual or with your organization). You can keep in contact with the CCO by [subscribing to our emails](#) or following us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#).