



Mapping the Social Economy in British Columbia and Alberta

Data Summary Report
Organizations with Environmental Missions

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Introduction

At the end of the day, the thinking, research and elaboration of the ideas in this paper are animated by one central pre-occupation: the belief that re-embedding social goals into the heart of our economic life is crucial, and that placing both into a proper and durable relationship within the ecological limits of our planet is our most present and urgent meta-priority (Lewis, p. 2, 2006).

In this statement about the social and solidarity economy frameworks in North America, Lewis (2007) and the BALTA team expanded the focus of study to include not only the re-insertion of social goals into economic decisions, but environmental and ecological goals as well. This expansion led the BALTA Mapping and Portraiture Team to inquire about the environmental missions of social economy organizations, something that had not been undertaken by other social economy mapping projects in Canada. While not all of the SE organizations surveyed stated that they had any sort of environmental mission, many of them did. This paper describes the results from those SE organizations in Alberta and BC with environmental missions that responded to the BALTA Mapping Survey.

The overall BALTA Mapping project received 478 completed surveys, 159 (33%) of these were from Alberta based SE organizations, while 319 (67%) of the organizations were based in BC (Gismondi et al. 2013). From this total group of respondents, 124 organizations (26%) indicated that their organizations had an environmental mission: 47 environmental SE organizations were based in Alberta, while 77 were in BC.

Survey data from these 124 organizations are the base for the following description of this emerging element of the green economy. The report provides a summary, broken down by province, of their responses to all of the questions posed in the BALTA survey (Appendix A). We will first describe the missions of the social economy organizations. We then summarize what we learned about their organizational structures. Finally, we provide an overview of the economic sectors in which these organizations participate, and the economic impacts that they have. Given our sampling size and methods, we cannot claim representativeness for the sector. At the same time, these 124 respondents to the survey have provided important information about their organizations. With this information, an interesting portrait of environmental SE organizations (ESE) in Alberta and British Columbia has begun to emerge.

SE Organizations with an Environmental Mission

A defining characteristic of all social economy organizations is the re-insertion of social/environmental goals into economic decisions. The BALTA survey asked respondents if they had an explicitly stated

social and/or environmental mission.

Overall 26% (N =124/478) of the respondents to BALTA's Mapping survey indicated an environmental mission or purpose. Provincially, Alberta organizations (30%; N=47/159) reported a slightly higher proportion than BC organizations (24%; N=77/319).

The respondents were then requested to choose, from a list of 15 pre-defined items, all of the areas that best described their establishment's "environmental mission or scope of activities." An additional "Other" category was included to allow participants to elaborate on a mission or activity not found in the original list.

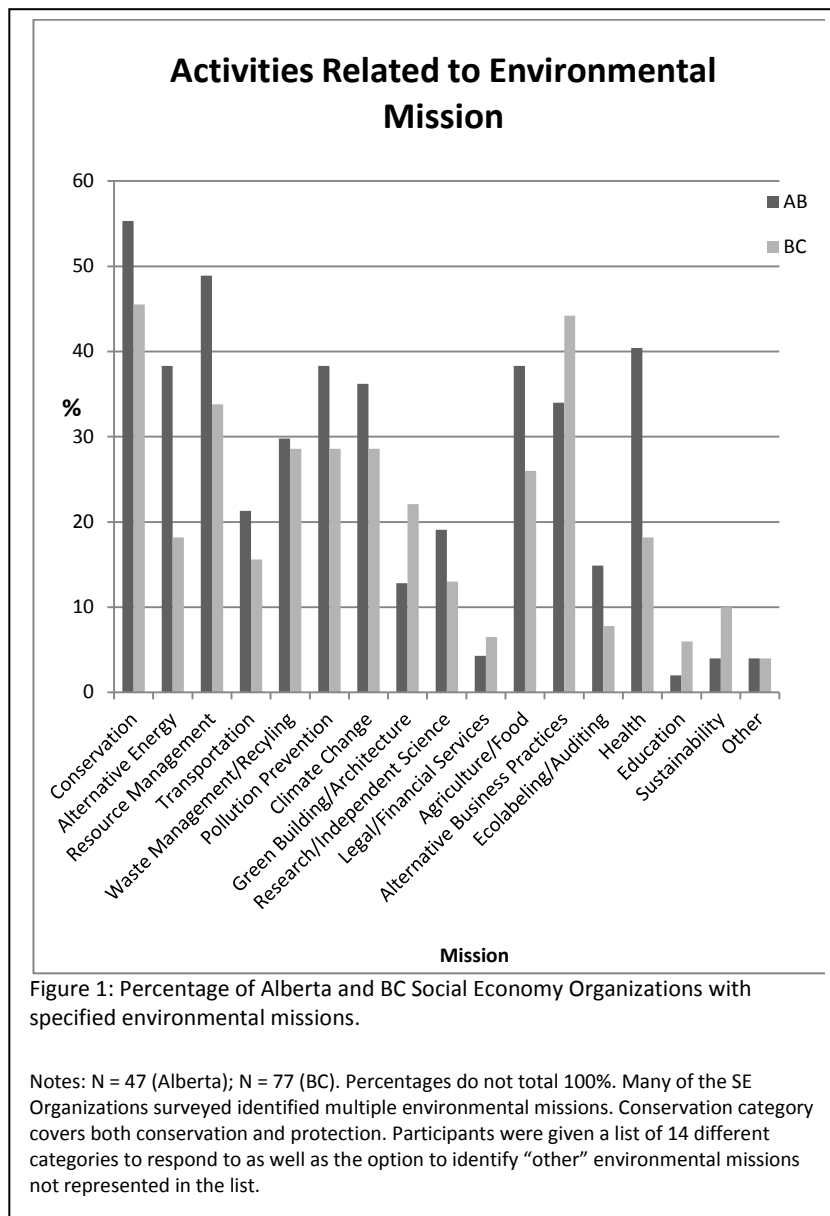


Figure 1 summarizes, by province, the activities chosen to describe the organizations' environmental missions. The range of activities was diverse in both provinces. For Alberta and BC organizations, the most frequently identified activities included conservation and protection (55% and 46% respectively);

resource management (49% and 34%); alternative business practices (34% and 44%); and health (40% and 18%).

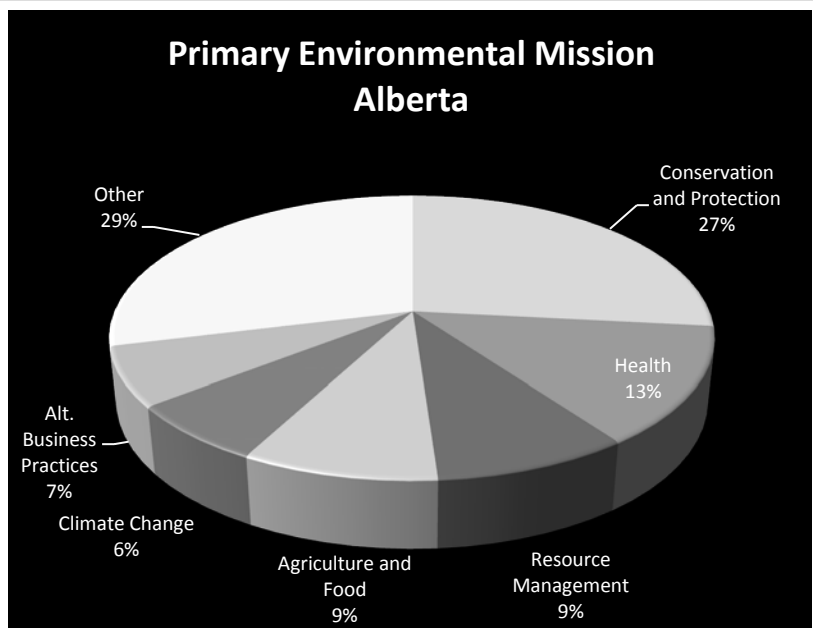


Figure 2: Breakdown of Alberta organizations primary environmental mission.

