



YOUR 2008 FALL GUIDE TO CO-OPERATIVES IN ONTARIO



*Take a tour of some of
Ontario's most unique
businesses...*



EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS THIS FALL...

The Ontario Co-operative Association has created this Guide to Co-operatives in Ontario just for you. Our Fall Guide is filled with warm co-operative spirit, just the thing for these cooler Autumn days.

Like the colours on the leaves of trees in the Fall, the co-ops included in The 2008 Fall Guide to Co-operatives in Ontario are vibrant and unique. Each one has its own distinctive appeal. The co-ops featured in this guide are organized by region—Toronto and Area, Southwestern Ontario, Eastern Ontario, Northeastern Ontario, and Northwestern Ontario and Central Ontario. So no matter where you live or where you decide to venture to this Fall, The Fall Guide to Co-operatives in Ontario will keep you informed about interesting co-ops near you.

Note: Many of the co-ops profiled in this guide require membership in order to use their services and/or purchase their products.



From all of us at On Co-op, Stay warm, be safe, and have fun this fall!

NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO

There are more than 133 co-ops and credit unions in all Northern Ontario.

Northern Lights Credit Union

97 Duke Street
Dryden ON P8N 2Z5
(807) 223-5358
www.nlcu.on.ca



Drop by Northern Lights Credit Union and find out what a credit union can offer you that a regular bank can't. After all, holiday shopping and RSP season is just around the corner. Northern Lights is a full service financial institution that operates throughout Northern Ontario with branches located in Dryden, Fort Frances, Thunder Bay, Rainy River, Sioux Lookout, Ignace, and Vermilion Bay. Visit the e-directory www.coopsontario.com/edirectory to find a credit union near you so that you can join one too.

Team Werks Co-operative

580 North Algoma Street
Thunder Bay ON P7B 5G4
(807) 343-4300 ext. 4380

Team Werks Co-operative is a worker co-operative operating out of Lakehead Psychiatric Hospital and is key component of the St Joseph's Care Group vocational program entitled Employment Options. The co-op provides employment opportunities and services to clients living with a mental illness. The organization is comprised of 6 distinct business ventures ranging from a confidential shredding service, wood working shop to a car wash. Come in for a car wash to get rid of all that Fall weather residue, and stay for a coffee.



CENTRAL ONTARIO

634 co-ops and credit union offices are found in Central Ontario.

Bruce Peninsula Artists Co-op Gallery

1 Mill Street
Lions Head ON N0H 1W0
(519) 793-3080 (summer) (519)793-4758 (winter)
www.brucepeninsulaart.ca
bpartists@gmail.com

Make some time to appreciate Ontario artwork this Fall and visit the Bruce Peninsula Artists Co-op Gallery in Lion's Head. Operating since 1997, the gallery displays and sells the original artwork of 12 juried members. The artwork varies between watercolours, oil paintings, acrylics, printmaking, pottery, stained glass, and more. The Gallery has gained a reputation of carrying some of the area's finest artwork, so come in soon because the gallery is only open until Thanksgiving, and only on weekends in October after that. Past October, call and make an appointment for your viewing pleasure. Visit their website www.brucepeninsulaart.ca for operating hours and tour of the artists' studio where you can see some of the artwork on screen prior to viewing the real thing.



Make a donation to the Ontario Credit Union Charitable Foundation

(www.ontariocucf.ca)

this Fall and help Ontario credit unions and their communities serve a variety of worthy causes. Their mission is to be the charitable foundation of choice to champion community building in partnership with credit unions in Ontario. Check out their website for details.

SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO

More than 25% of Ontario's co-ops and credit unions are based in Southwestern Ontario.

Carlson Wagonlit Travel

2201 Brant St. Unit 7
Burlington ON L7P 3N8
(800) 263-5241
www.cwtleisure.ca
info@travelburlington.com



Make a road trip to Burlington, and fly on to your dream destination. If you're planning a trip this Fall, make sure you take advantage of Carlson Wagonlit Travel's services. This location is owned by Canadian Travel Co-op, a worker co-operative. They are a full service travel agency offering a variety of vacation, wedding, and honeymoon packages. They are also experienced in making travel arrangements for businesses. Escape the cold this Autumn season.

