

Draft Program (version: June 9, 2021)

2021 International Co-operative Governance Symposium

Theme: Governance in Co-operatives - Participatory, People-Centred, Democratic

Engage in an interactive symposium as part of a multi-year initiative, grounded in research and focused on elevating the understanding and practice of governance in co-operatives.

Hosted by the International Centre for Co-operative Management, Saint Mary's University ([Visit here](#))

VIRTUAL - June 17-19, 2021: 10:30am to 4:30pm Atlantic Daylight Time each day. Depending on your timezone, this will result in some early mornings or late evenings. We will try our best to accommodate time zones. Check your timezone: <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/converter.html>

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED TO RECEIVE ZOOM CONNECTION INFO:

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUdpOmprjsoGtLLsijg8yJwt15tZs0QwXmgf](https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJUdpOmprjsoGtLLsijg8yJwt15tZs0QwXmgf)

Summary program framing: Opening sessions on governance in context and theoretical framing (humanistic (people-centred) perspective, plus putting co-op governance in context with other governance theory). The bulk of the symposium will be dedicated to sessions on governance systems from a humanistic perspective with specific sessions on structures (e.g. ownership and control, member representation and expertise on Boards, federated participatory governance; codes and legal frameworks); processes and tools (e.g. data collection, sociocracy, governance reviews, and strategic planning). Plus, the evolution and changes in governance systems over time (e.g. the interplay of external and internal dynamics with structures and processes).

Titles and order of sessions is subject to change.

June 17, 2021		
10:30am- 12:00pm ADT	SYMPOSIUM LAUNCH (open to a broader audience) LANCEMENT DU SYMPOSIUM (ouvert au grand public)	<i>Simultaneous French/English translation provided for Symposium Launch Traduction simultanée français/anglais assurée pendant le lancement</i>
10:30am ADT	Co-operative Governance in Context Mise en contexte de la gouvernance coopérative	
10 min	Welcoming remarks and overview Mot de bienvenue et tour d'horizon	ICCM (Intl Centre, Saint Mary's) ICCM (International Centre, Université Saint Mary's)
25 min – 20 min talk + 5 min Q&A	Humanistic governance in democratic organizations – the cooperative difference	ICCM (Intl Centre, Saint Mary's)

	Gouvernance humaine dans les organisations démocratiques : la différence coopérative	ICCM (International Centre, Université Saint Mary's)
25 min – 20 min talk + 5 min Q&A	Practitioner perspective on situational coop governance, including examples in housing, insurance, start-ups, federations/association <i>Perceptions des parties prenantes sur la gouvernance coopérative situationnelle (logement, assurances, entreprises en démarrage, fédérations, associations)</i>	Alexandra Wilson (Canada)
30 min	Panel: comments on best co-operative governance. Audience Q&A <i>Table ronde : Réflexion sur les bonnes pratiques en gouvernance coopérative (avec questions de l'auditoire)</i>	Martin Lowery (USA / États-Unis), Alexandra Wilson (Canada), Sonja Novkovic (Canada)
	End of Symposium Launch <i>Fin du lancement du symposium</i>	
10 min	BREAK PAUSE	
12:10pm ADT	Northern Canadian Co-operative Examples	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome	Margaret Lund
15 min	FCNQ – governance in a federated Inuit cooperative context <i>FCNQ : La gouvernance dans une coopérative inuite fédérée</i>	Anne-Marie Merrien (Canada)
15 min	Arctic Co-operatives Limited – case study highlights	Mary Nirlungayuk (Canada)
15 min	Moderator summary comments, audience Q&A	
1:00pm ADT	THEORETIC FRAMING: Approaches to humanism in cooperative governance	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Sonja Novkovic
15 min	A Needs Theory of Governance. Integrating Humanness into Governing Structures and Methods All types of cooperatives	Silvia Sacchetti & Ermanno C. Tortia (Italy)
15 min	Social Capital Theory – example of Shared Service Cooperatives in the Non-profit Sector	Eklou Amendah & Christina Clamp (US)
15 min	The implications of ubuntu for governance in co-operatives All types of cooperatives	T O Molefe (South Africa)
5 min 15 min Q&A	Jerome Warren (Discussant) Q&A/Discussion	
20 min	BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS / BREAK	
2:30pm ADT	Supervisory Boards, Consumer Co-operatives, and Nordic Context	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Sonja Novkovic
15 min	Supervisory board in the governance of cooperatives: role, authority, context	Kari Huhtala (Finland)
15 min	Understanding of roles and inter-relationships across governance structures (consumer cooperative example in Finland)	Anu Puusa (Finland)
10 min	Q&A/Discussion	
10 min	BREAK	
3:25pm ADT	Focus: Implications of different cooperative classes in cooperative governance systems	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Sonja Novkovic