Notes: N = 45.

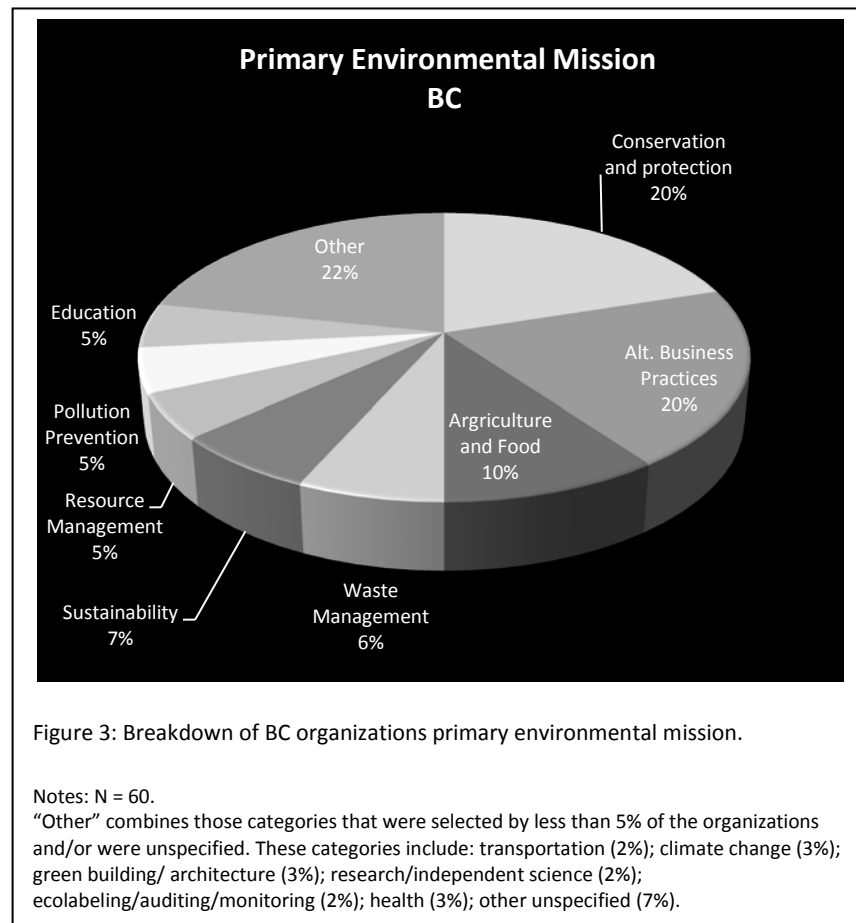
“Other” combines those categories that were selected by less than 5% of the organizations and/or were unspecified. These categories include: alternative energy (4.5%); transportation (2%); waste management and recycling (2%); pollution prevention (4.5%); green building/architecture (2%); legal/financial services (2%); sustainability (4.5%); other

Of the multiple mission activities listed for their organizations, participants were asked to specify a primary category. These responses were more focused.

Figures 2 and 3 provide summaries, by province, of the primary environmental missions. Not all of the organizations who indicated an environmental mission responded to this question (N =105/124).

As seen in Figure 2, of the 45 Alberta organizations who specified a primary category for their environmental mission, 27% (N = 12) noted conservation and protection as their focus, 13% (N = 6) specified a health focus, 9% (N = 4) stated resource management, and 9% (N = 4) mentioned agriculture and food. There was a relatively large “Other” group (29%; N = 13) whose stated primary environmental missions covered a broad range of activities (see note in Figure 2).

BC organizations who reported a primary environmental mission (N=60/77) provided a varied list as well. As seen in Figure 3, 20% (N = 12) noted conservation and protection as their focus, 20% (N = 12) specified alternative business practices, 7% noted sustainability (N = 5), and 6% (N = 4) indicated waste



management. As with the Alberta sample, there was a relatively large "Other" group in the BC sample (22%; N = 13) whose stated environmental missions covered a broad range of activities (see note in Figure 3).

Social Missions of Environmental SE Organizations

The organizations introduced above did not consider their environmental missions in isolation. Overall,

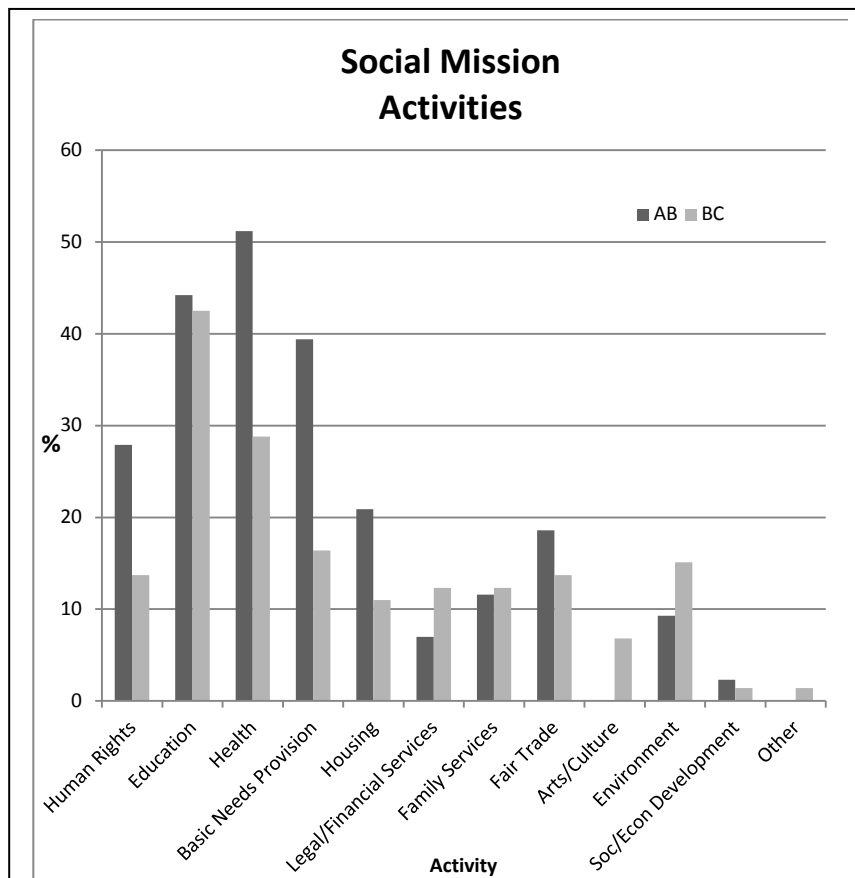


Figure 4: Percentage of Alberta and BC Social Economy Organizations with identified specified social missions.

