

Fiche de renseignements sur l'économie sociale

Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title: A Snapshot of Social Economy Content in Canadian Senior Secondary Schools

Associated Node: Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca

Paper Series: Education Paper Series

Academic Researchers: Sarah Amyot, Annie McKittrick, Janel Smith, Sarah Cormode, Melissa Fong

Date of Completion: May 2010 (CSEHub)

Deliverables: Published paper

Abstract: This paper is a compilation of studies undertaken by CSERP that focus on the relationship between the Social Economy and education. These papers were completed by researchers at CSEHub on the high school curricula in B.C. (Cormode, Smith and McKittrick, 2008), Manitoba (Amyot, Smith and McKittrick, 2009), Nova Scotia (Amyot and McKittrick, 2009) and one by the Social Economy Centre in Toronto on the Ontario high school curriculum (Fong, McKittrick and Smith, 2009).

A final paper considers the role of 'transformative learning theory' in teaching about the Social Economy (Smith and McKittrick, forthcoming). The Social Economy Centre in Toronto (Southern Ontario Node) has also authored a paper on the portrayal of the Social Economy in high school business textbooks (Schugurensky, 2007). The paper calls attention to current "gaps" in knowledge regarding representation of the Social Economy in the Canadian secondary school system, and also indicates potential areas where the curriculum could be linked to the Social Economy. Utilizing the findings from the case studies and reviewing the literature on education practice; the paper suggests a number of 'best practices' and practical tools to improve the type of education that senior secondary students receive about the Social Economy.

In addition, this paper delves into explanatory variables, such as cultural and historical factors, that might account for the presence of the Social Economy in some curricula and not others. It calls attention to the need for public policy supports for the Social Economy, including education policy.

This study has important implications for the kinds of Social Economy research that is conducted in the future as well as the types of tools that are developed to measure and assess the presence of the Social Economy in schools.



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Project Title:	A Rose by Any Name: the Thorny Question of Social Economy Discourse in Canada.
Associated Node:	Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca
Paper Series:	Canadian Perspectives on the Meaning of the Social Economy
Academic Researchers:	Brett Fairbairn, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives, University of Saskatchewan
Date of Completion:	October 2009
Deliverables:	Published paper
Abstract:	<p>This paper considers how language and concepts about the Social Economy reflect particular histories, political contexts, community aspirations, and modes of engagement across Canada. Governments, activists, and researchers have all sought to deploy words and concepts as tools for defining and mobilizing specific kinds of interests. The paper acknowledges and contextualizes the uniquely strong Social Economy in Québec and provides a framework for understanding the less-well-known social economies of other parts of Canada. While community-driven organizations can thrive no matter what they are called, in some respects it does matter how a sector or grouping defines itself and is defined by others. This is particularly true for interactions with the state and other actors.</p> <p>At the national level, the new political context created by the election of a Conservative government provides an opportunity and perhaps necessity for the Social Economy to present itself in different ways.</p>



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title:	Current Conceptualizations of the Social Economy in the Canadian Context
Associated Node:	Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca
Paper Series:	Canadian Perspectives on the Meaning of the Social Economy
Academic Researchers:	Janel Smith and Annie McKittrick (CSEHub)
Date of Completion:	October 2009
Deliverables:	Published paper

Abstract:

This paper provides a review of some of the ways that the Social Economy (SE) is currently conceptualized within the Canadian context. It takes into account the different political, economic and social perspectives and backgrounds of several prominent theorists as well as the interdisciplinary nature of the field. It also explores the perceived “natural tensions” that are thought to exist between the academic and practitioner sectors. The composition and what constitutes the sector continues to be a source of debate and a common definition is still being determined.

