

## Co-operatives and the Saskatchewan Disability Strategy

### The Hartley and Margaret Fredeen Scholarship in Co-operative Studies Seminar

Victoria Taras

PhD Candidate

Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy

In accordance with the Saskatchewan Disability Strategy, Saskatchewan is shifting its approach to service provision for people with disabilities. The International Labour Organization and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation suggest that co-operatives can foster economic and social inclusion by providing the opportunity for people with disabilities to participate autonomously in society. Compared to the number of public, private, and non-profit organizations involved, however, there appear to be fewer co-operatives in Saskatchewan offering disability services. Victoria Taras outlines the potential advantages and disadvantages of the co-operative model for disability service provision from a policy perspective. She also explores what supports would need to be in place to encourage co-op development in this sector.



Victoria is a PhD student at the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy. She has been doing co-op research with the Centre for Study of Co-operatives since she moved to Saskatoon in January 2014 and presented some of her results at the 2015 meetings of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation. Victoria has an MA in geography from Simon Fraser University, where she published numerous peer-reviewed, health-related articles with a team of researchers. She was the recipient of last year's Margaret and Hartley Fredeen Scholarship in Co-operative Studies. Her doctoral research will explore the implementation of Canadian disability policy.

Thursday, 17 December 2015, 3:30–4:30 pm  
Prairie Room, Diefenbaker Building, U of S Campus  
Reception to follow in the River Room

[www.usaskstudies.coop](http://www.usaskstudies.coop)