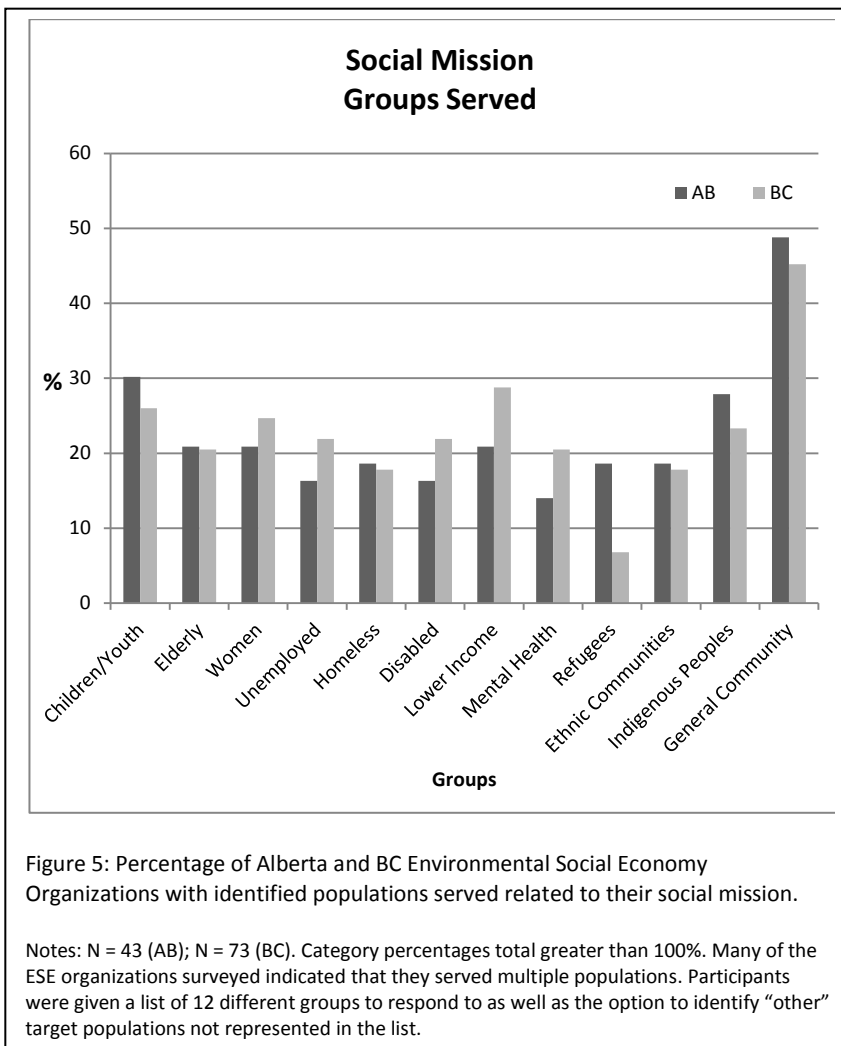
Notes: N = 43(AB); N = 73 (BC) Percentages total greater than 100%. Many of the ESE organizations surveyed indicated that they were involved in multiple activities related to their social mission. Participants were given a list of activities (the first 8 seen in this figure) to respond to as well as the option to identify "other" social mission activities not presented in the list. We recoded some these "other" responses into several new categories that included Arts and Culture, Environment, Social and Economic Development. Typically responses grouped as Social and Economic Development category included descriptors such as "encouraging social and economic development locally," "local employment," and "building bridges of cooperative capacity". The remaining responses to "other" that did not fit with any of the other categories (either given or created) were varied and did not form a single category. These were left as "Other" social missions (last column seen in the figure) and represented less than 1% of the responses to this question.

93.5% (N = 116) of the SE organizations with an environmental mission also indicated a social mission or purpose defining their organization. A breakdown by province shows that a large majority of organizations in Alberta (91.5%; N = 43) and a slightly higher majority in BC (94.8%; N = 73) identified some form of social mission in addition to their environmental mission.

In this survey, organizations were able to describe their social mission by both the activities of the organization, and/or by the groups they served. Respondents were asked to choose all that apply, so multiple responses were given by many.

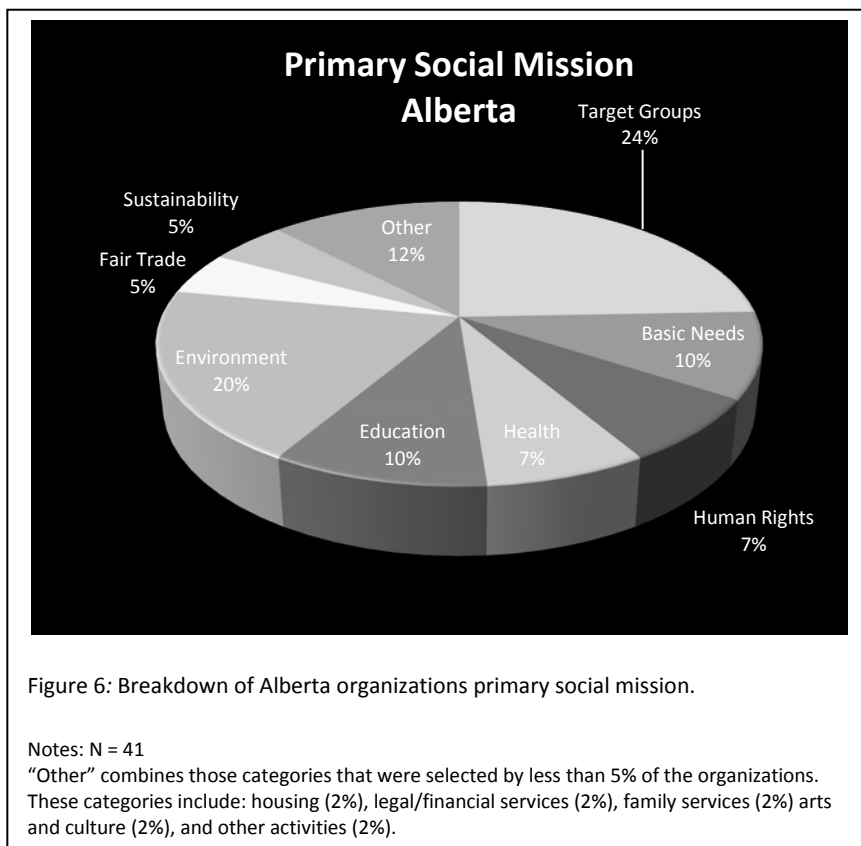
Figure 4 provides a summary, by province, of the proportion of the "activities" that the ESE organizations identified to define their social mission.

In Alberta and BC, organizations most frequently defined their social missions by participation in the education sector (44% and 43%, respectively), the health sector (51% and 30%), and through provision of basic needs (35% and 16%). A minority of organizations in Alberta and BC used the “Other” category to define their social mission in terms of environmental activities (9% and 15%). Note that all of the organizations who used this category to identify an environmental mission (as a social mission) had also indicated their environmental mission elsewhere (i.e., Q14).



Organizations were also able to describe their social purpose/ mission by the target groups or communities they served. As seen in Figure 5, the types of populations served by the ESE organizations were diverse. And, in many cases, multiple groups were identified in relation to an organization’s social mission. While a wide variety of targeted groups were identified by ESE organizations, for both Alberta and BC, the most frequent group identified was the “general community” (49% and 45% respectively).

