

I ♥ Co-ops!!!

Do You???

I HEART

CO-OPS

October 2009

Volume 4, Issue 2

The 7th SCYP E-Zine!

The Environment Issue!

Greetings and salutations!

Happy Co-op Week! We here at the SCYP office hope that you take some time to celebrate this annual event that pays tribute to the huge contributions co-ops and credit unions make here at home and around the world.

In this seventh edition of the SCYP E-Zine we wanted to take this opportunity to build on the 2009 Co-op Week theme of *Co-operatives are: putting people first, creating sustainable jobs, and investing in communities*. In this edition we have compiled stories, profiles, and ideas from people and co-operative organizations that are passionate about their communities, future and environment; they are people and organizations that are thinking outside the box and who are creating real solutions and change. Check out the profile of the Regina Car Share Co-op who are the first in Saskatchewan to organize a new model for car ownership and Bryan Tudor, also known as Captain Co-op!

It is our goal to help you find ways to celebrate your environment! We hope that something in this issue sparks your interest, gets you thinking, and motivates you to get involved (like celebrating Co-op Week wherever you are!)

As always,

**We hope you enjoy
this issue of the
I Heart Co-ops E-Zine!**



Please pass this E-Zine along to people you know and also tell them about SCYP, so that we can spread the word about the greatness of co-ops!



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Did you know!!

In Saskatchewan, there are close to 1,200 co-operatives and credit unions with over a million memberships. These co-operatives and credit unions also employ over 15,000 employees!

GREATEST PHOTOS IN THE CO-OP UNIVERSE!



Participants from Senior Grad (left) and Grad (right) strike a pose for their seminar sponsors!



SCYP-ers in Action!!





Where are you based?

Regina, Saskatchewan

When was your co-operative established?

October 8, 2008

How many people work at the Regina Car Share Co-op?

We've had three different contractors throughout our short history, and plan to hire one part time employee soon, to help co-ordinate our day to day operations once we have a car fleet in service.

What is the Regina Car Share Co-op?

The Regina Car Share Co-operative provides a convenient and affordable alternative to owning a car. Carsharing gives you access to vehicles when you need them, without the responsibilities that ownership can bring.

The self-serve online booking system gives members access to our fleet 24 hours a day. Just log on, book a car and drive. Our affordable usage fees include insurance, the maintenance, and even the gas!

Best of all, carsharing is great for the environment! In over 600 cities around the world it is already reducing emissions and the need for so many cars.

Who are your members?

Members are any good driver over 18, who is approved by the board, and who has paid the membership share, and application fee. They each can book our vehicles, and drive them on a pay-per-use basis.

How are young people involved in Regina Car Share Co-op?



We may be the first car share organization in Canada to allow 18 year old drivers a chance to join the car share. Our government insurance system does not have an age bias to those under 25 years of age, like in most Canadian provinces. Most of our directors are in their 20s, and 30s.

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~
The Regina Car Share Co-op provides a convenient and affordable alternative to owning a car.
~



The CUMIS Group Limited

SCA is fortunate to have a number of great member organizations. These members directly and indirectly support the Co-operative Youth Program Seminars. In this issue, we profile The CUMIS Group Ltd.

Name of Organization: The CUMIS Group Limited

Is your organization a co-operative? No. The CUMIS Group Limited is a supplier to and strategic partner within the co-operative system.

Where are you based? Burlington, Ontario

What communities do you work in? The CUMIS Group Limited has offices located in the following areas:

- Head Office: Burlington, ON
- Edmonton, AB
- Halifax, NS
- Burnaby, BC
- Kelowna, BC
- Winnipeg, MB
- Regina, SK



CUMIS employees and local dignitaries gather for the singing of 'O Canada' at the CUMIS head office in Burlington, Ontario

When was your organization established? CUMIS' roots in Canada date back to 1937 with the signing of CUNA Mutual Insurance Society's first Canadian loan protection contract, which was for Dalhousie Industrial Credit Union in New Brunswick. While the organization's corporate names and structures have changed and products and services have evolved since then, its founding vision of serving financial co-operatives has remained the same.