Organic Meadow Co-operative

5653 Hwy. 6 North
R.R. #5
Guelph ON N1H 6J2
(866) 767-9694
www.organicmeadow.com
info@organicmeadow.com



When things start to cool down this Fall, reach for a cup of hot chocolate made with Organic Meadow's delicious certified organic milk for an extra creamy treat. As Canada's leading organic dairy co-operative, Organic Meadow offers a diversity of certified organic products including their newest product, Canada's first certified organic 2% cottage cheese, as well as milk, cream, yogurt, sour cream, ice cream, butter, eggs, cheese, and more. They also offer certified organic frozen vegetables, perfect for adding to those comforting Autumn stews. Best of all, Organic Meadow products are available at most major and independent grocery stores so eating healthily this Fall can be simple and convenient.

Whistle Stop Co-operative Preschool

R.R. # 3
Guelph ON N1H 6H9
(519) 821-9166
www.whistlestoppreschool.com
mfagundes642@sympatico.ca



Is your child ready for preschool? Try a co-operative like The Whistle Stop Co-op. The Whistle Stop strives to develop a child's natural curiosity through activities such as story telling, art, music, creative play, and more. The Whistle Stop values parents opinions, and teachers do their best to provide your child with a fantastic preschool experience. The Whistle Stop has been proudly serving Puslinch Township and its surrounding areas for 21 years. They have no duty days, and their program runs every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Whistle Stop Co-op is located at the Puslinch Community Centre. Visit the e-directory (www.coopsontario.com/edirectory) to find a child care co-op near you.

Burlington Co-operative Toy Library

2258 Parkway Dr.
Burlington ON L7P 1T1
(905) 336-7617
www.burltoylibrary@gmail.com

Join the Burlington Co-operative Toy Library this Fall and keep your little ones busy all year round. For only \$35 per year, a family can take home a variety of toys to delight and entertain their children. The Toy Library offers riding toys, shelf toys, kitchen centers, puzzles, games, books (including parenting books), electronic toys, videos, and more. You can even bring your kids in for a drop-in play session and your first visit is free. Teach your children the art of sharing this Fall by becoming a member of the Burlington Co-operative Toy Library.

London Co-op Store

621 Princess Ave.
London ON N5W 3L9
(519) 679-0570
www.londonfoodcoop.org
generalinfo@londonfoodcoop.org



Where do you find organically grown pumpkins and squash at harvest time? If you're in London, you can find them at the London Co-op Store. Operating since 1970, it's one of the oldest natural food co-ops in Ontario. Membership means you can shop there for all the healthy essentials: organically grown food, natural health and beauty products, eco friendly household products, and more.

Natural Burial Co-operative

14 Division St.
Guelph ON N1H 1P9
(519) 763-8825
www.naturalburial.coop/canada
mike.driscoll@sympatico.ca



Autumn leaves falling to the ground bring to mind the circle of life. Although death is something many of us view negatively, the Natural Burial Co-operative helps us to look at death in a positive light—as a chance to protect and give back to the planet. Natural Burial is an environmentally sustainable funeral alternative. It embraces the natural cycle of life by using only native trees, shrubs, and plants to build one's memorial instead of creating one out of concrete vaults, metal caskets, and glossy tombstones that deplete the earth's resources, and often release chemicals into the environment. Although there are currently no natural burial grounds in Canada, the Natural Burial Co-operative is working with several landowners across the country to establish Canada's first natural burial preserve. Join the Natural Burial Co-operative today to ensure you have the first opportunities to purchase products and services to arrange your natural burial once burial grounds are established.

TORONTO AND AREA

There are more than 1300 co-ops operating at 1900 locations in Ontario.