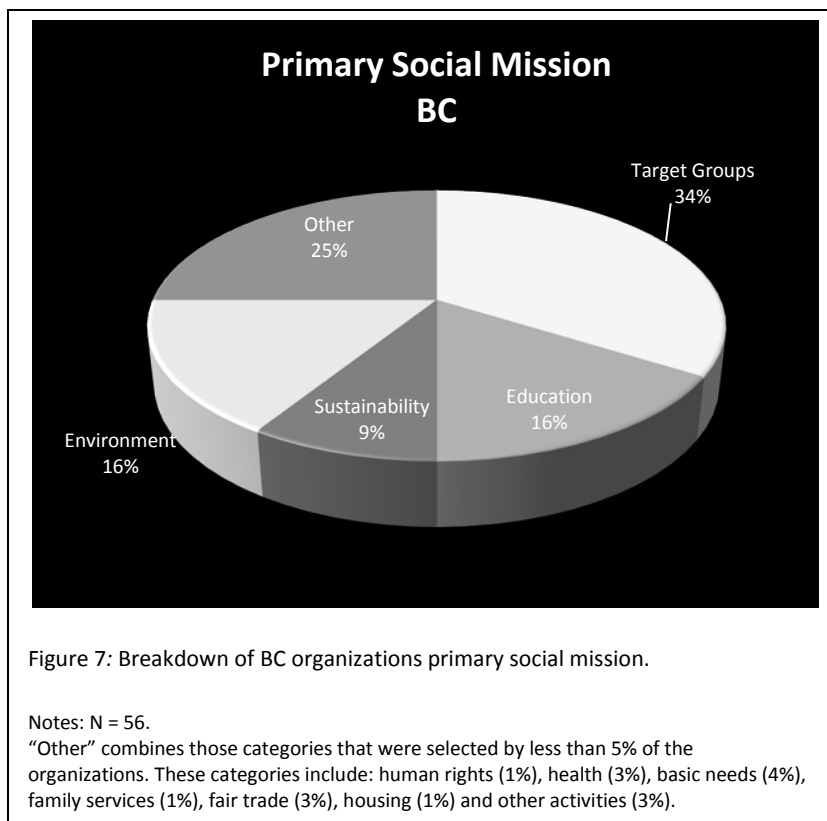
Of the many social missions (activities and target groups) identified by the environmental SE



organizations, participants were asked to specify one primary sector to which their social mission applied. Not all of the organizations who indicated multiple social missions responded to this question (N=97).

As seen in Figure 6, the Alberta ESE organizations most frequently identified target groups (24%) and environmental activities (20%) to define their primary social mission.

As seen in Figure 7, this group of ESE organizations in BC most frequently identified target groups (34%), "Other" (25%), education (16%) and environmental (16%) to define their primary social mission.

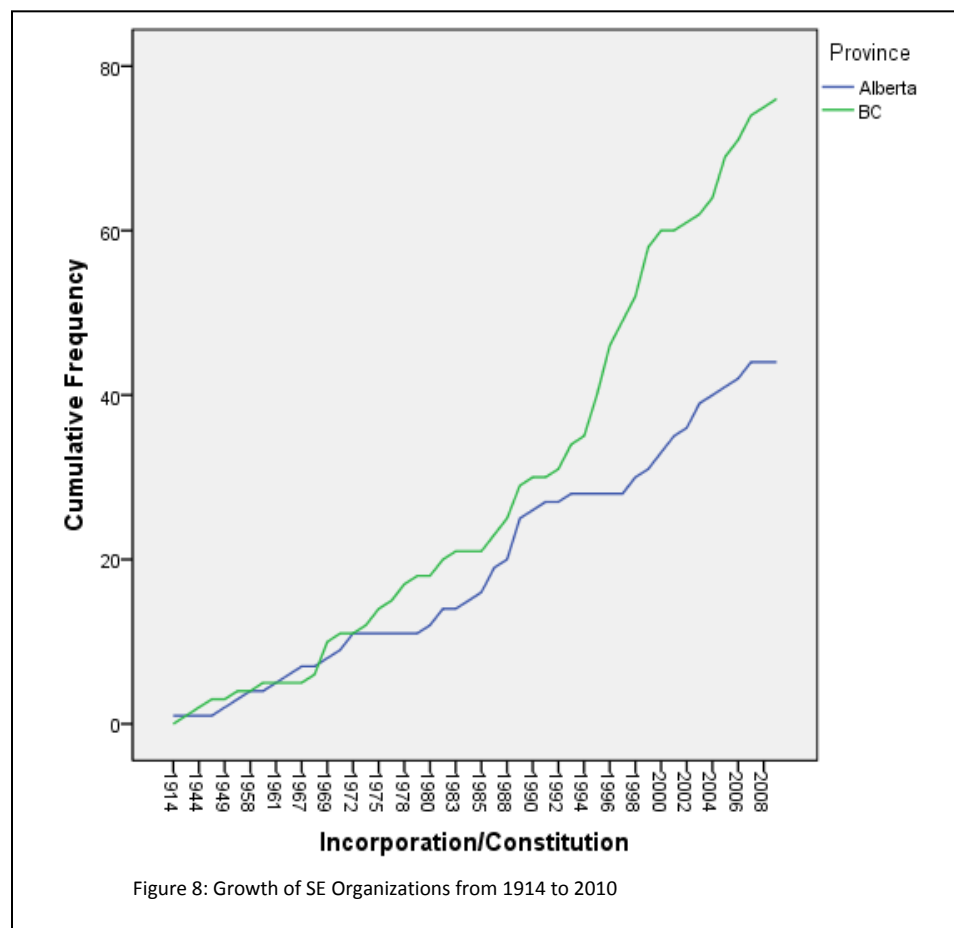


Organizational Structure

Information regarding the age, legal form and membership base of organizations help to describe the responding social economy organizations with environmental missions.

Age

Environmental SE organizations tend to be younger than SE organizations in general whose average age in AB was 28.7 years and 25.9 years in BC. Survey respondents with environmental missions showed the



average age in Alberta (N = 44) to be 19 years; and in BC (N = 76) the average age was 15.5 years. The most senior Alberta SE organization was incorporated in 1914; the most junior, in 2007. In BC, the oldest organization was incorporated in 1943, the newest, in 2010 (Figure 8).

Number of Establishments

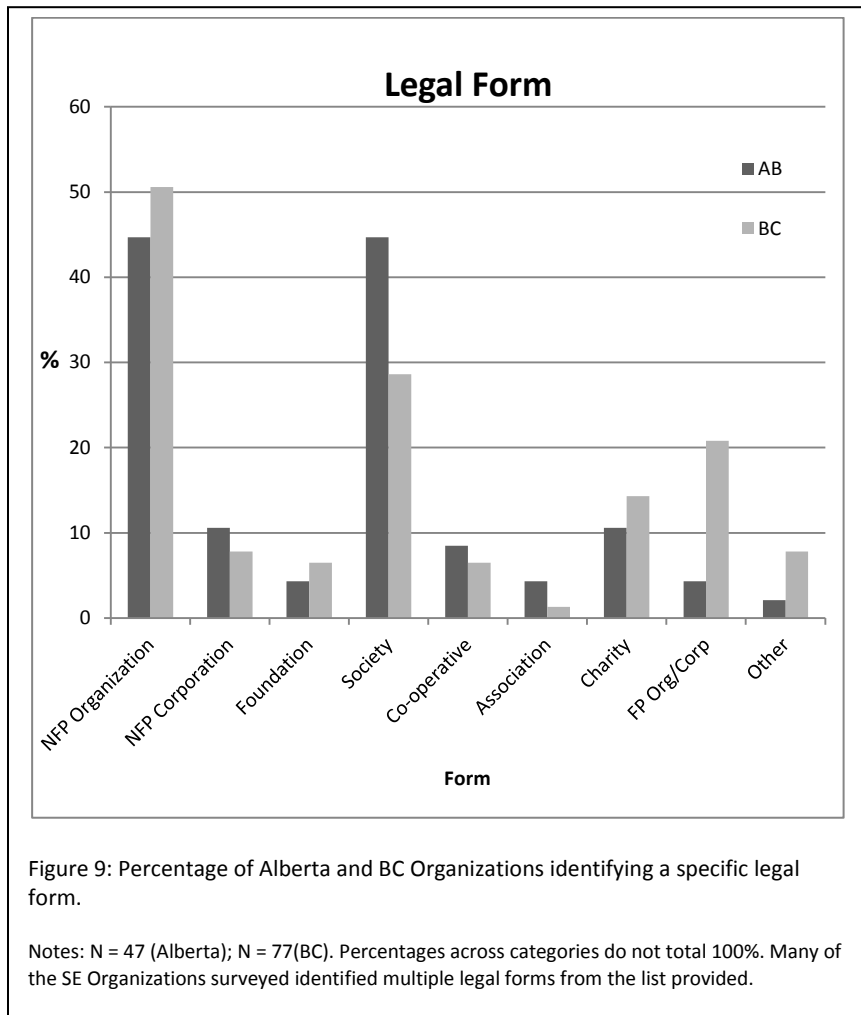
In Alberta, the majority of organizations (81%; N = 38) indicated operating in the province with only one organizational unit (like a main office, branch or regional office). In BC, 84% (N = 65) of the environmental SE organizations noted only one organizational unit.