How many people work at your organization? Approximately 365

What does your organization do? The CUMIS Group Limited (CUMIS) partners with credit unions to deliver competitive insurance and financial solutions. In doing so, it creates financial security and promotes the growth and success of the credit union system in Canada. Its principal companies are CUMIS Life Insurance Company and CUMIS General Insurance Company. CUMIS also has a 50 per cent interest in CUIS Brokerage Services Limited and Credential Financial Inc.

(Continued on page 17)

What is your act of Green?

Everyone seems to be talking about the environment these days but enough talk; it is time for action! Here are a list of actions that you can do to help make the earth a little bit greener and reduce your carbon impact.

Reduce

The amount of stuff you use! After you have reduced then you can re-use and recycle.

Replace your Bulbs

Switching your incandescent bulbs to high efficiency compact fluorescents use up to 75 per cent less electricity than old school bulbs. They also last up to 10 times longer!

Recycle Old Cell Phones and Electronics

When cell phones and electronics are not recycled they end up in the local landfills. These electronics contain seriously toxic materials like lead, mercury and cadmium which will eventually be leached into water sources if not properly taken care of and no one wants that!

Plant a Tree

It is fun! Also, trees absorb carbon dioxide and release oxygen. This helps offset the damage done by greenhouse gas emissions.



Recycle

I know you are probably already doing this with your cans, bottles and paper but there is always way to step it up!

How about starting to...

Compost

Composting is a great way to reduce the amount of material that you throw out. Nature's way of recycling done right in your own back yard!

Replace Plastic Bags With Reusable Bags

Plastic bags make the otters sad. Otters and other sea creatures eat plastic bags they think are food which can lead to death. Plastic bags also breakdown into toxic substances in the water, air and on land. If you have bags kickin' around here is a website with lots of crafty ideas for reuse http://blog.craftzine.com/archive/2007/08/plastic_bag_crafts.html.

Do Laundry in Cold Water

Install a Programmable Thermostat

Don't worry about having to remember to turn the heat down during the day or at night this handy dandy thermostat will do it for you. It will also raise the temperature before you get up in the morning or before you get home! This simple change will reduce energy consumption and costs.

Most of the energy used in washing is used to heat the water. You can save big on energy and \$\$ by only using cold water.

What is your act of green...

Join a Car Coop

You won't need to worry about the hassles of car ownership, and there is a Car Share Co-op in Regina! For more info check out page 4. If there is not one in your area, consider starting one or in the meantime carpool.

Pack a Litterless

Lunch

Challenge yourself to pack your lunch where nothing needs to be thrown away. Scratch those take out containers and plastic wrap and try using reusable containers instead!

Give Gift Alternatives

Avoid the excess packaging that often comes with gifts especially around holiday times. Here are some ideas to get you started <http://www.buynothingchristmas.org/alternatives/index.html>

Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth

Seriously, you are not using that water any ways, so why not take the opportunity to conserve that H₂O.

Eat a Vegetarian Meal Today

It takes much more resources to raise an animal than it does to grow vegetable. Try and keep all foods local so that they are not emitting CO₂ while travelling long distances by truck.

Challenge your Friends . . .

to a green off! See who can great up their lifestyle the most! Need some inspiration?

Organize a Movie Night

and show the film an "Inconvenient Truth". This documentary featuring Al Gore talks about climate change and what we can do to take action!

Don't Idle

Idling your car is so 1995! If you are stopped or parked for more than 10 seconds turn off the engine. It will save gas and help the environment too!

Use reusable cups or bottles

Avoid sending more plastic bottles and paper/styrofoam cups that are filling up landfill. These products have toxic chemicals in them and take many many years to break down..

Adapted from One Million Acts of Green, <http://green.cbc.ca/ActsList.aspx>.

(continued from page 4)

Why was Regina Car Share Co-op developed?

Our co-op was developed to give people an alternative to personal automobile ownership, that is more fun, and less hassle than owning your own car. It will save members money, save parking spaces for other uses, and reduce pollution to help combat climate change.

What do you find inspiring in your work?

It's inspiring to see how successful similar car shares are across Canada, and that we're helping to bring this modern and important service to Regina. It is also inspiring to assist people in other cities to get started with their own organizations.

What, if any, barriers or major hurdles have you experienced in setting up Regina Car Share Co-op? How have you addressed these challenges?

