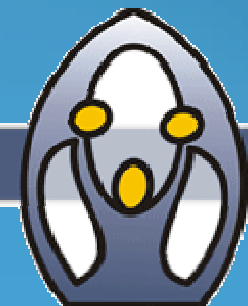# CED and Social Economy Policy Inventory in B.C. and Alberta (Phase I)

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Overview

- **Purpose and Objectives**
- **Background**
- **Methodology**
- **Designing Classification System**
- **Preliminary Highlights**
- **Steps towards Phase II**
- **Research Issues and Challenges**
- **Discussion**

Purpose and Objectives

1. To conduct an inventory of federal and provincial legislation, policies, programs and initiatives in B.C. and Alberta that are directly relevant to CED and the social economy.

2. To design a classification framework to guide the planning of the policy inventory and the analysis of the results.

3. To use the framework to design the inventory.

4. To analyze the results based on the classification framework.

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Background

- Build on existing research and rely on expert knowledge
  - CCEDNet inventory
  - Work of the Chantier
  - Rural Secretariat
- How this came about
  - Need to do a systematic inventory of current policies
  - Priority for the suite via the SE Hub
  - BALTA has taken a leadership role to develop classification system that has immediate utility

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Considerations Guiding Research

- Extent of balancing social development with economic development
- A different set of activities and skills expected from people working in CED and the Social Economy
- We know that there exists policies and programs
  - To what extent can they be interpreted as being part of an infrastructure supporting CED and the social economy
- What is the supportive environment comprised of?
  - Capacity for business, governance and other community related development processes

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Considerations Guiding Research

- What is a Supportive Policy Environment?
  - Coordinated policy infrastructure
- Common language and
- How has a particular policy or program been implemented
  - Innovations?
- Intent of policy
  - Supportive vs. regulatory

Methodology

- Internet search of government websites
- Review directives
  - e.g. Hansard, policy briefs, media briefs
  - Backtracking the sources
- Rely on expertise
  - Interviewed practitioners and academics
- Develop a framework to help indentify and interpret the collection information
- Conduct inventory

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Designing Classification System

- Policy and Programs - Focus
  - Geographically Specific, Community Led Development & Investment e.g. CED and CD
  - Social Economy - Social Enterprise focused development & investment
  - CED & Social Enterprise Interface with Sectors

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Designing Classification System

- Policy and Programs - Functions
  - Core funding
  - Enterprise financing
  - Human resource development
  - Planning, research & advisory
  - Target of financial supports
  - Networking supports

Policy Inventory

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Policy and Programs - Functions

- Core funding
- Enterprise Financing
  - Equity instruments, Credit- loans
- Human Resource Development
  - Training and Job Placement, Training Enterprise Building Community or Practitioner Leadership
- Planning, Research & Advisory
  - Community focused, Enterprise planning, Advisory and Technical Assistance Evaluation and sector research

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Policy and Programs - Functions

- Targets of Financial Support
  - Capital in forms of subsidies, grants, and contributions
  - Intermediary, Enterprise, Community
- Networking Supports
  - Help pay the costs of linking together CED and social economy organizations

Policy Inventory

Preliminary Highlights

- Total collected - 166
  - Policies - 62
  - Programs - 104
- Findings may not reflect lived reality
  - Practitioner and academic
- Need for quality control

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Preliminary Highlights - Policies

Target of Policy	#
Total policies collected	62
Social Economy - Social Enterprise focused development & investment	18
Geographically Specific, Community Led Development & Investment e.g. CED and CD	10
CED & Social Enterprise Interface with Sectors	32

Policy Inventory

Preliminary Highlights – Policy Functions

Policy Functions	#
Core funding	22
Enterprise financing	43
Human resource development	23
Planning, research & advisory	38
Target of financial supports	39
Networking supports	4

Policy Inventory

Examples of Policies

- Geographically Specific, Community Led Development & Investment e.g. CED and CD
  - Community Futures
- Social Economy - Social Enterprise focused development & investment
  - Co-operative Development Initiative
- CED & Social Enterprise Interface with Sectors
  - Aboriginal business, entrepreneurship and youth entrepreneurship strategy

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Preliminary Highlights - Programs

Focus of Program	#
Total programs collected	104
Social Economy - Social Enterprise focused development & investment	24
Geographically Specific, Community Led Development & Investment e.g. CED and CD	28
CED & Social Enterprise Interface with Sectors	52

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Preliminary Highlights – Program Functions

Program Functions	#
Core funding	57
Enterprise financing	81
Human resource development	69
Planning, research & advisory	78
Target of financial supports	91
Networking supports	13

Policy Inventory

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Examples of Programs

- Geographically Specific, Community Led Development & Investment e.g. CED and CD
  - Invest Kootenay Partnership
- Social Economy - Social Enterprise focused development & investment
  - Women's Enterprise Initiative Loan Program
- CED & Social Enterprise Interface with Sectors
  - EcoAction Community Funding Program

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Steps towards Phase 2

- Develop an analytic framework to make sense of the information collected
- Broader consultation
  - Online database for academic and practitioner purposes
- Explore co-production and co-construction
  - From Quebec experience, also in Alberta and BC
- Build on ongoing research by SE Hub policy committee
- An index or a continuum to interpret what these functions mean in terms of a supportive environment
  - Demonstrate direct or indirect support—i.e. enabling

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Policy continuum

1. Focused Policy supporting Community led economic development and/or Social Economy

2. Enabling Legislation relevant to CED and/or SE

3. Policy with established programs that support one or more functions

4. Indirect policy relevance, but with potential for leveraging to CED and/or SE

Program Continuum

1. Directly focused on CED and/or social economy
2. Specific program accessible for CED and/or social economy applications
3. Criteria that suggest potential applicability but not explicit targeting of CED or SE organizations
4. Public sector services having potential use by CED or SE organizations or enterprises (for example, business counseling services)

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Research Issues and Challenges

- A different set of activities and skills expected from people working in CED and the Social Economy
- The lack of a standard approach to organizing and accounting for the information
- Developing a common language
- Determining the level of policy being explored
  - How narrow to go
- Defining functions and determine focus

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Research Issues and Challenges

- Lack of a obvious/transparent policy infrastructure supporting CED and the Social Economy
- Merging Social Purpose with economic goals
  - Was that the intention of the policies?
- What is the supportive environment comprised of?
  - Building capacity: business, governance and other community related development processes
- Work with the field to determine the gaps

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Discussion Questions

- Do these functions reflect the reality?

- Do they capture what you experience in relation to the presence of policies and programs

- What are other examples of policies and programs?

- How could this research be useful for you?

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Thank You