

# Conference Sessions

## Friday, October 22, 2010

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	<b>Opening plenary</b> <b>1A</b> Aligning our sector's priorities
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<b>Plenary</b> <b>2A</b> What's in your future? Promoting 2020 Vision
12:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	<b>Lunch / Guest Speaker</b>
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	<b>Plenary</b> <b>3A</b> Sizing up our sector
3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	<b>Plenary</b> <b>4A</b> Key strategic messages in our relationship with governments

## Saturday, October 23, 2010

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	<b>Plenary</b> <b>5A</b> Developing refinancing capacity for member co-ops
10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	<b>Panels and discussion groups</b> <b>6A</b> Encouraging discussions of scale for co-ops <b>6B</b> Towards a common leadership renewal strategy
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
1:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	<b>Panels and discussion groups</b> <b>7A</b> Creating a core education program <b>7B</b> Experts needed: effective delivery of specialized services
3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	<b>Panels and discussion groups</b> <b>8A</b> Improving our green capacity <b>8B</b> Buying big
4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	<b>Closing plenary</b> <b>9A</b> Building a common strategy for federations

## Friday, October 22, 2010

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

### **1A Opening plenary: Aligning our sector's priorities**

*Plenary - full group / translated*

It is clear that there is a strong alignment between co-op housing federations about the movement's key strategic goals, but coming together to identify sector-wide strategic priorities is new ground. We'll open the conference with a review of the process that led to the creation of the proposed strategic priorities, followed by an outline and explanation of the priorities in order to frame the conference agenda.

*Moderators: Thom Armstrong, Mark Paul*

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### **2A What's in your future? Promoting 2020 Vision**

*Plenary - full group / translated*

Changes are under way for the 2020 Vision project - there is a new website, new video, new tag line and more thought being put into how more co-ops can work through the challenges of becoming a 2020 Co-op. The findings from this past spring's focus groups, surveys and delegates meetings will be reviewed as part of the discussion. Come and discuss how the federations can continue to work together to advance the program, using the elements in the 2020 Vision Toolbox.

*Presenters: Diana Devlin, Nicholas Gazzard*

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

### **3A Sizing up our sector**

*Plenary - full group / translated*

If we are to engage member co-ops in the discussion of scale, federations should show leadership and look seriously into the question of scale at the sector level. This is the start of an ongoing discussion of the opportunities open to federations in all regions for harnessing the benefits of scale. Depending on regional circumstances, there are opportunities to be explored, from the development of partnerships to full merger agreements.

*Moderator: Dale Reagan  
Presenters: Tom Clement, Kerry Panter,  
Jocelyne Rouleau*

3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

### **4A Key strategic messages in our relationship with governments**

*Plenary - full group / translated*

At this session, we will discuss common approaches to governments aimed at leveraging our success in some jurisdictions toward new partnerships – so that low-income members can continue to be housed affordably everywhere in Canada, and so that the funding already on the table for housing development can be targeted toward housing co-ops.

Saturday, October 23, 2010

*Moderator: Nick Sidor*

**Saturday October 23, 2010**


---

 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
 

---

**5A Developing refinancing capacity for member co-ops***Plenary - full group/ translated*

More and more, housing co-ops are recognizing that financial reinvestment will be essential for renovating and redeveloping their properties for the next generation of co-op members. We will look at how we can start to assist in the development of a sector lending instrument that will provide co-ops with ease of access to loans for co-op renewal.

*Moderator: Nicholas Gazzard*


---

 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
 

---

**6A Continuing the dialogue: encouraging the discussion of scale at the co-op level***Discussion group - breakout / translated*

The federations first began to discuss the question of scale in the sector in 2008. Since then, a growing - though far from universal - consensus has developed. In order to continue this dialogue with our members we need to meet our members where they are. We'll look at how we can integrate the topic into education programs, members' meetings and special events, and also identify co-ops that would be willing to look into a merger opportunity or pursue robust operational partnering as pilot projects.

*Moderator: Karen Brodeur  
Presenters: Hélène Jacques,  
Gerard Warnaar*

---

 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
 

---

**6B Towards a common leadership renewal strategy***Discussion group - breakout/English*

A significant proportion of the current leadership of the movement has been in place for 20-30 years. While specific succession planning is not always possible or even appropriate, a pool of younger leaders that reflects the makeup of our movement must be developed and nurtured. We'll discuss the development of a common strategy that will draw out younger co-op members with leadership potential and open the way for them to put their names forward for governance positions and professional management opportunities.

*Moderator: Karla Skoutajan  
Presenters: Tom Clement,  
CHFT representatives*

---

 1:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
 

---

**7A Creating a core education program***Discussion group - breakout/ translated*

Much of what lies at the base of the educational requirements of housing co-ops is nationally applicable and can be harmonized, thereby increasing efficiency of program delivery, reducing duplication and enhancing common messaging. Come discuss how federations can work together to deliver standardized core education programming that will reflect the 2020 Vision program and be consistent with the aims of the sector while addressing training needs of individual regions.

*Presenters: Kerry Panter,  
Rebecca Richardson*

---

 1:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
 

---

**7B Experts needed: effective delivery of specialized services***Discussion group - breakout/English*

Increasingly, member co-ops will need the services of analysts, planners and others with specialized areas of expertise. Few federations can afford to purchase full-time services of this kind. But federations acting together, whether nationally or regionally may be capable of buying these services jointly, especially as the geographical location of these services is not particularly important. We'll examine the possibility of sharing of staff or contractors for several specialized services and consider whether the time is right for human resource-sharing at the sector level.

*Moderator: David Spackman  
Presenter: Olga Tasci*

---

 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
 

---

**8A Improving our green capacity***Discussion group - breakout /translated*

Member co-ops have told us for some time that they would like to pursue the twin objectives of greater sustainability and improving energy efficiency. Aside from retrofits under the stimulus programs and project regeneration under workouts, the take-up has been limited. And yet there have been loan programs available for energy retrofit, with payback coming from downstream energy savings. Join in a discussion about how we can share thinking on these issues and pool information on regional programs to create a common and effective strategy to better serve our members.

*Moderator: Diana Devlin*


---

 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
 

---

**8B Buying big***Discussion group - breakout/English*

What is the potential for buying on a national scale? The federations' history with group buying dates back over 20 years, with the introduction of the group purchasing of banking services through CHIP programs. Since then federations have expanded into many other areas of procurement on behalf of their members and a successful CHFT-developed program is now serving all of Ontario and other regions of the country. What has not been tested, outside of group insurance programs, is the opportunity to offer member co-ops the benefit of a national purchasing power. We'll investigate first steps to introduce more economies of scale to our buying initiatives.

*Presenters: Tom Armstrong, Tom Clement*


---

 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
 

---

**9A Closing Plenary***Plenary - full group / translated*

It is proposed that once finalized, the regional federations and CHF Canada adopt and pursue the common strategic priorities over the 2011-2012 calendar years. After two days of discussion and refinement of the proposed strategic priorities by federations, we'll close the conference by identifying next steps in order to successfully reach these goals and timelines.

*Moderator: Wes Hosler*