We faced the difficulty of forming the first co-op of its kind in the province of Saskatchewan. There was no other organization's bylaws to work from here that shared cars, we used input from other provinces' car share organizations. This led to an extended incorporation process, as our bylaws were rejected again and again to have different changes made to them so they would be considered acceptable according to the Corporations Branch of the provincial government who oversees the Co-operatives Act. We persisted, and eventually our reworked bylaws were accepted.

We've also faced adversity in finding sponsorship and funding that would pay for capital such as our initial vehicle fleet, like other car shares in other cities have had handed to them. We're currently working on overcoming this challenge now, possibly through a loan.

What do you envision for Regina Car Share Co-op five years from now?

We'd like to see a self-sustaining business that has several vehicles in its fleet, so it's very convenient for members to book a vehicle of a type they need, at any given time.

What has been the best part of your experience with Regina Car Share Co-op so far?

Meeting so many other people committed to serving their community in a volunteer role for a good cause, it's inspiring.

How can people find out more about your co-operative?

Our website is www.reginacarshare.ca and people are free to email us questions through the contact form there, or subscribe to our online newsletter.☺



UPCOMING EVENTS AND GROOVY THINGS TO DO!

Guy Laliberte (founder of Cirque de Soleil) is currently in space! He created Poetic Social Mission to inform people about water-related issues on earth. YOU CAN PARTICAPTE!! By adding your drop to the flow of droplets. His message and what you can do is found at ONE DROP. Check out his dream of "Water for all, all for water" at <http://www.onedrop.org/en/drop-experience.aspx>



This book from the founders of ME TO WE and Free The Children, Marc and Craig Kielburger is a hands-on guide to active citizenship packed with the tools young people need to make a difference.

This exciting, picture-packed book features the 7 Steps to Social Involvement, 101 Fundraising Ideas and sections on working with the media, action planning, public speaking and rallying others to join the cause. Order the book from the library or purchase it at <http://www.metowe.com/shop/?books>

Roots & Shoots Canada is looking for member for their Youth Leadership Council (YLC)! If you are interested in delivering presentations to raise awareness about conservation, volunteering at events, becoming a Roots & Shoots ambassadors, and build friendships and leadership skills at the annual retreat. Visit the website at <http://www.janegoodall.ca/roots-shoots-youth.php> for details and to apply. Registration closes Friday, November 20, 2009.



Participate in trying to break a Guinness World record for the largest co-ordinated gathering of people by organizing a STAND UP event to end global poverty. What is a STAND UP event? It is a gathering of people who agree to stand up and read the Stand Up Pledge. Those who stand up are then counted and the number is submitted online. To see the Pledge and get ideas for your event go to www.standagainstpoverity.org

(Continued page 11)

SCYP ALUMNI AN INTERVIEW WITH BRYAN TUDOR

YOU MAY KNOW HIM AS CAPTAIN CO-OP!



Bryan Tudor exploring Colorado!

Name?

Bryan Tudor

What do you do for work?

I used to work for Saskatchewan Wheat Pool when it was a co-operative. Now I'm semi-retired and I work for the Saskatchewan Bed and Breakfast Association. And I volunteer with Prairie Lily Funeral Co-op.

What kinds of skills and knowledge do you use in the work that you do?

Communications, inter-personal relations, knowledge of how co-op democracy works in various co-ops and in different countries, and an understanding adult education and training.

How were you involved in SCYP?

I was a staff person and/or co-ordinator for about 8 or 10 seminars. After that, I promoted SCYP throughout the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool. and co-ordinated other staff people. Oh! and I was Captain Co-op! (I always enjoyed staff training!)

How did your involvement in SCYP influence you?

SCYP made me much more confident in myself and helped me to understand and accept myself just the way I am. It also added to my knowledge of co-operative practices in other types of co-op (e.g. retail co-ops, credit unions). I worked with some great people!

What influenced/led you to do the work that you are doing now?

My belief in the ability and the right of ordinary people collectively to manage their affairs and the belief that co-ops are better for society than multi-national corporations. I also like agriculture, rural life and being close to nature.

What do you find inspiring in your work?

The goodness of ordinary people.

What else inspires you?

People who have overcome difficulties of any kind, especially people who remain optimistic and up-beat while they are doing it. Also, people who worked for the good of others – like Tommy Douglas, Martin Luther King, Louise Arbour and *Aung San Suu Kyi*.