15 min	Comparing governance systems in producer and worker cooperatives in agriculture, industry and services in Cuba Worker/agricultural coops	Camila Piñeiro Harnecker (Cuba)
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
	Day 1: Wrap-up (including small group discussions)	ICCM (Intl Centre, Saint Mary's)
END: 4:30pm ADT		
June 18, 2021		
10:30am ADT		
	Welcoming remarks and Day 2 overview	ICCM (Intl Centre, Saint Mary's)
10:40am ADT	Focus: Agricultural Sector Cooperatives	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Frédéric Dufays
15 min	Governance, institutional change and consequences: A review of dairy cooperatives in India Producer coops	Neha Christie (India)
15 min	Agropur: Maintaining strong member connection to cooperative identity Producer coops <i>Agropur : Entretenir la relation des membres avec l'identité coopérative</i> <i>Coopératives de production</i>	Claude-André Guillotte (Canada) <i>** Presentation in French (with English translation) **</i>
15 min	Sollio: Highlighting the role of a Member Ambassador Program to strengthen commitment <i>Sollio : L'importance des programmes d'ambassadeurs pour stimuler l'engagement</i>	Colette Lebel (Canada) <i>** Presentation in French (with English translation) **</i>
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
15 mins	BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS / BREAK	
11:50am ADT	Focus: Federations	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Luc Audebrand
15 min	Distinct features of European co-operative banks: membership and co-operative governance (survey results) Financial cooperative	Hans Groeneveld (Netherlands)
15 min	Strategic planning and governance – Desjardins Financial cooperative <i>Desjardins : Planification stratégique et gouvernance</i> <i>Coopératives financières</i>	Yvan Rouillé (Canada) <i>** Presentation in French (with English translation) **</i>
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
12:35pm ADT	Focus: Member Representation / Expertise on Boards	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Karen Miner
30 min panel	Professionalization of Co-operative Boards: The Canary in the Coal Mine? Consumer coop focus	Marc-Andre Pigeon, Dionne Pohler & Anthony Piscitelli (Canada)
5 min 10 min Q&A	Summary Comments: Sheldon Stener Q&A/Discussion	
5 min	BREAK	
1:30pm ADT	Board Renewal and Competencies	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Phil Baudin
15 min	Board Renewal in Cooperative Organizations: A Processual, Adaptive Approach All types of coops	Myriam Michaud (Québec)

	Renouveler le conseil d'administration d'une organisation coopérative : une approche procédurale et adaptative <i>Tous les types de coopératives</i>	** Presentation in French (with English translation) **
15 min	Evaluating governance competencies and training for gaps: Agri coop governance in rural America Agricultural coops	Diane Friend (United States)
10 min	Moderator comments Q&A/Discussion	
15 mins	BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS / BREAK	
2:30pm ADT	Focus: Multi-Stakeholder Lens	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Erbin Crowell
15 min	Governance and multi-stakeholder cooperatives in Mondragon: The dilemma between openness and cohesion	Oier Imaz, Fred Freundlich & Aritz Kanpandegi (The Basque Country, Spain)
15 min	Multi-stakeholder Network Example (USA)	Júlia Martins Rodrigues & Nathan Schneider
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
3:15pm ADT	Focus: Governance Failure Example	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Fred Freundlich
15 min	Lessons learned through the lens of the governance failure of Fagor Electrodomésticos	Imanol Basterretxea (The Basque Country, Spain)
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
3:45pm ADT	Platform Co-op Governance	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Nathan Schneider
15 min	Governing Platform Co-operatives: Challenges and Prospect	Simon Pek (Canada) & Morshed Mannan (Netherlands)
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
4:15pm	Day 2: Wrap-up	ICCM (Intl Centre, Saint Mary's)
END: 4:30pm ADT		
June 19, 2021		
10:30am ADT		
10 min	Welcoming remarks and Day 3 overview	ICCM (Intl Centre, Saint Mary's)
10:40am ADT	Governance Codes, Frameworks, Tools	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Fiona Duguid
15 min	Unpacking the diversity of governance codes in the co-operative landscape All types	Jozef Cossey, Adrien Billiet & Frédéric Dufays (Belgium)
15 min	Cooperative Governance Structure: A Comparative study on Democratic Control and Independent Decision Making	A. J. Lakshmi & G. Raju (India)
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
5 min	BREAK	
15 min	The creation and sustenance of a sector-wide approach to credit union governance: benefits and challenges Credit unions	Paul Jones & Nick Money (United Kingdom)
15 min	Addressing Challenges of Implementing Cooperative Governance Practices: Lessons from the South All types	Sizwe Mkwanazi (South Africa)
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
20 min	BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS / BREAK	

12:30pm ADT	US Highlights	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Karen Miner
15 min	Coop Governance Survey of Practices in the United States All types of coops	Courtney Berner (United States)
15 min	Cooperative governance and policy governance as used in USA food coops Food coops (mostly consumer coops)	Thane Joyal (United States)
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
1:15pm ADT	Members and Stakeholders	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Leslie Brown
15 mins	Cooperation between Users and Workers	Cliff Mills (UK)
15 min	Representing the Co-operative Membership All types of coops	Adam Payler, Anthony Piscitelli, Sean Geobey, Andrea Perrella (Canada)
15 min	Stakeholder engagement and coop performance All types of coops	Daphne Rixon & Fiona Duguid (Canada)
5 min	Moderator comments: Leslie Brown	
10 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
5 min	BREAK	
2:25pm ADT	DIALOGUE SESSION: Roundtable organized around key questions Focus: Sociocracy in worker coops	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Mark Simmonds
30 min	Emerging Implementations of Sociocracy in the UK Co-op Movement	Abbie Kempson & Mark Simmonds (United Kingdom)
	Sociocratic and multistakeholder coop governance	John McNamara (United States)
15 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
5 mins	BREAK	
3:15pm ADT	DIALOGUE SESSION: Roundtable organized around key questions Worker cooperatives governance case study examples – hierarchy vs. flat	
2-3 min	Moderator welcome and overview	Esteban Kelly
30 min	Pagkaki Worker coop	Orestis Varkarolis (Greece)
	Just Us! Worker coop	Joey Pittoello (Canada)
	SUMA Worker coop	Ross Hodgson (United Kingdom)
15 min Q&A	Q&A/Discussion	
	Symposium Wrap-up and Social	ICCM (Intl Centre, Saint Mary's)
END: 4:30pm ADT		

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