For those organizations in Alberta who indicated more than one organizational unit and who could also specify an exact count (N = 7), the median number of units calculated was equal to 5 (range 2 to 16 units). For this small group, a total of 40 organizational units were counted in the province (i.e., sum of the distribution).

For those organizations in BC who indicated more than one unit and who could also specify an exact count (N = 11), the median number of units calculated was equal to 3 (range 2 to 65). For this small group, a total of 104 organizational units were counted in the province (i.e., sum of the distribution).

Legal Form

With respect to the legal form of their organizations, respondents could choose from a list, or provide information in the “Other” category. The majority of environmental SE organizations in Alberta and BC identified their legal form as a not-for-profit organization (45% and 51% respectively) and/or a society (45% and 29%). Figure 9 provides a summary. SE organizations in general had similar proportions with Alberta and BC reporting the following: not-for-profit organization 47% and 50% respectively and society 30% and 34% respectively. This high number of “not for profit organizations” and “societies” was expected given the survey population. Interestingly, an important minority of organizations with environmental missions in BC (21%), but not in Alberta (4%), identified themselves as for-profit organizations/corporations.



Membership Base

In terms of accountability to a defined constituency, almost two thirds (63%) of all SE organizations with an environmental mission indicated that they had a membership base. Proportionally, AB organizations reported a higher number with 75% (N = 35) of the organizations having a membership base, while 56% (N = 43) of BC organizations reported a membership base.

For those organizations who were able to provide the number of members as well, the median (mid-point of the distribution) for organizations in Alberta was 210 (N = 33) and for those in BC, the median was 142 (N = 41). Membership numbers across the various SE organizations ranged from 20 to 2.8 million in Alberta¹; and from 4 to 392,000 in BC. Table 1 provides a summary, by province, of the number of organizations working within a range of membership group sizes.

Table 1: Environmental SE organizations size of membership by province.

Size of Membership Base	Alberta		BC		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
1-25 members	2	6.1	6	14.6	8	10.8
26-50 members	6	18.2	7	17.1	13	17.6
51-100 members	5	15.2	5	12.2	10	13.5
101-200 members	3	9.1	7	17.1	10	13.5
201-500 members	8	24.2	9	22.0	17	23.0
501-1000 members	3	9.1	2	4.9	5	6.8
1000 + members	6	18.2	5	12.2	11	14.9
Totals	33	100	41	100	74	100

¹ We reported MEC membership as reported to us. This appears to have been the national membership as of 2009 when they filed. A recent report on MEC membership shows the global membership at 3.6 million, of which about 38.8 percent reside in BC and AB (some 1.324.936).
http://www.mec.ca/AST/ContentPrimary/Sustainability/AccountabilityReport/Members.jsp?CONTENT%3C%3Ecnt_id= 10134198674183551

Board of Directors

Many SE organizations with environmental missions operate with a board of directors (N=116). Of these organizations, 94% provided information about their board composition. In Alberta the median number of board members was calculated as 9 (N = 46; range 1 - 27 members); in BC the median figure was 8.5 (N = 70; range 1- 26 members). Table 2 summarizes by size categories, board membership. Approximately 50% of organizations in both AB and BC operated with boards of 6-10 members.

Table 2: SE Organizations total board memberships by province.

Board membership size	Alberta		BC		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
1-5 members	10	21.7	15	21.4	25	21.6
6 -10 members	23	50.0	34	48.6	57	49.1
11 - 20 members	12	26.1	12	28.6	32	27.6
21 - 50 members	1	2.2	1	1.4	2	1.7
51 – 100 members	--	--	--	--	--	--
100 + members	--	--	--	--	--	--
Totals	46	100	70	100	116	100

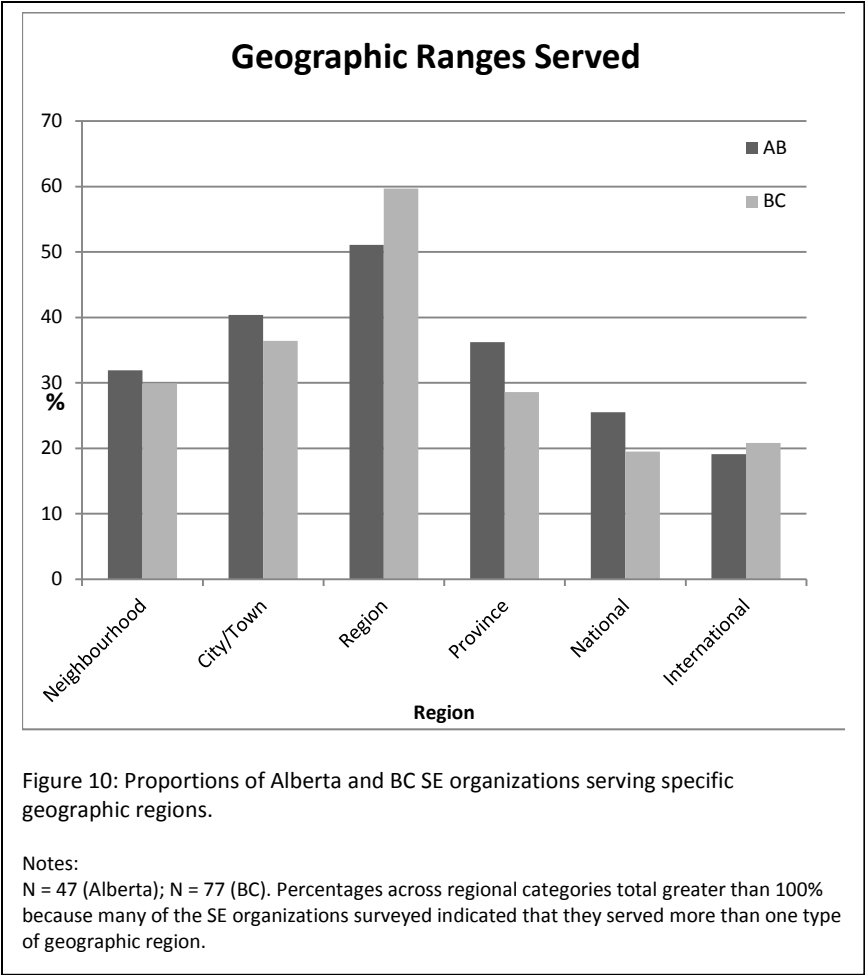
Respondents were also asked about the gender composition of their boards (N=114). In Alberta the median number of female board members was calculated as 3.0 (N = 45; range 0 - 13 members); in BC the median figure was 4 (N = 69; range 0-13 members). Table 3 summarizes by size categories, female board memberships for these organizations.

