





**QUEBEC INTERNATIONAL  
2012 SUMMIT  
OF COOPERATIVES**

QUEBEC CITY, CANADA  
OCTOBER 8 TO 11, 2012

**THE AMAZING  
POWER  
OF COOPERATIVES**

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Newsletter - March 28, 2012

## Latest news

### ▶ European Union should “focus on funding the real economy”



Euricse’s President, Carlo Borzaga, launched an appeal on behalf of a group of cooperative experts assembled in Venice for the international conference on cooperatives “Promoting the understanding of cooperatives for a better world,” held on March 15 and 16.

Mr. Borzaga, who will be one of the speakers at the 2012 Summit, is challenging the new rules the EU wants to impose on financial institutions to stimulate the economic recovery in Europe, because the costs involved will weigh much heavier on local and cooperative banks.

[Read on to find out more](#)

### ▶ Cooperative membership hits 1 billion worldwide



According to a new report by the Worldwatch Institute, the cooperative and mutualist movement now has more than one billion members in 96 countries.

The report also provides up-to-date statistics regarding the top seven cooperative business sectors, as well as annual revenues.

The report focuses on financial cooperatives in particular, which together represent the world’s second largest financial network.

[Read on to find out more](#)

### ▶ A new book on the philosophy of Alphonse Desjardins, founder of Desjardins Group



To mark the International Year of Cooperatives, Desjardins Group is launching a book containing some of the thoughts that fuelled its founder, Alphonse Desjardins.

Entitled Alphonse Desjardins: le pouvoir d’agir, this book is the work of Monique F. Leroux (in photo), President and CEO of Desjardins Group, one of the three co-hosts of the 2012 Summit.

[Read on to find out more](#)

### ▶ ICA World Co-operative Monitor launched



The International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) recently launched the ICA World Co-operative Monitor, a new global ranking system for cooperatives.

Cooperatives are invited to submit their data to Euricse, which is working with the ICA on this large-scale project.

[Read on to find out more](#)

## Program

### ▶ The Future Cooperative Leaders Program: preparing the next generation



Tomorrow’s leaders will be doing more than just attending the Summit: they’ll be getting a unique experience that will help prepare them for the day they take over the reins.

This is Stéphanie Guico’s mission as the Future Cooperative Leaders Program Manager. As someone who works in the cooperative world herself, Stéphanie promises the leaders of tomorrow that the Summit will give them the opportunity to build a lasting network of contacts that will serve them all their lives.



[Read on to find out more](#)



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## Our partners

### ► The Canadian and Quebec governments: our invaluable partners



The International Summit of Cooperatives is honoured to count on the support of the Canadian and Quebec governments, two of its most important partners.

“The support provided by these two levels of government is extremely significant, because it is a testament to the importance they attribute to the Canadian and international cooperative movement and their recognition of the effectiveness of this sustainable economic model,” said Stéphane Bertrand, Executive Director of the Summit.

[Read on to find out more](#)

## Explore Quebec

### ► Four guided tours to explore Quebec



When you register for the Summit and Imagine 2012, you can also sign up for four guided tours, to fully appreciate all that Quebec City and the surrounding area have to offer.

Read on for more information about the [4 guided tours](#).



**SIGN UP ►**

**for the Summit**

Need official invitation letter? [Click here](#) to complete informations form. Invitation will be sent shortly.

## Hosts of the 2012 Summit



### The 2012 International Summit of Cooperatives would like to thank its sponsors:

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