

IMPACT REPORT

2021 - 2022

ABOUT ACCA

ACCA is the representative voice of co-operative organizations in Alberta. Our members range in size from the fifth-largest municipal taxpayer in Calgary to investment cooperatives in small towns with big dreams. The ACCA team assists new and established co-operatives with business management advice, government relations support, promotion, legal services, and investment growth.



of
ACCA members



of co-operatives
in Alberta



in dividends were distributed
in members in 2020



Albertans belong to
one of more co-ops

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2021-22

Vicki Zinyk, Board Chair
Alberta Co-operative Energy

Sandra Thornton
EQUS REA Ltd.

Jared Blustein
Canadian Workers
Co-operative Federation

Jacob Middlekamp, Vice Chair
North Parkland Power REA

Earl Graham
Blue Mountain Power
Co-op

Dean McKim
North Central Co-op

Donna Smith
Federated Co-operatives Ltd.

Harvey Hagman
UFA Co-operative Ltd.

Chris Ross
The Co-operators Group Ltd.

Bart Willmore
Calgary Co-operative
Association

Stephen Cooper
Alberta Central

With MUCH gratitude...

The support of our members, project partners, and allies makes our work possible. This report is a celebration of the work we have done together. We want to recognize you for your commitment to the co-operative model, and for your ongoing support in making Alberta - and indeed Western Canada - into the most co-op-friendly jurisdiction in the world.

On behalf of the ACCA board and staff - thank YOU!

OUR MEMBERS



CALGARY CO-OP



Federated Co-operatives Limited



BOARD CHAIR REPORT



What an incredible year this has been... in my first year as the Chair of ACCA I have seen tremendous growth and positive change. Our organization has seen new members being added, grant opportunities being realized, networks and connections being made, and increased advocacy for member policy issues. I'm proud of the work we've done over the last twelve months, and look forward to what the future will bring.

When I reflect upon the last year, I am grateful for the increased collaboration with the BC Co-op Association. Through our collaboration with BCCA, we have identified ways we can support each other, accessed additional resources to address priorities, and identified many initiatives where we can continue to work together. Going forward we will continue to work to modernize the co-op model, leverage each others' strengths, and work arm-in-arm to make Western Canada the best place in the world for co-operatives to do business.

As a member service organization, ACCA members are at the heart of everything we do. It is a privilege to serve as Chair of this dynamic organization and work to shape and enhance the co-operative platform and foundation for you, our members.

Vicki Zinyk



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

When I reflect on the year that was, I am heartened at the progress we have made together. Particularly as we move ahead with our continued

collaboration with the BC Co-operative Association (BCCA) and embark on new and exciting projects that will enrich our members and grow the co-op community, realizing our vision of making Western Canada the best place on earth for co-op businesses.

In 2021 and 2022 we secured multi-year grants I believe could have a transformational effect on the sector. This new funding allows us to pursue new initiatives that will make investing in our local communities easier, assist new Canadians in starting co-operatives, and diversify our co-operatives' Boards and employees. I am humbled by and appreciate the trust in ACCA by a range of partner organizations and funders. Through these partnerships, we see a belief in its growing capacity to make a change in the lives of Albertans through the co-op model. The ACCA team is geographically dispersed throughout Alberta (and in BC!) and brings dedication and passion to their work. On behalf of the Board, myself, and our members - thank you! The last year has seen many changes, and I'm continually impressed by the team as they pivot to work toward the strategic goals identified by the Board.

Finally, I would like to thank the Board for their commitment and leadership, providing wise counsel when needed while enabling an environment of innovation that will benefit the sector as a whole.

