

The Canadian Centre for the Study of Co-operatives presents

CO-OP CONVERSATIONS

A casual online gathering for co-operative professionals to learn from others in the field and exchange information

MOVING BEYOND CRISES: CONVERTING WORKPLACES AND COMMUNITY SPACES TO CO-OPERATIVES IN CANADA AND BEYOND

FEATURING MARCELO VIETA AND FIONA DUGUID

Most of Canada's 1.2 million small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have been affected by the pandemic. This has compounded the already-existing business succession crisis due to the so-called "silver tsunami" and the large numbers of retirement-aged business owners without succession plans. One underutilized option in Canada for saving these businesses, their jobs, and the communities they serve is to sell SMEs to employees or community members and convert them to co-operatives. Since 2018, The Conversion to Co-operatives Project (www.coopconvert.ca), working together with Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada (www.canada.coop), has set out to better understand business conversion to cooperatives (BCCs) by: mapping how many currently exist in Canada, where, and in what sectors; documenting their conversion stories; comparing them to international best practices; assisting the country's co-op movement build BCC capacity; and contributing to policy change. Marcelo Vieta and Fiona Duguid's talk will highlight key findings from The Co-opConvert Project, drawing attention to the advantages and challenges of BCCs for business succession and sustainable community and cooperative development.



Date: Wednesday, May 3

Time: 12:00 - 1:00 PM (Saskatchewan time)

Where: on Zoom (free to attend)

RSVP HERE:
[HTTPS://UREGINA.EU.QUALTRICS.COM/JFE/FORM/SV_0RCROPVT61PPSY6](https://uregina.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/sv_0rcropvt61ppsy6)



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