Come as You Are

701 Queen St. W.
Toronto ON M6J 1E6
(877) 858-3160
www.comeasyouare.com
info@comeasyouare.com

The only co-operatively run sex shop in the world! Come As You Are's mandate is to create an environment in which people can receive information and sexual products that encourage and inform them about various sexual possibilities. This worker co-op strives to offer products and services in such a way that provides access to people who are traditionally excluded and marginalized from accessing sexual products and services. Beat the blahs this Fall and come on in to discover their selection of products!

Just Shirts Co-op

5 Roblocke Avenue
Toronto ON M6G 3R6
(416) 530-4438
www.justshirts.ca
wholesale@justshirts.ca



Justshirts Clothing worker co-operative distributes fairly-traded and sweatshop free t-shirts, hoodies and other clothing products. They work with a co-operative of single mothers in El Salvador to produce high quality garments which are then sold in Canada and the United States. Just Shirts' surplus is dedicated to providing educational and social opportunities to the children of their co-operative partners. Be comfortable, look cool, and help change the world this Fall with clothing from Just Shirts.

The New Schoolhouse

42 Edgewood Ave
Toronto ON M4L 3H1
www.thebeachschool.org
(416) 693-0110

If you're looking for an alternative educational institution to send your child to, The New Schoolhouse, formerly known as The Beach School Co-operative, could be for you. The New Schoolhouse is an independent non-profit school for children aged 4-19 years. As the only co-operative school of elementary and secondary aged students in Canada, it places high value upon democratic governance, self-initiated learning, eco-conscious living, age-mixing, and healthy student choices. The New Schoolhouse accepts enrolment throughout the school year, and people from all walks of life are welcome to join. Check out their website www.thebeachschool.org for a list of frequently asked questions, articles, their newsletter, and more information.



Common Ground Co-operative

4 Overlea Blvd.
Toronto ON M4H 1A4
(416) 421-7117
(416) 421-7116
www.commongroundco-op.ca
info@commongroundco-op.ca



Come into one of the three Coffee Shed locations and choose from a variety of sandwiches and baked goods accompanied by a cup of fair trade organic coffee to warm you up and keep you going through the day. The Coffee Shed is one of two businesses supported by Common Ground Co-operative—a non-profit charitable organization that promotes the establishment of self-employment initiatives for people with developmental disabilities. Lemon and Allspice Cookery, also supported by Common Ground, offers wholesale baked goods to Toronto cafes and restaurants, and specializes in breakfast and lunch catering to businesses and networks across the GTA. Get a delicious bite to eat, cater your next meeting, support the co-operative sector, and help the developmentally challenged earn a living. For more food options, visit the e-directory www.coopsontario.com/edirectory.

Whole Village Property Co-operative

20725 Shaws Creek Road
Caledon ON L7K 1L7
(519) 941-1099
www.wholevillage.org
info@wholevillage.org



Don't miss the chance to take a tour of the Whole Village Property Co-operative in Caledon. Whole Village was started by a group of families from various backgrounds who have been planning and creating an eco-residence (Greenhaven) and a biodynamic farm with the intention of creating a community dedicated to sustainability and land stewardship. They even have a bed and breakfast located within the eco village, and your stay comes with a complimentary continental breakfast made with organic, local fresh food.

If there just aren't enough co-ops for your visiting pleasure here, log on to the e-directory (www.coopsontario.com/edirectory) for a comprehensive list of co-operatives in Ontario.

EASTERN ONTARIO

200 co-ops have their main offices in Eastern Ontario.

La Siembra Co-operative

4 Florence St. Suite 210
Ottawa ON K2P 0W7
(613) 235-6122
www.lasiembra.coop/en
info@lasiembra.com



Founded in 1999, La Siembra Co-operative, a worker co-op based in Ottawa-Gatineau, produces fair trade certified and certified organic Cocoa Camino products such as chocolate bars, hot chocolate, sugar and cocoa powder. Their mission is to provide high quality products that will satisfy consumers and help improve the lives of family farmers and the well-being of communities everywhere. Cocoa Camino products can be found at select Loblaws and A & P stores, as well many other locations. Visit their website www.lasiembra.coop/en to find a retailer near you. Add some fair trade organic sugar to your next Fall dessert, and it will taste twice as sweet knowing that your seemingly simple indulgent creation is bettering someone else's livelihood.