At present, the Social Economy climate in Canada is relatively diffuse. The future of the sector is challenged with respect to the change in the federal government from liberal to conservative in 2006, the 2006 cancellation of uncommitted funds, and the low degree of joint mobilization, formalization and identification with the SE among its members. Indeed only in Québec are the terms social and solidarity economy recognized and used on a widespread and coherent basis. Moreover, theoretical understandings of the meanings of the term, and knowledge of the Social Economy itself remains relatively unknown, unfamiliar and under-investigated outside of specific academic and practitioner circles.

This paper seeks to establish a framework in which to begin to delineate and unpack some of the complexities and debates surrounding how to comprehend the Social Economy within Canada.

It develops and sets out a continuum of current SE definitions and understandings recognizing common aims, similar defining characteristics and areas of debate and disagreement. The paper further calls attention to the need to develop a common vocabulary in order to illustrate and promote a collective sense of identity for the



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Social Economy that is sustainable and can be used to strengthen and raise public awareness of the Social Economy across Canada. The development of this collective sense of identity will also emphasize the Social Economy as a key component of society that requires government recognition and a supportive public policy regime in order to fully make a contribution to the public good.

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Project Title: Advancing the Social Economy for Socio-economic Development:
International perspectives

Associated Node: Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca

Paper Series: Public Policy Paper Series

Academic Researchers: Crystal Tremblay (CSEHub)

Date of Completion: September 2009

Deliverables: Published paper

Abstract:

Concepts and frameworks for the Social Economy have been the subject of increasing attention for academic analysis, public policy by governments, and collaborative action by civil society movements, both in Canada and internationally. The growing attention to the concept of the Social Economy (SE) is indicative of efforts to address inter-related social, economic and environmental issues affecting the sustainable development of people, communities, and nations, and the inter-dependent nature of global human development. Despite the increasing application of this concept and initiatives related to it there are limited syntheses that provide a comparative picture of the evolving state of public policy internationally. This review highlights international public policies (from academic and practitioner sources) that use the Social Economy as a framework to enhance socio-economic and environmental conditions.

The review aims to capture information on ways governments are creating new policy instruments that strengthens the Social Economy in response to challenges such as poverty, social exclusion, income inequality, urban decline, unemployment, environmental and ecological degradation, and community sustainability. This review is prepared for the Canadian Social Economy Hub (CSEHub), a five-year community university research alliance on the Social Economy funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). The findings of this review point to categories and examples of policy and program instruments used by governments and civil society in various jurisdictions internationally that may be relevant to achieving similar socio-economic development outcomes in the Canadian environment.



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title: Public Policy Trends and Instruments Supporting the Social Economy:
International experiences

Associated Node: Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca

Paper Series: Public Policy Paper Series

Academic Researchers: Crystal Tremblay (CSEHub)

Date of Completion: February 2010

Deliverables: Published paper

Abstract: This paper highlights public policy trends and instruments from around the world that use the Social Economy as a framework to enhance socio-economic development and environmental sustainability. It aims to capture information on ways governments are creating new policies and programs that strengthen the Social Economy in response to challenges such as: poverty, social exclusion, income inequality, urban decline, unemployment, environmental and ecological degradation, and community sustainability. The paper is structured into categories of policy typologies including: territorial development, sectoral, disadvantaged populations, and tools for development.

The policy scan also includes how public policies are advancing the socio-economic development of Indigenous communities. The second of a three part series for the public policy program, this paper is prepared for the Canadian Social Economy Hub (CSEHub), a five-year community-university research alliance on the Social Economy funded by the Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). The findings of this paper point to examples of policy and program instruments used by governments in various jurisdictions internationally that may be relevant to achieving similar socio-economic development outcomes in the Canadian environment.