Table 3: SE Organizations' female board memberships by province.

Female Board membership size	Alberta		BC		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
0 members	3	6.7	5	7.2	8	7.0
1-5 members	31	68.9	49	71.0	80	70.2
6 -10 members	10	22.2	14	20.3	24	21.1
11 - 20 members	1	2.2	1	1.4	2	1.8
21 - 50 members	--	--	--	--	--	--
51 – 100 members	--	--	--	--	--	--
100 + members	--	--	--	--	--	--
Totals	45	100	69	100	114	100

Geographic Range Serviced

The social economy literature, particularly on community economic development, frequently emphasizes the local scale of operations of social enterprises. Our survey results supported this emphasis (Figure 10). Most frequently, Alberta and BC ESE organizations provided services to their local



communities/
neighbourhoods (32% and 30%, respectively), their cities and towns (40% and 36%), regional areas (51% and 60%) and to their province (36% and 29%). Interestingly, a larger geographic focus is evident in the environmental SE organizations than in SE organizations in general with proportionally more environmental organizations serving provincial, national and international communities. In Alberta, 26% of the environmental SE organizations serve national communities and 19% serve

international communities. In BC the pattern is similar with 20% of ESE organizations working within national communities and 21% serving international communities. This reflects the larger geographic impact of environmental issues. Table 4 compares the geographic ranges of the general SE organizations with the environmental SE organizations.

Table 4: Geographic range serviced: SE and ESE comparison

Geographic range serviced	Social Economy General		Social Economy Environmental	
	AB	BC	AB	BC
Neighbourhood	25%	33%	32%	30%
City/town	41%	46%	40%	36%
Region	48%	51%	51%	60%
Province	28%	25%	36%	29%
National	13%	14%	26%	20%
International	8%	9%	19%	21%

Support for Other Organizations

Linkages and networks among ESE organizations enhance the social capital of an area and are often cited as a benefit of the social economy (Loxley et al., 2007). Social capital refers to the attitudes that develop around neighbourliness, trust, and cohesion that allow people to work together more easily. This characteristic was prominent in our survey with 81% (N=38) of AB organizations and 88% (N=68) of BC organizations stating that they provided support to other organizations. Figure 11 summarizes the types of support along with the proportion of organizations providing that support.

The highest proportion of organizations in Alberta and BC were providing support in the form of networking (66% and 68% respectively), capacity building (53% and 71%), advocacy and promotion (63% and 57%), and research and education (47% and 52%).

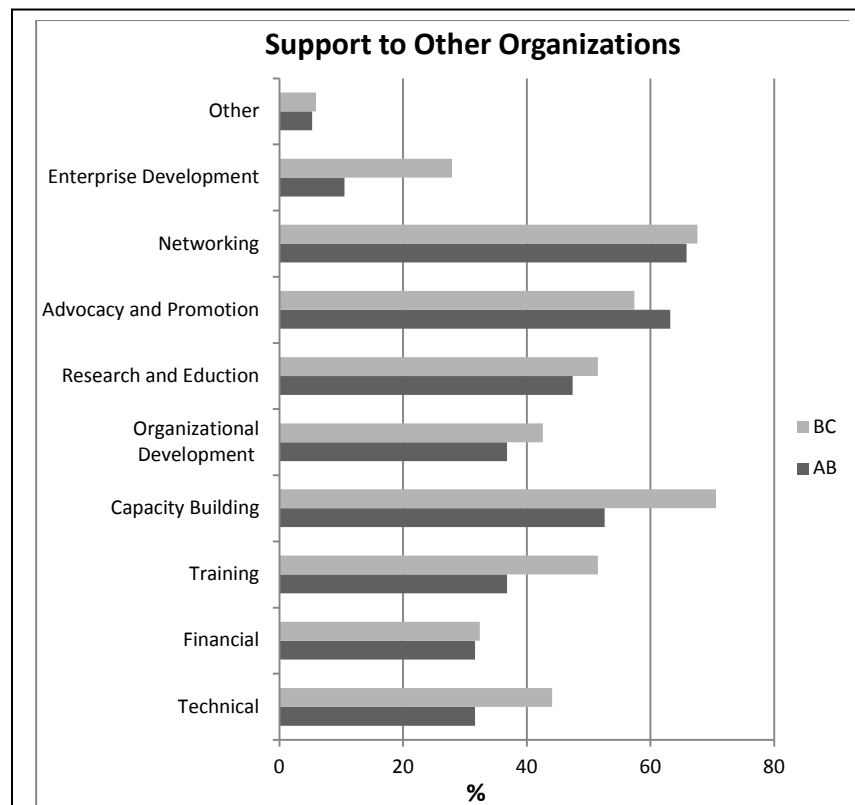


Figure 11: Percentage of Alberta and BC ESE organizations providing support to other organizations.

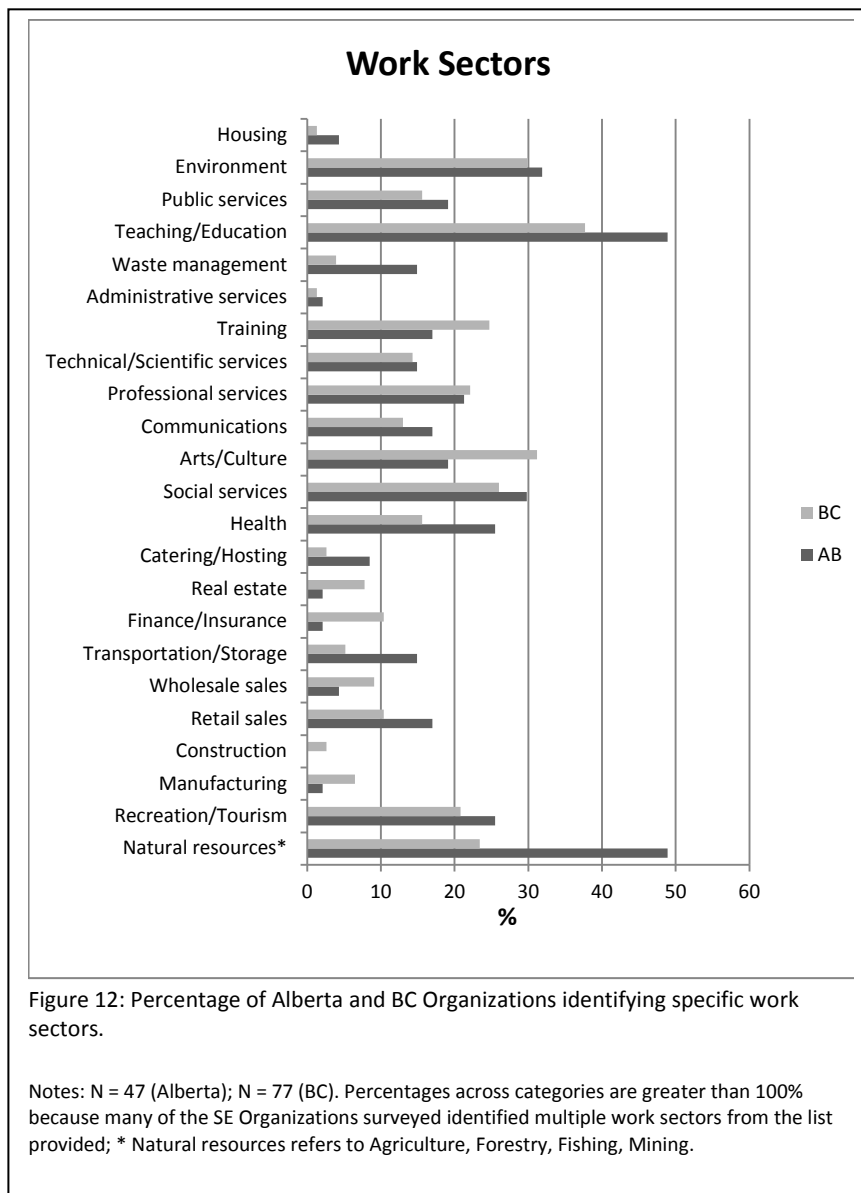
Notes: N=38 (Alberta); N = 68 (BC)

% based on valid N (i.e., only those organizations indicating that they provide some form of support to other organizations were included in the analysis). Percentages do not total 100%.

