CO-OP CONVERSATIONS

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

EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF CO-OPERATIVE YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN CANADA - THE PERSPECTIVES OF ALUMNI

FEATURING STAN YU

Date: Wednesday, December 3

Time: 12:00 - 1:00 PM CST

(Saskatchewan time)

Where: on Zoom (free to attend)



Co-operative youth education programs have been offered across Canada for decades, providing experiential learning through day camps and weeklong retreats. These programs aim to build leadership, teamwork, confidence, and communication skills while introducing youth to co-operative values and principles. Thousands of young people have participated in programs such as Camp Kindling in Saskatchewan and Co-operative Young Leaders in Ontario. Despite strong anecdotal evidence of success, there has been little systematic research on their long-term impact. To address this gap, in 2025 the Canadian Centre for the Study of Co-operatives partnered with several organizations to survey alumni of these programs. This Co-op Conversation shares early findings and discusses implications for youth engagement and the future of these programs.