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Project Title: Public Policy for the Social Economy: Building a people-centred economy in Canada

Associated Node: Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca

Paper Series: Public Policy Paper Series

Academic Researchers: Sarah Amyot, Rupert Downing, and Crystal Tremblay (CSEHub)

Date of Completion: June 2010

Deliverables: Published paper

Abstract: This paper proposes future directions to strengthen the public policy environment for the Social Economy as a key agenda to building a more people-centred economy in Canada. It highlights the public policy findings of research by the Canadian Social Economy Hub and Research Partnerships and suggests the significant recent trends in public policy by governments at all levels to invest in the Social Economy as a means to address social, economic and environmental issues. Specific analysis is provided on key issues in the public policy environment for the SE in Canada, and in its potential contribution to social, economic and environmental outcomes. Examples of public policy are provided that contribute to an enabling environment for the SE by all levels of government, and cross cutting themes in the policy development process are identified based on key informant interviews.

Finally, the paper suggests some key lessons for actors in the Social Economy (co-operatives, social movements, community non profit organizations, credit unions and others) on how they can work to co-construct a common policy agenda based on their shared values and objectives. Based on this analysis, proposals are provided to strengthen the public policy environment for the SE in Canada for it to contribute to a more people-centred economy in Canada.



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title: Governance and Movement-building for the Social Economy in Canada

Associated Node: Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca

Paper Series: Knowledge Mobilization Paper Series

Academic Researchers: Rupert Downing and Alexandre Charron (CSEHub and CCEDNet)

Date of Completion: May 2010

Deliverables: Published paper

Abstract: This paper outlines findings of the Canadian Social Economy Research Partnerships from 2006 to 2010 on emerging models of development and governance of the Social Economy (SE). It examines international, national and regional findings on the state and importance of building effective governance structures that unify the SE and enhance its capacity and outcomes. It reviews the comparative state of governance of the SE in Canada and the elements and functions of those structures that appear to have the most significant impacts. Finally, the paper proposes measures to strengthen the SE's governance to build on existing efforts and advance the SE as a movement for and contributor to Canada's socio-economic development and environmental sustainability.



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title:	Financing Social Economy Organizations
Associated Node:	Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca
Paper Series:	Knowledge Mobilization Paper Series
Academic Researchers:	George Karaphillis, Shannon School of Business at Cape Breton University Seth Asimakos, Saint John Community Loan Fund Stephen Moore, student in the MBA in CED program of CBU
Date of Completion:	May 2010
Deliverables:	Published paper
Abstract:	<p>The paper examines the challenges facing Social Economy Organizations (SEOs) that pursue external financing, on the basis of a recent Atlantic Canada research study. It reviews results of a comprehensive survey of the financing needs of organizations in the Social Economy and a survey of lending and investing practices of financial institutions and government agencies in the sector.</p> <p>The project includes a survey of both providers of financing and SEOs as users of financing. Past research has looked at programs available, the importance of the social economy to the Canadian economy, and theoretical attempts to prove that a financing gap exists. In our research, we have confirmed that there is a gap between demand and supply of finance in the social economy. The existence of this gap threatens the sustainability of the social economy and all levels of governments have a responsibility to enact policy that will help close the gap. The policy recommendations relating to legal structure, removing obstacles to start-ups, easing financing for expansion, and support capacity building are based on empirical analysis. The majority of these policies require legislative and tax changes; not grants.</p>



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title:	Laying the Foundation for Mutuels in Canada
Associated Node:	Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca
Paper Series:	Occasional Paper Series
Academic Researchers:	Ron Dueck, University of Victoria
Date of Completion:	May 2007
Deliverables:	Published paper
Abstract:	This paper is a response to the increasing talk of mutualism and mutuels amongst members of the social economy. It is an attempt to hammer out what exactly is meant when we refer to a mutual as opposed to mutualism. return on investment.