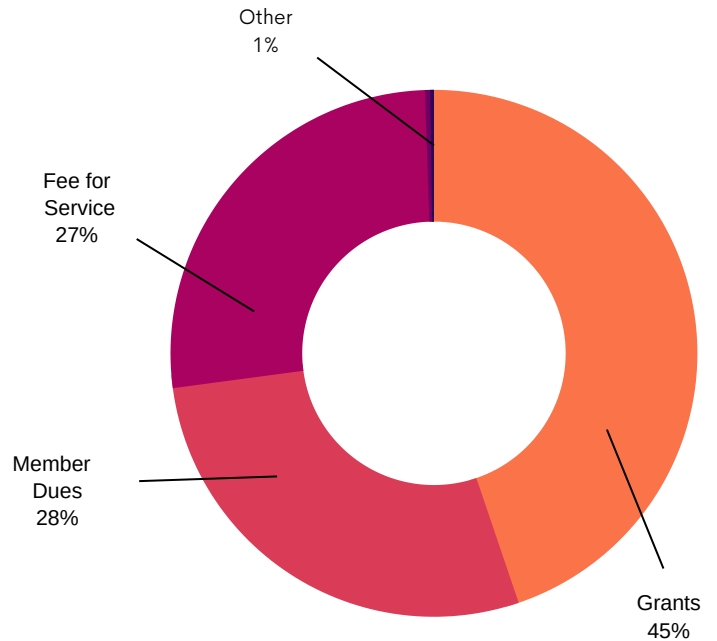
Paul Cabaj

2021-22 INCOME STATEMENT

Total Revenue - \$917,133

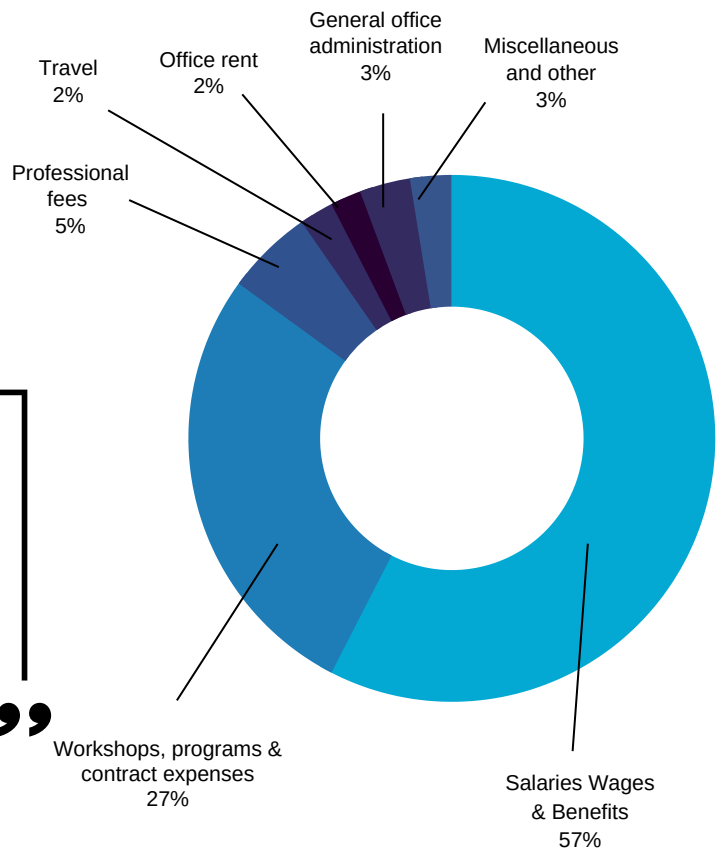
Grants *	\$408,828
Membership dues	\$255,575
Fee for service	\$242,193
Other	\$539

*Includes Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (\$132,697) Ministry of Community and Social Services (\$130,467), Western Economic Diversification (\$104,075) Alberta Rural Development Network (\$21,192) Government of Alberta COVID-19 relaunch (\$10,000), The Co-operators Insurance (\$5,671) and Canada Summer Jobs (\$4,724)



Total Expenses - \$902,544

Salaries, wages and benefits	\$518,012
Workshops, programs & contract	\$247,973
Professional fees	\$48,534
Office rent	\$18,711
Travel	\$17,469
General Office administration	\$28,422
Miscellaneous and other	\$23,423



“Since I joined ACCA in January 2021 the organization has experienced tremendous growth. I look forward to the year ahead as we increase member benefit, particularly through offering co-aligned fractional accounting services through ACCESS”



Naushad Vilani
Finance Coordinator

For complete details, please refer to the Financial Report.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

This year, ACCA has seen considerable growth in our Government Relations department, and momentum is building in several key areas.

Over the last twelve months, we launched a successful campaign to raise the awareness of co-operatives among our elected officials. Our team met with MLAs across Alberta from both parties with representatives in the Legislative Assembly to educate them on what a co-operative is, which co-operatives are in their riding, and which issues matter most to our members.

Developing an Advocacy Tool

After hearing about the success that a similar organization in the USA used to promote legislative change, we are developing an analogous contact tool that will allow our members to advocate easily and effectively for their issues with the single click of a button. This tool will allow mass e-mails to be sent to all levels of government with ease, something that was very successful south of the border to influence decisions.

MLA Reception brings Members and Decision Makers Together

In April, we held a well-attended MLA reception (the first in-person GR event in over two years!) which allowed members to advocate for themselves directly to our decision-makers. Our goal is to continue to create more opportunities for you and your co-operative to interact with your elected officials in various ways.

