

PROUDLY PRESENTING THE THIRD ANNUAL SEMINAR

The MacPherson Talks

Credit Unions in Canada Six Design Principles for Greater Co-operation

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The Canadian credit union system is facing unprecedented challenges, and credit union leaders are struggling with how to structure their governance arrangements, not only within their own organizations but also at the system level. Dionne Pohler will highlight the efficiency-autonomy trade-off that is present in co-operation among credit unions. Credit unions need to find a way to co-operate if they are to remain strong and effective organizations. This co-operation, and the efficiencies that it will create, cannot be achieved without first developing specific governance norms that will allow credit unions to give up some of their autonomy. Dr. Pohler will outline six design principles that could guide the development of these norms and encourage greater co-operation among credit unions.

Dionne studies the design and implementation of governance arrangements within and between organizations and how these arrangements affect different stakeholder outcomes. Her previous and ongoing research investigates the impact of strategy, HR practices, unions, and laws on employees and organizations. Current projects focus on co-operative governance, particularly in co-op federations and the Canadian credit union system. Dionne helped create a co-operative development model in western Canadian rural and Indigenous communities as part of the Co-operative Innovation Project, which led to the creation of a non-profit organization, Co-operatives First, of which Dionne was a founding board member. She is the recipient of three international awards for her research and two university teaching awards. She has also received several major government and industry research grants.

Monday, 2 October 2017, 3:30–4:30 pm
Prairie Room, Diefenbaker Building, U of S Campus
Reception to follow in the River Room, Diefenbaker Building
Watch the live stream [here](#)



The MacPherson Talks honour the late Dr. Ian MacPherson, one of the leading lights of the international co-operative movement. Historian, educator, author, and passionate co-operator, Ian personified the relationship between Canadian co-operative academics and co-op practitioners. The MacPherson Talks are held annually at the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives.

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