



Canadian Social Economy Hub
Centre canadien d'économie sociale

coordinating research to build the social economy

Canadian Social Economy Research Partnerships: Assembling Understandings

Michael Toye

Northern Summit on the Social Economy

Yellowknife • November 22, 2011



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CANADIAN
SOCIAL ECONOMY
RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

Background and Structure

- **Six nodes:** North; Atlantic Canada; Québec; Southern Ontario; Saskatchewan, Manitoba & Northern Ontario; British Columbia / Alberta

- **National Hub: Co-Directors**

- Ian MacPherson (UVic)
- Rupert Downing (2005-2008)
- Mike Toye (2008-present) CCEDNet



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Activities

- 350 researchers (60% university, 40% social economy organisations)
- Over 400 “products”
- Many students involved
- Numerous conferences

Atlantic Social Economy Research Node						
Theme	Title	Node	Description	Key Words	Researchers	Deliverables
Mapping; Public Policy; Finance	1.1 Survey of Co-ops and Credit Unions in Atlantic Canada	Atlantic	List and map co-ops and credit unions in Atlantic Provinces; categorize co-op work. Document contribution to economy. Show financing and their support for other enterprises and community organizations. Compare the co-operative sector to the non-profit and voluntary sector. Compare Atlantic region to other regions in Canada with similar work. Inform public policy	Mapping; comparative analysis; co-ops; credit unions; nonprofits; voluntary sector; public policy; finance; Social Economy support; Atlantic Canada	Academic Luc Thériault (Sociology-University New Brunswick); Leslie Brown (Sociology/Anthropology-Mount Saint Vincent University) Community Ronald Skibbens (Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations)	Research report; research briefs; web-posting; scholarly articles; public and conference presentations (<i>A New Portrait of Co-operatives and Credit Unions in Atlantic Canada</i> at the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation; <i>Co-operatives and Credit Unions in Atlantic Canada: The State of the Art</i> at ISTR 2008; 2nd EMES-ISTR European Conference Abstract); map-making; training of students (End date: September 2009)
Mapping; communication ;	1.2 Atlantic Node Community' Stories	Atlantic	Bridge and bond social networks through storytelling. Portrait of the Social Economy of Atlantic Canada through a profile of our team.	Storytelling; social networks; portraiture; Atlantic Canada	Academic Noreen Millar (Social Economy & Sustainability Research Network-Mount Saint Vincent University) Community Cross-Sectoral Advisory Committee (government, RDA's, Community Futures, etc.)	Electronic and print “Storybook” profiling partners of the Atlantic Node (End date: September 2007)
Social enterprise; finance	1.3 Fishing for the Future II: Tracking the Coastal Communities Network from First Beginnings to Economic Sustainability	Atlantic	Case study of the Coastal Communities Network (CNN). Explore models and best practices enabling the CCN to shift from a not-for-profit model towards a social enterprise model. A general history of the CCN and an asset map of what the CCN can possibly leverage into revenue streams (i.e. facilitation expertise, mediation	Case study; Social Economy; rural; Nova Scotia; best practices; non-profit; social enterprise	Academic Paula Romanow (Education-Mount St. Vincent University) Community Isabel Murro (Coastal Communities Network)	Research report; journal articles (i.e. <i>Journal of Rural and Community Development</i> , <i>Rural Sociology</i>); conference presentations (i.e. CCN's monthly meetings and annual conference and the Atlantic Region rural conferences);



Three Final E-book Publications

- 2005-2011: now winding down
- Joy Emmanuel and Matthew Thompson, *Assembling Understandings: Perspectives of the Canadian Social Economy Research Partnerships, 2005-2011*
- Peter Hall and Ian MacPherson (eds.), *Community-University Research Partnerships: Reflections on the Canadian Social Economy*
- Rupert Downing (Ed.), *Canadian Public Policy and the Social Economy*



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Main Research Topics

From Emmanuel and Thompson

- Mapping
- Social enterprise
- Public policy
- Financing the social economy
- SE and Indigenous peoples
- SE and co-op studies
- Governance and Capacity



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C-U Partnerships: Key Issues



- Governance (e.g., who decides which research projects?)
- Networking (e.g., are they building on and/or building new networks?)
- Definition of the sector (e.g., was the sector pre-defined?)
- Content of research (e.g., what topics, how do new topics get included?)
- Process (methods) of research (e.g., participatory content of actual research?)
- Capacity-building (e.g., university capacity to reach out, student and community training)
- Evaluation (e.g., who evaluates, when, to what effect?)



