

Government Policies towards Community Economic Development and the Social Economy in Quebec and Manitoba

Researchers: Brendan Reimer (Canadian CED Network), John Loxley, Dan Simpson (University of Manitoba)

Research Objectives

- Inventory existing policy and programs supportive to CED and the social economy
- Compare the policy context of CED in Manitoba with CED/social economy support in Quebec
- Identify priorities for enhanced policy and program support
- Transform the information into knowledge owned by both the CED/social economy actors and policy makers through participatory research
- Ensure that policy and program recommendations/priorities are implemented through effective advancement models
- Share gained knowledge nationally

Findings

- Social democratic governments have been important promoters of CED/social economy; political pressure on governments is essential for CED
- Legislation, institutional support, and financial support do have an impact; these are stronger and more coherent in Quebec than in Manitoba
- Unlike Manitoba, Quebec uses the social economy extensively to provide important social services
- Threats to CED include bureaucratization and professionalization, increasing geographical scale and hence remoteness from the support base
- Quebec has been successful in institutionalizing long term finance, outside of government, with government, credit union and labour pension fund support; Manitoba has been less successful
- There is a great need for the promotion of social enterprise approaches in Manitoba; CCEDNet has a role to play here
- Manitoba's CED framework and lens hold the promise of greatly stimulating CED through government initiatives
- The social economy sector in Quebec has more influence on policy formulation than it does in Manitoba
- Promoting the social economy/CED in Manitoba will require the building of broad-based political alliances, as in Quebec; the CED movement should, therefore, embrace and see itself as an integral part of broader economic, social, and political struggles

Community Partners: • CEDTAS (Community Economic Development Technical Assistance Service) • Department of Rural Development, Brandon University • Canadian Community Investment Network Cooperative • Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives – Manitoba • Community & Economic Development Committee of Cabinet, Province of Manitoba • SEED Winnipeg • Community Futures Partners of Manitoba • Community Ownership Solutions • CEDA (Community Education Development Association) • PATH Employment Development Centre • Manitoba Research Alliance on CED in the New Economy • United Way of Winnipeg • Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation

Status of Project: Complete

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