Many of the ESE Organizations surveyed identified multiple support activities. "Other" includes for example, "housing," and the "provision of food."

Work Sectors

Bouchard et al. (2008) developed a classification system (meta-categories, categories, sub-categories) that combined insights from Canadian and Quebec surveys of the voluntary, non-profit, arts and culture,



and cooperative sectors, with classification categories of the North America Industrial Classification System (NAICS) to provide a more sympathetic and internationally comparable classification system for examining the social economy. The BALTA mapping survey question is based on the second category, or middle level of the classification system developed by Bouchard et al. (2008).

Participants were asked to “[p]lease identify [all] the sectors that your establishment works in.”

There was a list of 21 sectors, as well as the

opportunity to include “Other” sectors not mentioned. A small group of Alberta and BC ESE organizations used this category to identify “housing” (4% and 1% respectively). A larger group of Alberta and BC organizations also specified the “environment” (32% and 30%) to describe the work they do. These two categories have been included in Figure 12. In addition to work sectors related to the environment, Alberta and BC organizations were most frequently engaged in activities related to teaching and education (49% and 38% respectively), and natural resources (49% and 23%).

Primary Work Sector

In relation to identifying the sectors in which the ESE organizations worked, participants were further requested to specify "...the primary sector" that their establishment was involved in (Table 5).

Table 5: ESE Organizations primary work sector by province.

Work Sector	Alberta		BC		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining	17.4	8	6.5	5	10.6	13
Finance/insurance	2.2	1	6.5	5	4.9	6
Arts and culture	2.2	1	14.3	11	9.8	12
Environment	23.9	11	19.5	15	35	26
Housing	4.3	2	--	--	31	2
Sales					80	
Retail	6.5	3	1.3	1	3.3	4
Wholesale	2.2	1	2.6	2	2.4	3
Services						
Social	15.2	7	15.6	12	15.4	19
Professional	6.5	3	10.4	8	8.9	11
Technical/scientific	2.2	1	--	--	.8	1
Administrative	--	--	--	--	--	--
Public	2.2	1	1.3	1	1.6	2
Health	8.7	4	2.6	2	4.9	6
Education						
Teaching/education	6.5	3	9.1	7	8.1	10
Training	--	--	2.6	2	1.6	2
Business						
Manufacturing	--	--	1.3	1	.8	1
Construction	--	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation/storage	--	--	1.3	1	.8	1
Real estate	--	--	1.3	1	.8	1
Catering/hosting	--	--	--	--	--	--
Communications	--	--	1.3	1	.8	1
Waste management	--	--	--	--	--	--
Recreation/tourism	--	--	1.3	1	.8	1
Other	--	--	1.3	1	.8	1
Totals	100	46	100	77	100	123

In Figures 13 and 14, some of the work sectors have been grouped into categories (see Table 3) such that “sales” includes both retail and wholesale sales; “services” includes social, professional,

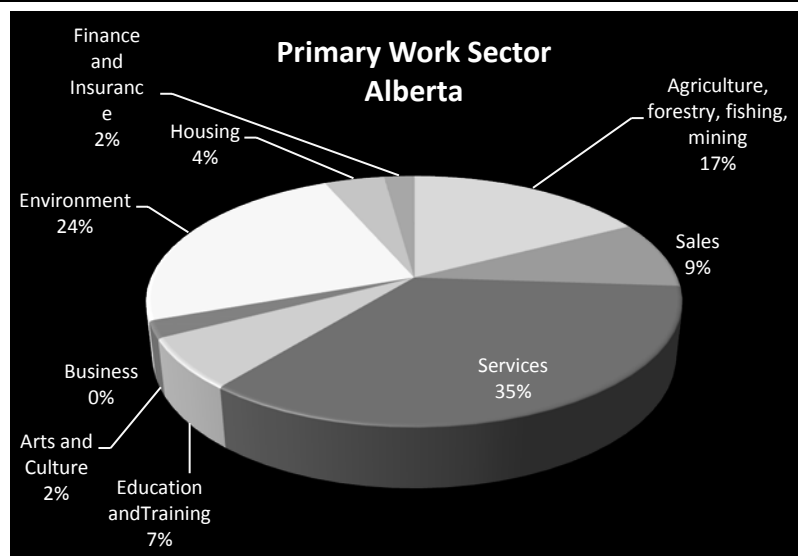


Figure 13: Alberta organizations primary work sectors.

Notes: N = 46.

See Table 5 for a summary of categories included in Services and Business sectors.

technical/scientific, administration, public, and health services; “education” includes both teaching/ education as well as training and “business” includes manufacturing, construction, transportation and storage, real estate, catering/ hosting, communications, waste management, recreation/ tourism, and other businesses.

The largest proportion of Alberta ESE organizations

define their primary works sector as involvement in “services” (35%), followed by those in the environment sector (24%) and next, 17% identified the field of natural resources (agriculture, fishing, forestry, mining).

The largest proportion of BC ESE organizations, like those in Alberta, define their primary works sector as involvement in “services” (30%). The next largest group in BC identified the environment (19%), followed by arts and culture (14%).

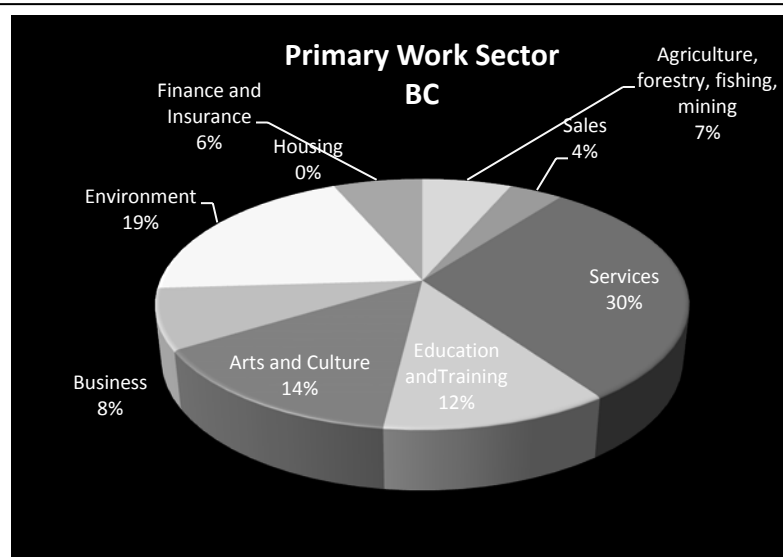


Figure 14: Breakdown of BC organizations primary work sector.

Notes: N = 77

See Table 5 for a summary of categories included in Services and Business sectors.

Human Resources: paid and unpaid

Alberta and BC ESE organizations provided a range of paid and unpaid employment opportunities including full-time, part-time, seasonal, contract and freelance, and volunteer work for members of their communities.

