

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

WHAT CAN WE MAKE OF THE DEMISE OF THE BC TREE FRUITS COOPERATIVE? FEATURING DR. CHRIS BODNAR

Date: Wednesday, January 8

Time: 12:00 - 1:00 PM CST

(Saskatchewan time)

Where: on Zoom (free to attend)



With an 80-year history in British Columbia's Okanagan region, BC Tree Fruits Cooperative – a grower-owned co-operative that processed, stored, packaged, and sold fruit – filed for insolvency in 2024. BC Tree Fruits Cooperative represented 250 grower families and had more than \$111 million in assets in 2023. While this came as a shock to many outside the sector, it was anticipated by many within. When a co-operative of this size goes under, it gets a lot of media attention.

In this Co-op Conversation, Dr. Chris Bodnar will focus on factors that led to the demise of the co-operative, including long-term declines in the apple sector, member in-fighting, and overall challenges facing agriculture in BC. Chris will also share the lessons learned from this case and provide some thoughts on how other co-operatives can avoid this fate.

REGISTER ONLINE HERE:

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