Looking ahead we have another MLA reception scheduled at The Gathering and are planning to attend both the UCP and NDP conventions. We're also working on our provincial budget submission, and are moving ahead to advocate on behalf of members on current policy initiatives.

“
“Our campaign to raise the awareness of co-operatives and ACCA with our elected officials here in Alberta has been extremely successful. We are now developing new engagement tools and polices to help make Alberta the friendliest place for co-operatives in Canada.”
”



Cole Kander
Manager of Government
& Stakeholder Relations



of Alberta elected officials who attended the MLA reception on April 19.



of meetings with provincial and municipal elected officials to advance GR priorities.



MLAs in the Alberta Legislature to engage



Contact tool in development to make it easier for members to influence decision makers

COMMUNICATIONS



This post from August 9, 2021 celebrates the investment in the Old School Cheesery by the Vermilion Community Development Co-operative, which was made possible by Peavey's generous matching grant. The post reached **32,791** people, resulted in 1,305 engagements, and was shared 31 times. A record!



From June - December, the ACCA Facebook page featured "Fun Fact Friday" - designed to share interesting facts about Alberta co-operatives with our audience.

459

of LinkedIn followers

1,142

of Facebook followers

645

of newsletter subscribers

1,808

of Twitter followers

“Between building and launching ACCESS, connecting with Alberta co-ops & nonprofit organizations, growing and managing our communications, and supporting the development of organizational structures, I think I landed my dream job! Thanks for the opportunity, encouragement, and ongoing support.”



Corinne Remple
Director of Shared Services and Communications

“In 2021, we laid the groundwork to better serve our members and advance the co-operative sector. I expect this work to start paying dividends in 2022 and beyond as we work to make Western Canada the best place on earth for co-operatives!”



John Vandenberg
Communications Coordinator

MEMBER SERVICES

"I live in co-op housing. I shop co-op. I support co-ops. Working on ACCESS with ACCA has provided the perfect opportunity to share what I value about the co-op model to my non-profit co-workers and Volunteer Alberta members and put it into practice."

**-Graeme Dearden
Volunteer Alberta and
ACCESS project partner**



of New ACCA members from Jan 2021 to Dec 2022

ACCESS
SHARED SERVICES COOP

OUR MEMBERS ONLY PAY FOR WHAT THEY USE. THERE ARE NO ADDITIONAL MEMBERSHIP FEES TO JOIN.

ACCA BCCOOP écône coop VOLUNTEER ALBERTA

ACCESS
ACCESS blends with your team, reducing organizational pressures, filling service gaps and providing essential administrative back-office support for co-ops and social enterprises in BC and Alberta.

Changing how co-ops and nonprofits do business!

NOW AVAILABLE: MANAGED IT • LEGAL • BOOKKEEPING

Offering a collective of co-aligned professionals who blend with your team...

WORK TOGETHER. SMARTER.

...providing the perfect amount of support your co-op, social enterprises need to succeed.

ACCESS
SHARED SERVICES

CONTACT US ACCESS@SHAREDSERVICES.COOP - SHAREDSERVICES.COOP *Alberta*

MAXIMIZING MEMBER BENEFITS

Programs and services are key to our operations. ACCA's skilled team works with co-op members and an extensive network of co-op sector professionals to deliver exclusive, high-quality programs and services not available anywhere else.

SUPPORT

Faced with a challenge? Receive direction, support and connection through unified and co-op-aligned services and professionals.

KNOWLEDGE

Despite recent changes in how we connect, the ultimate goal stays the same: to provide opportunities for our members to exchange knowledge & share solutions.

ADVOCACY

Active representation of co-op priorities as identified by our members to government & related organizations.

INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS-LIS

Integrating financial support and mentorship for start-ups, expansion, and succession. Building alternative community-based funding sources.

VISIBILITY

Increase market awareness of your co-op's products and services across BCCA platforms. Leverage BCCA networks to help share your story - join us on FB, LI and TW.

NETWORKS

Join a community of like-minded, experienced co-op owners, including some of Canada's largest co-ops and credit unions, to share ideas and get advice.

SHARED SERVICES-ACCESS

Offering a collective of co-op-aligned professionals who blend with your team; providing the perfect amount of support you need to succeed.

acca.coop

MEMBER SURVEY

You may recall the 2022 Member Survey arriving in your email earlier this year.