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

I spent some time with the Canadian Co-operative Association in Western China; on the Silk Road. I'd love to go again and to see the cities of the Silk Road in places like Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

"SCYP MADE ME MUCH MORE CONFIDENT IN MYSELF AND HELPED ME TO UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT MYSELF JUST THE WAY I AM. " - BRYAN TUDOR

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Favourite summer activity?

Music, travel, reading, walking.

Last book you read?

“The Poisonwood Bible” by Barbara Kingsolver.

Anything else you would like to tell us about yourself?

I have ten fingers and ten toes. I think co-op people are great and international development is really important. I like to sing and play the banjo (but not at the same time) and Out of Africa is one of the best movies ever.☺



Bryan enjoying an ice cream while in Cuba!

MORE UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES AND GROOVY THINGS TO DO!

Check out this profile of **NATURAL CYCLE WORKER CO-OP** on

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=majlJneQUX0>



WATCH TV! YOUNG AND FREE are at it again! They have started the **LIVING YOUNG AND FREE SHOW** where they are giving peeps tips, tricks and hacks to get the most out of their \$\$\$. Watch on line at <http://www.youngfreealberta.com/living-young-free-show/>



THE YOUTH ECO INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

are paid internship opportunities within the non-profit and community services sector in Canada with a focus on the environment, community and women's services. To apply or find out more visit: <http://www.yeip.ca/home.aspx>

CO-OPS ACT! TOGETHER TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Cooperatives Europe, has launched ACT! –

ADDRESSING THE CLIMATE THREAT - Co-ops all over the world, including Canada, are invited to participate in its initiatives.

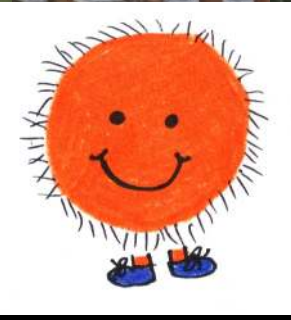
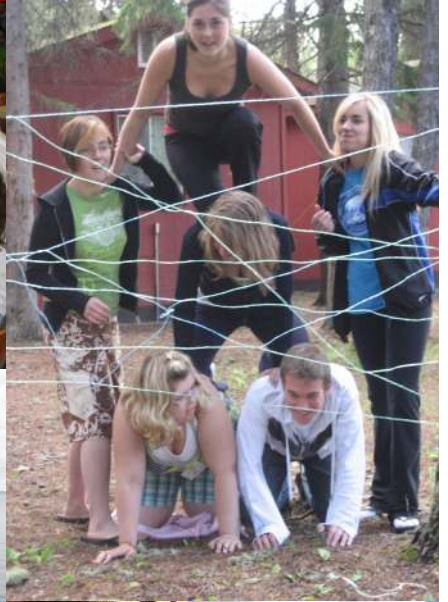
ACT! is focusing its efforts in three ways: to reduce carbon emissions from co-ops; to inform and motivate co-op workers and members to reduce their own carbon emissions; and to lobby politicians to adopt good policies and to do the right things to address the climate threat.

To learn more, and to sign an online petition on climate change action visit www.actonclimate.coop.

Source: The On Co-op e-newsletter Oct 9, 2009



SCYP-ers in Action Take 2!!



Top 10 Ways You Can Celebrate Co-op Week!

1. Take the How Co-operative Are You Quiz at <http://bcics.uvic.ca/youthzone/quiz/index.htm>.

2. Become a fan of SCYP on Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Saskatchewan-Co-operative-Youth-Program/38628850928>

3. Make a testimonial video about why you ♥ co-op camp, Check out JD, Sasha, and Xochitl testimonials' here -<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBpmqZB3pzg>.



4. Wear your I ♥ Co-ops T-shirt – check out the selection of sweet shirts <http://youth.sask.coop/news.php>.

5. Tell 3 friends why you ♥ co-ops!

6. Challenge your classmates to take the Co-op Week Quiz found on page 15 of this e-Zine – there is sweet Magnetic Poetry to be won!

7. Stop by your local credit union on October 15th for Credit Union Day celebrations!

8. Interview a co-op leader in your community for the school paper.

9. Join a local co-op or start a savings account at your local credit union.

10. Start your own co-op!

Share your Co-op Week Celebrations with us! Email your adventures to heather.hale@sask.coop.