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title:	Becoming a Social Entrepreneur in Canada
Associated Node:	Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca
Paper Series:	Occasional Paper Series
Academic Researchers:	Jean-Marc Fontan, Julie Allard, Anaïs Bertrand-Dansereau et Julien Demers l'Université du Québec à Montréal
Date of Completion:	June 2008
Deliverables:	Published paper

Abstract:

Ce rapport de recherche a été réalisé pour le compte du Strategic Policy Research Directorate du ministère Human Resources and Social Development Canada¹ (HRSDC). L'objectif de la proposition de recherche visait à la fois la réalisation d'une recension de la littérature sur l'entrepreneuriat social et la conduite d'une enquête qualitative auprès d'entrepreneurs sociaux canadiens. La recherche se veut exploratoire de par les limites inhérentes au projet en fonction tant des ressources financières attribuées que des objectifs poursuivis ; eu égard tant à la complexité de refléter une situation relativement nouvelle dans les écrits académiques et non académiques qu'une situation très hétérogène de l'entrepreneuriat social à rendre compte auprès d'un petit nombre de répondants.

IN FRENCH AND ENGLISH



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title: Social Economy in the co-construction of public policy

Associated Node: Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca

Paper Series: Occasional Paper Series

Academic Researchers: Yves Vaillancourt, University of Québec in Montréal

Date of Completion: July 2008

Deliverables: Published paper

Abstract:

Dans ce paper, l'auteur s'intéresse à la contribution de l'économie sociale à la démocratisation de l'État et des politiques publiques, en mettant à contribution la distinction entre la coproduction et la coconstruction. Dans la première partie du paper, il clarifie le sens donné aux principaux concepts utilisés (État, société civile, marché, économie sociale et solidaire, politiques publiques etc.). Dans la deuxième, il approfondit le concept de coproduction des politiques publiques.

Ce concept a trait à la dimension organisationnelle des politiques. Il permet de problématiser la participation des acteurs de la société civile et du marché à la mise en oeuvre des services et des politiques d'intérêt public. Ensuite, dans la troisième partie, l'auteur se penche sur le concept de coconstruction qui a trait à la dimension institutionnelle des politiques publiques en mettant en lumière la participation des acteurs du marché et de la société civile à la définition de ces dernières. Tout en reconnaissant que la coconstruction des politiques publiques peut donner lieu à diverses configurations (néolibérales, corporatistes, démocratiques et solidaires), l'auteur montre sa préférence pour un modèle de configuration solidaire dans lequel l'État favorise des formes de gouvernance ouvertes à la participation d'acteurs sociaux du marché et de la société civile. La coconstruction qui retient l'attention est celle qui s'harmonise avec la recherche de l'intérêt général et fait de la place à la contribution de l'économie sociale.

Enfin, dans la quatrième partie, le cas concret de l'évolution des politiques de logement social au Canada et au Québec au cours des vingt dernières années est examiné. Cet examen fait ressortir trois constats: 1) qu'il y a eu à la fois de la coproduction et de la coconstruction dans les politiques publiques de logement social; 2) que les acteurs de l'économie sociale, notamment les coopératives et les OSBL d'habitation, y ont participé activement; 3) que cette participation de l'économie sociale a favorisé l'émergence de multiples innovations sociales qui ont



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contribué à l'amélioration et à la démocratisation des politiques publiques dans ce domaine de politiques sociales et publiques.

ENGLISH AND FRENCH



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title:	Social economy, social policy and federalism in Canada
Associated Node:	Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca
Paper Series:	Occasional Paper Series
Academic Researchers:	Yves Vaillancourt and Luc Thériault, University of Québec in Montréal
Date of Completion:	July 2008
Deliverables:	Published paper

Abstract:

In this paper, our aim is to examine the links woven in Canada over the past 10 years or so among the social economy, changing social policy and Canadian federalism. First, we point to two traditions of research on the third sector in the international literature, one emphasizing non profit organizations, the other the social economy. Then we analyse trends in these two research traditions within Canada over the past 10 years. This leads us to note that, until 2003, practice and research on the third sector associated with the social economy were well-rooted in Quebec, while practice and research associated with the non-profit sector were established in the Rest of Canada; but we emphasise the fact that this segmentation tended to blur in 2004 and early 2006, insofar as both federal governments headed by Paul Martin took the concept of social economy into account and adopted policies which made room for its recognition and consolidation. Finally, in a third section, we look at the case of child-care services, which stood at the centre of an important debate on social policy reform involving the enhanced presence of the social economy and had repercussions on intergovernmental relations under the two Martin governments. We conclude by presenting some elements of critical analysis to explain why Paul Martin's national early learning and child care policy was not realized.