We will use the info to:

- create conversation,
- better understand member's needs
- ID gaps in our service model

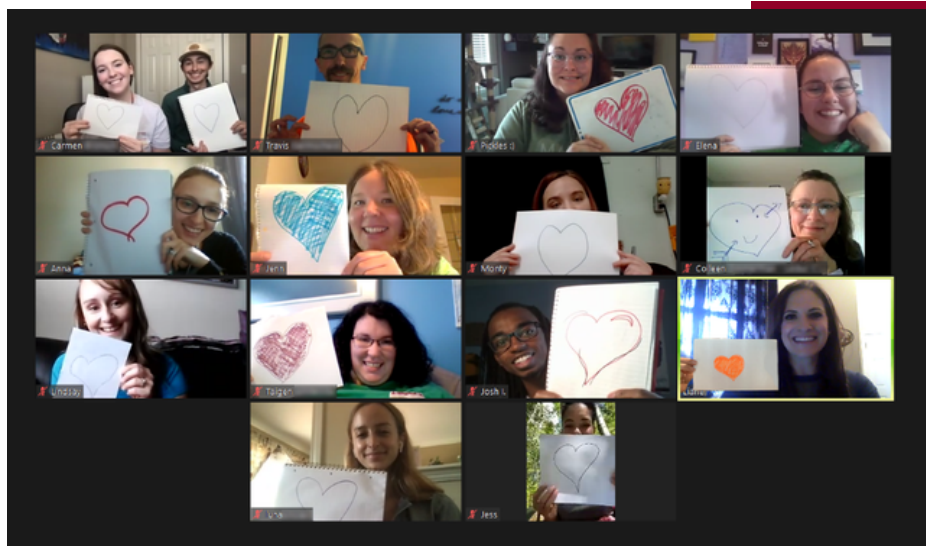
With plans to build a new website for ACCA, the plotting of our members' journey and identification of needs will prove beneficial for the sitemap's development. The survey has also helped identify gaps and pressure points in our staffing model.

Thank you for taking the time to respond and share your insight.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

ACCA's Co-operative Youth Leadership Program (YLP) provides an opportunity for young people aged 11-18 to develop their leadership and teamwork skills, learn about co-operative values, and foster healthy relationships. The 7-day programs take place at the Goldeye Centre, located near Nordegg. The beautiful, remote setting provides the perfect environment for youth to build friendships, discover talents, learn new skills, gain a positive view of the world, and contribute to their future.

There was no Youth Program again in 2021 due to the ongoing pandemic, but that doesn't mean that things were static! The curriculum was revised and updated, a successful online event for volunteers was held in June 2021, and former (and future!) participants were kept engaged on social media. All to prepare for an epic re-launch in 2022!



YLP volunteers at online engagement event, June, 2021

THE YLP MATTERS!

"I was a bit apprehensive heading into the event after so many virtual happy hours and virtual connects, but I was totally wrong! It was such a bright spot during the year, I felt the energy of the program, fellow volunteers, and facilitators for weeks afterward! It was exciting to come back and feel that energy and pass it along to youth in person again."

Carmen Bronsch - aka San Diego

“ *"2021 was another relatively quiet year for the youth program, however lots of curriculum & program updates were completed. A successful online event for our volunteer staff was held in June 2021, Engagement on social media was still consistent and the hope of a successful 2022 program is on the horizon!"* **”**



Liane Courchesne-Dingman
Youth Program Coordinator

"During my involvement in the ACCA virtual event, I realized that our group is full of magic! I instantly made connections and learned that our time together is valuable for my mental health and personal growth. My experience working within the ACCA community has been life changing! Liane goes above and beyond to keep us feeling special and loved. "

- Darianne Duffield - aka Pickles

"Although nothing can replace being at the program with everyone in person, being able to reconnect with this community in a small way was a hopeful reminder of the future ahead. Even just being able to engage with many of us who have been a part of this program for a few (or many!) years was a comforting reminder that we are a part of something bigger. It was motivation to keep the fire burning for the participants - past, present, and future."

-Jessica Bonde



"As the world has changed and evolved so much since early 2020, it is reassuring to know that the leadership program remains a priority of ACCA. The world needs to connect as a community now more than ever, especially within our youth. I am excited to be returning as a volunteer this summer and look forward to many more camps in the future."

- Colleen Zimmerman - aka Bunz

PATHS FOR HOUSING CO-OP'S RESOURCES

In September, we launched the "Paths for Housing Co-op's suite of resources - the Guidebook, a Research Report, and a calculator tool. These tools were collaboratively developed with the Rural Development Network and the Northern Alberta Co-operative Housing Association.