SCYP Happy Snaps....

Want make your own happy snap? Download the tool at
www.poladroid.net!

SCYP ON FACEBOOK!

For all of those who are on Facebook show your co-op camp love by becoming a fan of SCYP! Seriously do it! NOW!!

The fan page has all kinds of news and upcoming events. You can also ask questions and get to know other people who are went to camp or are planning to attend a camp!

If you are looking to get in touch with people you went to camp SCYP Alumni have started several Facebook groups called:

1. Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program
2. SCYP (Sask. Co-operative Youth Program)
3. SCYP "Co-op Camp"
4. SCYP Grad 2008
5. SCYP 2008 Grad Reunionists

SCYP ON YOUTUBE!

Want to hear more about why co-op camp is so fantastic? Check out some the testimonials from past staff and participants on youTube!

JD's testimonial -<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dmx5YttPdpE>

Xochitl's testimonial -<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6X78ZilWgol&feature=email>

Sasha's testimonial- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBpmqZB3pzg&feature=email>

If you are inspired go ahead and make your own testimonial video! Be sure to let us know because we'd love to see it!

CO-OP WEEK QUIZ

Test your Co-operative knowledge and win your very own set of Co-op magnetic poetry!

1. Co-op Week in 2009 is:

- A) October 11–17
- B) November 7–14
- C) December 5–12

2. Co-op Week has been proclaimed every year in Canada since ____?

- A) 1982
- B) 1987
- C) 1995

3. How many co-operatives are there in Canada?

- A) Approximately 5,000
- B) Approximately 7,000
- C) Approximately 9,000

4. There are _____ co-operative members in Canada?

- A) Over 7 million
- B) Over 10 million
- C) Over 17 million

5. Saskatchewan Co-operative Association has _____ members.

- A) 7
- B) 9
- C) 11

6. The Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program was started in which year?

- A) 1919
- B) 1924
- C) 1928

7. Over _____ people have participated in the Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program.

- A) 41,500
- B) 42,500
- C) 43,500

8. This year, these three co-operative organizations were named in the Top 100 Business in Canada. Were they:

- A) Gay Lea Food Co-operative Ltd., Mountain Equipment Co-op, and Meridian Credit Union
- B) Desjardins Credit Union, Federated Co-operative Ltd., and Ocean Spray
- C) Access Communications Co-operative Ltd., Arctic Co-operatives Ltd., and VanCity Credit Union

9. Who is the 2009 recipient of the Co-operative Order of Merit?

- A) Karl Baumgardner
- B) Mary Flynn
- C) William Walter

10. True or False. Around the world co-operatives employ more people than all the multinational companies put together?

Send your answers to heather.hale@sask.coop. A draw for the Co-op Magnetic Poetry set will be made from all correct responses on October 21st and winners will be notified by email. Please be sure to include your name and address along with your answers so we can send you your prize!

GOOD LUCK and HAPPY CO-OP WEEK!

Cool Sites & Resources for Youth

350.ORG

A global grassroots campaign to stop the climate crisis, building from an International Day of Climate Action on October 24th, 2009. Find out more at www.350.org.



GREAT CANADIAN SONG QUEST

CBC Radio 2, asks Canadians to nominate their favourite place in the country to be celebrated in song! Once all 13 places are chosen (one from every province and territory) you can vote on which Canadian artist writes and performs the song. To nominate your favourite place go to www.cbc.ca/radio2/songquest/.



MOUNTAIN EQUIPMENT CO-OP

New members aged 16 to 24, who join MEC before Oct. 31 get discounts on services, free stuff and a chance to win a sweet gift card. Join today at www.mec.ca.

WIN AN AMAZING TRIP TO BURKINA FASO, AFRICA

Spend a week in Burkina Faso, West Africa, and learn all about international development, microcredit finance, and experience co-operative values and principles in action. This contest is open to all Canadian citizens between 18 and 30. For more information go to www.doingmypart.coop.



Have a great website or opportunity for youth you would like to share? Send SCYP your finds and we'll make sure they are shared with others! Email the link to heather.hale@sask.coop.