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Project Title:	Un profil du secteur des organismes caritatifs offrant des services à la personne au Nouveau-Brunswick
Associated Node:	Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca
Paper Series:	Occasional Paper Series
Academic Researchers:	Luc Thériault, Carmen Gill, Heather McTiernan (University of New Brunswick) Scott Bell (University of Saskatchewan)
Date of Completion:	August 2008
Deliverables:	Published paper
Abstract:	<p>In Canada, the parameters of service provision between the nonprofit sector and the state have shifted with the emergence of the post welfare era. While some recent national-level studies have contributed to our knowledge of this largely under-researched sector, less is known about these organizations at the regional and provincial levels. At this level, some basic questions about the nature and capacity of the sector must be answered before one can think about the proper role these agencies can or should play in the current mixed-economy of care. With New Brunswick as the study area, this research examines a specific sub-set of organizations engaged in the provision of services to individuals and populations in need: registered charitable organizations involved in human services (i.e., social services and non-hospital health services). The results are derived from a provincial survey of these organizations which explores key dimensions such as: activities, governance, accountability, location, financial resources, gender representation, and service delivery challenges. The initial results of a socio-geographic analysis of this data are also presented, which begin to provide a better understanding of the context and “landscape” of human service delivery in New Brunswick.</p>



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title: Housing For All: The Social Economy and Homelessness in Victoria

Associated Node: Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca

Paper Series: Occasional Paper Series

Academic Researchers: Benjamin Issit, University of Victoria

Date of Completion: October 2008

Deliverables: Published paper

Abstract: Solutions to homelessness in British Columbia's Capital Region already exist – in innovative and diverse social economy organizations that today house more than 7,000 Greater Victoria residents. This study illuminates the emergence of the region's homelessness crisis through personal stories, statistical data, and a broad interdisciplinary literature. It demonstrates how forward-looking action by non-profit societies and co-operatives, in partnership with supportive governments, has succeeded in providing reliable and safe non-market housing options for people in need.



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Social Economy Fact Sheet

Project Title: From Indigenous Nationhood to Neoliberal Aboriginal Economic Development: Charting the Evolution of Indigenous-Settler Relations in Canada

Associated Node: Canadian Social Economy Hub, www.socialeconomyhub.ca

Paper Series: Occasional Paper Series

Academic Researchers: Cliff Atleo, Jr.
University of Victoria Master of Arts Student in Indigenous Governance.

Date of Completion: Fall 2009

Deliverables: Published paper

Abstract:

While Indigenous people have struggled to overcome the legacy of colonialism in Canada, Settler governments have struggled with their own past, and ongoing role in the colonial project. What to do about the “Indian Problem” is a persistent question that remains unsatisfactorily answered. Early treaties between Indigenous peoples and Settlers invoked the spirit of the Two Row Wampum, and a respect for peaceful co-existence through noninterference. This spirit of noninterference remained constant in Indigenous rhetoric through till the latter half of the twentieth century. Since 1991, however, the discourse of Indigenous-Settler Relations has taken a dramatic shift away from respect for distinctiveness towards the language of neoliberalism. Evidence of this shift in discourse can be found in the reports of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, and the Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples. Recurring crises in Indigenous-Settler relations have often been followed by years of co-opting processes to the extent that certain Indigenous leaders are now increasingly acting upon and advocating for the neoliberal discourse. This paper is a warning to those who would wittingly or unwittingly choose the path of neoliberalism, forsaking their own unique Indigenous worldviews and values.