The Prospector

161 Pembroke St. W.
Pembroke ON K8A 5M9
(613) 732-7948



What could be better than finding classic fashion pieces at low prices? If you need a new comfy sweater to keep the chills away this Autumn, stop in to The Prospector, a second hand retail store owned by three special needs people—Alan, Adriana, and Lewis—for your fashion fix without draining your wallet. This worker co-operative also sells a variety of other items such as home décor, jewellery and more. While you're there, drop off whatever you no longer need as they will accept almost any used clothing or goods as donations.

Ontario Co-operatives
innovative+
sustainable

A graphic showing four hands of different skin tones reaching towards the center, symbolizing unity and cooperation. The background is a blue sky with white clouds.

8th Annual Co-op
Conference+Gala

Wednesday, October 15, 2008
9 am to 6 pm
Royal Botanical Gardens
680 Plains Road West, Burlington

Tenth Annual Co-op
Spirit Recognition Awards
Banquet + Ceremony: 6 to 9 pm

On Co-op™
Ontario Co-operative Association
1.888.745.5521
ontario.coop/Gala

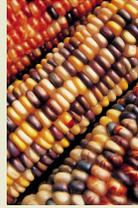
Come learn more about co-ops at the 8th Annual Co-operative Conference and Gala on Wednesday, October 15th, 2008.

NORTHEASTERN ONTARIO

Northeastern Ontario is home to 165 co-ops and credit unions.

Temagami Co-operative Freshmart

6722 Highway 11, North
P.O. Box 237
Temagami ON P0H 2H0
(705) 569-2732
www.temagamivacation.com/services/foodland.htm
temcoop@ontera.net



The Temagami Co-op Freshmart is a community-owned, full service grocery store that emphasizes fresh produce, bakery goods and meats. Camping in gorgeous Temagami this Fall? Temagami Co-op Freshmart has smaller sizes of food essentials to pack in to the bush, and a well stocked deli section for those who prefer their camping on the luxurious side. You can find President's Choice, No Name and Blue Menu products at the co-op. They also offer custom made cakes for every occasion, so pick one up with a spooky design to make your Halloween party complete.

Co-operative Funeral Home

Sudbury Chapel
222 Lasalle Blvd. East
Sudbury ON P3A 1W5
(800) 970-5799
www.cooperativefuneraire.ca
cooperative.funeraire@bellnet.ca

The Co-operative Funeral Home has been in existence for over 50 years and is the only co-operative funeral home in Ontario. Since its inception in Sudbury, The Co-operative Funeral Home has expanded to two more locations: Chelmsford and Hamner. Services offered at any of these three locations include visitation and reception planning, preparing announcements, burial or cremation services, church or chapel services, courtesy vehicles, memorial cards, and more. Talk to your loved ones about drawing support from the co-operative movement even in times of loss by making The Co-operative Funeral Home the place of choice for celebrating a loved one's life.

Eat Local Sudbury

30 Ste-Anne Road
Sudbury ON P3C5E1
(705) 521-6717
www.eatlocalsudbury.com
info@eatlocalsudbury.com

Eat local Sudbury is a food co-operative that opened for business in June of 2008. This co-op was formed in response to the demand for locally grown, healthy food in the Sudbury area. Eat Local Sudbury aims to make buying local food products simple. They also aspire to help local farmers by selling and marketing their products. Eat Local ensures that most of the products they sell are grown within 150 miles of the city. Value added products like jams and prepared foods must have at least one main local ingredient. Choose from a selection of meats, vegetables, fruits, sweeteners, grains, and more to serve at your Thanksgiving feast.



Ontario Co-operative Association

450 Speedvale Ave. W.
Suite 101
Guelph, ON
N1H 7Y6

TEL: 519-763-8271
FAX: 519-763-7239
info@ontario.coop
www.ontario.coop

DID ME MISS SOMEONE? Have ideas for future guides? Contact us with the details and we will do our best to include your suggestions in upcoming versions of On Co-op's Guide to Co-operatives.