(continued from page 5)

Who are the members of your organization? CUMIS is not a co-operative, so it does not have members. However, CUMIS serves and supports Canadian credit unions and their members.

How are young people involved in your organization? What can young people do to get involved in your organization? Each year, CUMIS sponsors young people who are interested in attending the Co-operative Young Leaders program, a week-long experience, organized by the Ontario Co-operative Association, that brings youth together from across Ontario to learn about, and practice, communication and leadership through co-operative activities.

In 2009, CUMIS also sponsored two young people to attend the YES camp, a co-operative leadership camp based in British Columbia as well as one youth to attend the Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program.

What is your name? Ashley Jennison

What is your job at the organization? Corporate Communications Specialist

How long have you been working at CUMIS? Nine months

What made you choose to work there? What is your favourite thing about your job/ your organization? I chose to work at CUMIS because of its deep-rooted commitment to the communities in which the organization operates, and its demonstrated concern for the well-being of the organization's employees. I have enjoyed the opportunities to co-ordinate CUMIS' community giving and outreach initiatives including The CUMIS Insurance Charitable Golf Classic, Apple Day and Bring Back the Bay Day. ☺



"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. It's not."

— Dr. Seuss, from *The Lorax*

Climate change poses clear, catastrophic threats. We may not agree on the extent, but we certainly can't afford the risk of inaction.

-Rupert Murdoch

Don't blow it - good planets are hard to find. ~Quoted in Time

Food for Thought

It's the little things citizens do. That's what will make the difference. My little thing is planting trees.

-Wangari Maathai

In nature's economy the currency is not money, it is life."

— Vandana Shiva



ABOUT SASKATCHEWAN CO-OPERATIVE YOUTH PROGRAM

AIM

To contribute to the personal development of youth and encourage their active involvement in community and co-operative organizations.

VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

The Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program contributes to the personal development of youth and encourages their active involvement in community and co-operative organizations. The uniqueness of the Program stems from its ability to provide a co-operative, participatory learning experience for young people, co-op staff and volunteers, within a positive, enjoyable environment.

Respect

The Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program has a fundamental respect for people. We honour the uniqueness of the individual and the value of groups. Respect fosters openness and authentic self-expression, which, in turn, builds trust. We enhance this trusting atmosphere through sharing, listening and respecting confidentiality.

Co-operation

The Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program values co-operation and democratic practices. We value the input of each individual, and through teamwork, we effectively achieve our goals. Through group decision-making and communication we generate a spirit of co-operation and sense of community.

Equality

The Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program respects the equality of people. We believe in social responsibility, justice and economic empowerment through co-operatives. We welcome a diversity of beliefs, cultures and values in our program and we act to include this diversity.

Development

The Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program values the growth and development of people and their co-operatives. We contribute to personal growth through education, participation and skill development, which, in turn, benefits co-operatives. Our program serves as an information link between youth and co-operatives in Saskatchewan.

Interdependence

The Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Program believes in the interdependence of people. We build a social bond between individuals through understanding, consideration and interaction. We act with a responsibility to care for others.

E-ZINE EDITORIAL AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

The next **I ♥ Co-ops E-Zine** will be published in the Spring of 2010 - **please contribute!** This is your chance to voice your opinion, share your talents or let people know about an opportunity. Send us your artwork, poems, thoughts, articles, reviews, jokes, comics, events and opportunities, photos, seminar memories, co-op stories and ideas for other content.

PLEASE NOTE: Submitted content does not necessarily reflect the opinions or viewpoint of Saskatchewan Co-operative Association.

Rules:

- ☆ **SCYP** reserves the right to publish or not publish any content that is submitted. (i.e. we will not publish any content that is racist, sexist, homophobic, mean, nasty or otherwise full of cold pricklies or swear words. What would your mother say!?) We encourage people to submit their thoughts, feelings, critical reviews of things and otherwise state their opinions, but there are limits.
- ☆ **SCYP** needs permission from the artist(s) for any photos, artwork, or writing, etc that are used.
- ☆ **SCYP** needs permission from anyone for a photo/ image of them, as well as quotes used.
- ☆ **SCYP** will make every effort to return original photos, etc to you - please send your return address if you mail us something.

Please send your E-Zine content to:

I ♥ Co-ops E-Zine

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fax: (306) 244.2165 email: heather.hale@sask.coop

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