The Guidebook, Research Report, and calculator tool will help to:

- Select your housing co-op type
- Understand relevant themes for housing co-ops
- Select strategies to implement the themes
- Understand and select a financial strategy

Tools for Action

Combined, these resources can help develop and operate successful multiunit co-op housing by providing details on what themes are required for an effective co-op, strategies to implement them, and financial strategies to meet the financial goals of housing co-ops.



EXIT TO COMMUNITY GUIDE

Our Exit to Community Guide is aimed at professionals who work with small businesses, and small business owners to understand how local options, co-ops primarily, provide excellent succession planning outcomes for owners, workers, and communities.

“When I look back on the year that was, I think of starting co-ops in Jasper, creating resources to support new co-operatives (like the "Exit to Community" Guide), facilitating a workshop series in Pincher Creek, and launching a multi-year project to provide local investment solutions in BC and Alberta.”



Seth Leon
Director of
Co-op Development



THE 50-30 CHALLENGE



WE'RE IN!



The 50 – 30 Challenge aims to advance gender parity and increase the representation of equity-deserving groups on boards and in senior leadership roles across Canada.

JOIN US: More than 1,400 Canadian organizations of all sizes and sectors currently support the challenge. BCCA and ACCA have joined and are working with the Women's Economic Council to engage, support, and share resources with co-operatives to pilot new practices.

FIND OUT MORE - INNOVATE@BCCA.COOP



Innovation, Science and
Economic Development Canada



IN OUR HANDS: IOH

In January, we were pleased to be selected as a recipient of the World Education Services Mariam Assefa grant to develop In Our Hands: a new 'co-opreneurship' program for newcomers to Canada.

IOH is a partnership between the ACCA, BCCA, Rural Development Network, and Women's Economic Council. The project's initial phase will see us develop and publish co-operative educational and business development resources in an accessible online video format in multiple languages and conduct in-person and online education and engagement sessions with interested cohorts of newcomer entrepreneurs. Business mentors, developers, and service/support organizations will be engaged to serve as a support network for emerging newcomer co-operative.

IOH received funding for the initial two-year development phase 2022-2024, which will include:

- Design, development, translation, and publishing of co-operative educational and business development resources in an accessible online video format in multiple languages
- In-person and online education and engagement sessions with interested cohorts of newcomer entrepreneurs
- Engagement of mentors, business developers, and business service/support organizations to serve as a support network for emerging newcomer co-operatives
- Design and development of online social networking, collaboration, information, and service platform for emerging newcomer co-operatives

"This has been a very exciting year! My work has been focused on sowing seeds and cultivating the early stages of several strategic projects such as the In Our Hands Program, the CIU, and the Alliance for Data Co-operation on both sides of the Rockies."

Iva Jankovic
Research & Education
Partnerships Manager
(BCCA)



CO-OP CHAMPIONS

The Co-op Champions program provides resources, training and network support for co-operative enthusiasts delivering co-op educational programming in community-based learning spaces.

Co-op Champions are educators, co-op practitioners, students, academics, business leaders, community organizers and anyone else who is passionate about co-ops and has a relationship with a community that could benefit from learning about co-operatives. Co-op Champions help us reach a wider audience with our co-operative education program and plant seeds today for a stronger movement tomorrow.

LOCAL INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS



Green jobs, supply chains that work for local produces, and succession planning solutions for owners and communities are the economic impacts ACCA is working towards as part of their new Local Investment Solutions (LIS) initiative, thanks to a Federal investment through PrairiesCan of more than \$1.1 million.



This work is also made possible by project partners, including Peavy Industries, Servus Credit Union, Vancity, and the Canadian Community Economic Development Network. We're also excited to be working with VillageWellth on the project, who we have brought in to provide social acquisition solutions.



By sharing costs across a network of private investors and using a streamlined, cost-effective platform, we will increase investment attraction and opportunity analysis. This project also integrates support for start-ups, expansion, and succession of local businesses. By localizing capital solutions, we hope to ensure the long-term success of local businesses in Western Canada.



"Village Wellth is grateful to have been invited to contribute to making social investing accessible in Western Canada through the Local Investment Solutions initiative. It is exciting to see the interest for this alternative financing vehicle igniting in local communities where real impact can take shape."

**- Liz MacRae, Co-Founder
VillageWellth**

"Peavy Industries is rooted in our communities and continuously seeks to further strengthen our connection with our valued customers. The economic well-being and development of the communities that we operate in are extremely important to us, which is why I am excited to announce a new initiative that Peavey Industries is undertaking to act as an incubator for kickstarting community development and keeping communities vibrant. For these first projects, we have partnered with the ACCA to help bring our vision to life".

**Doug Anderson, President and CEO
Peavey Industries**



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