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Public Policy

- International comparative analysis
- Canadian policy recommendations
- KM papers on Governance, Financing and Procurement

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PUBLIC POLICY PAPER SERIES CAHIERS SUR LES POLITIQUES PUBLIQUES
NUMBER 03 - JUNE 2010 NUMÉRO 03 - JUIN 2010

Public Policy for the Social Economy: Building a people-centred economy in Canada

Sarah Amoyot, Rupert Downing, and Crystal Tremblay



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Public Policy

- National Summit on a People-Centred Economy
- International Forum on the Social and Solidarity Economy



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Progress on the Ground

- Provincial tax credits in MB, PEI
- enp expanding across the country
- Task Force on Social Finance
- Co-op conferences and IYC
- BC Advisory Council partnerships
- NS economic dev action plan
- 4th Canadian Conf Social Enterprise
- Ongoing research



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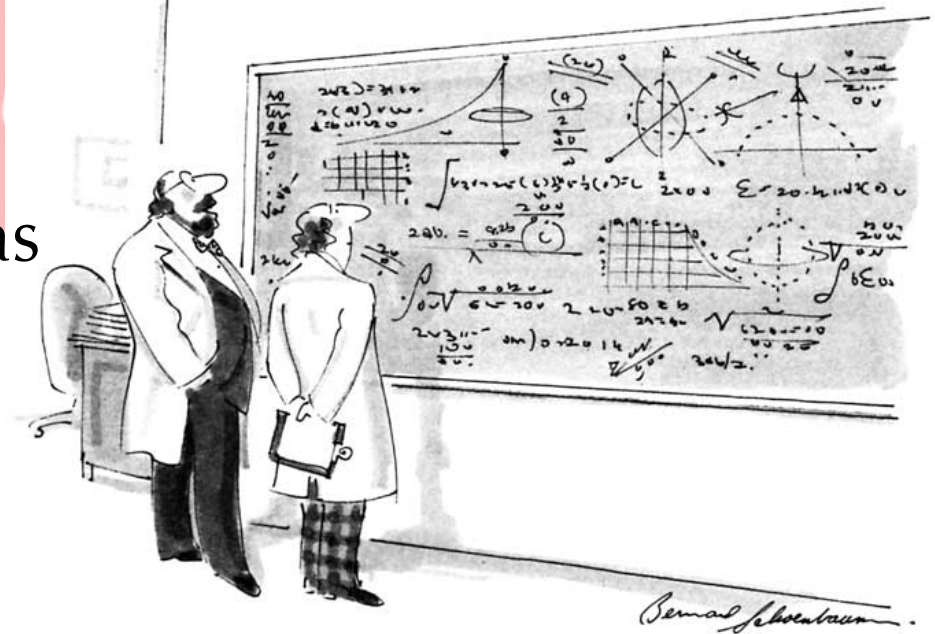
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Prospects

- The social economy as a strategy for resiliency and a 'stabilizing force' for the economy
- Growing appetite for 'blended value'
- The social economy as a mobilizing concept outside of Québec?
- Occupy Wall Street and growing inequality

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"Oh, if only it were so simple."



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Final Webinars and Ebooks

- **Community-University Partnerships**
 - November 25
- **Thematic Analysis of CSERP Research**
 - November 29
- **Public Policy and the Social Economy**
 - December 1

All at 12pm Eastern (10am Yellowknife?)

<http://www.socialeconomyhub.ca/?q=node/3246>



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Thank you!

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