- Responding environmental SE organizations employed over 7500 people in paid positions, and created an additional 7400 volunteer opportunities.
- Small organizations dominated the survey populations with 26% of Alberta organizations and 54% of BC organizations reporting less than 5 full-time employees.

Summaries are based only on the data that was provided by participants who not only indicated that their organizations employed individuals in various categories, but who could also provide a count of the actual numbers employed. As such, the summaries provided here underestimate the total numbers of people employed in full-time, part-time, seasonal, contract and freelance, as well as the number of volunteers across both provinces (Table 6).

Table 6: Human Resources in ESEs by province

	Alberta		BC		Total	
	Organizations	Employees	Organizations	Employees	Organizations	Employees
Full time	25	227	56	5625	81	5852
Part-time	16	77	38	786	54	863
Seasonal	11	85	19	325	30	410
Contract	14	69	36	398	50	467
Volunteers	25	2628	45	4773	70	7401

Full-time employment: A total of 227 full-time employees were reported by 25 Alberta environmental SE organizations with a median number of 5 full-time employees (minimum 1; maximum 36) per organization. Further, just over half (N = 14; 56%) of these organizations indicated employing a small number of individuals full-time (i.e., less than 5).

A total of 5625 full-time employees were reported by 56 BC environmental SE organizations with a median number of 5 full-time employees (minimum 1; maximum 2700) per organization. As with Alberta organizations, just over half (N = 30; 54%) of BC organizations indicated employing only small numbers of individuals full-time (i.e., less than 5).

Part-time employment: A total of 77 part-time employees were reported by 16 Alberta environmental SE organizations with a median number of 2 part-time employees (minimum 1; maximum 35) per organization. Close to 90% of Alberta organizations (N =14) report employing a small number of part-time individuals (i.e., less than 5) on a yearly basis.

A total of 786 part-time employees were reported by 38 BC environmental SE organizations with a median number of 2 part-time employees (minimum 1; maximum 180) per organization. Similarly, a large portion of BC organizations (N= 24; 63%) reported employing a small number of part-time individuals (i.e., less than 5) on a yearly basis.

Seasonal employment: A total of 85 seasonal employees were reported by 11 Alberta environmental SE organizations with a median number of 3 seasonal employees (minimum 1; maximum 76) per organization. In Alberta, well over a half of the organizations (N = 7; 64%) reported hiring a small number of seasonal employees yearly (i.e., less than 5).

A total of 325 seasonal employees were reported by 19 BC environmental SE organizations with a median number of 6 seasonal employees (minimum 1; maximum 90) per organization. Almost half (N = 9; 47%) of the BC organizations reported hiring small numbers of seasonal employees (i.e., less than 5).

Freelance and contract employment: A total of 69 freelance and contract workers were reported by 14 Alberta environmental SE organizations with a median number of 3.5 freelance and contract employees (minimum 1; maximum 20 per organization). Almost three-quarters of organizations in Alberta employ small (i.e., less than 5) numbers of freelance and contract workers (N=10; 71%).

A total of 398 freelance and contract workers were reported by 36 BC environmental SE organizations with a median number of 2 freelance and contract employees (minimum 1; maximum 125) per organization. Almost seventy percent of organizations in BC employ small (i.e., less than 5) numbers of freelance and contract workers (N=25; 69%).

Volunteers: Alberta SE organizations show a median number of 20 volunteers (minimum 1; maximum 1800) per organization. The 25 organizations reporting volunteer figures, showed a total of 2628 individuals in volunteer positions.

BC organizations show a median number of 30 volunteers (minimum 2; maximum 1581) per organization. Across the 45 organizations reporting volunteer figures, there were 4773 individuals in volunteer positions. Table 7 provides a breakdown by province and group size of the numbers of volunteer workers in the ESE organizations.

Table 7: ESE Organizations volunteer figures by province.

	Alberta		BC		Total	
Volunteers	N	%	N	%	N	%
1 – 5 volunteers	7	28.0	5	11.1	12	17.1
6 – 10 volunteers	3	12.0	7	15.6	10	14.3
11 – 25 volunteers	7	28.0	8	17.8	15	21.4
26 – 50 volunteers	3	12.0	11	24.4	14	20.0
51 – 100 volunteers	3	12.0	3	6.7	6	8.6
100 + volunteers	2	8.0	11	24.4	13	18.6
Totals	25	100	45	100	70	100

Employment of Target Groups

In addition to finding out about general employment figures of the ESE organizations in Alberta and BC, organizations were asked about targeted employment practices. Of the 84 organizations (68%) responding to the question “Does your establishment employ specific target groups?” 39% responded “yes.” Within this group, 25.5% (N = 12) of Alberta SE organizations and 27.3% (N = 21) of BC SE organizations indicated that they employed target groups of individuals (persons with disabilities, homeless people, women, persons with mental illness, immigrants and ethnic minorities, etc.).

Alberta ESE organizations show a median number of 5 employees from targeted groups (minimum 1; maximum 90). Half of these organizations (50%; N = 6) employ small numbers (i.e., 5 or less) from target groups; for the 11 out of 12 organizations who could provide the information, more than half of the organizations (55%; N = 6) indicated that they employ even smaller numbers of females (i.e., 3 or less).

BC organizations show a median number of 15 employees from targeted groups (minimum 1; maximum 187). A third of these organizations (N = 6) employ small numbers (i.e., 4 or less) from targeted groups; for the 16 out of 21 organizations who could provide the information, half of the organizations (50%; N = 8) indicated that they employ relatively small numbers of females from targeted groups (i.e., 6 or less).

Financial Profile

The financial contributions of ESE organizations in Alberta and British Columbia are substantial. Operating budgets reported by environmental SE organizations in the two provinces totaled over \$122.2 million (N=92/124), while the capital budgets exceeded \$903.5 million (N=41/124).

Note that only 68% (N = 32) of participants responding for Alberta organizations and 78% (N = 60) of BC participants were able to provide fiscal information about their organization's actual operating budget. Even fewer Alberta (38%; N = 18) and BC (29%; N = 23) participants were able to provide dollar amounts to describe their organization's actual capital budgets. As such, the sums provided here underestimate the total dollar amounts that are related to Alberta and BC environmental SE organizations who responded to this survey. This is true in terms of actual operating budgets, but especially so in terms of actual capital budgets. It is also important that we note the fiscal information was collected from organizations for a single year, which may have been either 2008 or 2009 depending on when the survey was completed. Differentiations were not made between the two years in the analysis.

Participants were asked to provide figures for their organization's actual operating budget and for their organizations actual capital budget. Median figures (mid-point of the distribution) and sums (total across all organizations) are provided in Table 8. Median operating budgets for Alberta (range = \$900 - \$3.3 million) and BC (range = \$950 - \$21.7 million) organizations were calculated at \$338,404 and \$248,566, respectively. Within the provinces, Alberta and BC organizations show total operating budgets of \$25.7 million and \$96.5 million respectively.

Also in Table 8, the median capital budgets for Alberta (range = \$3000 - \$18.2 million) and BC were calculated at \$45,544 and \$116,445, respectively. Within provinces, Alberta and BC organizations show total capital budgets of \$19.5 million and \$884.0 million, respectively.

Table 8: Operating and Capital Budgets in \$ amounts for SE organizations by province

	Alberta			BC		
	N	Median	Sum	N	Median	Sum
Actuals						
Operating Budget	32	338,404	25.7 Million	60	248,566	96.5 Million
Capital Budget	18	45,544	19.5 Million	23	116,445	884.0 Million

The available budget data is summarized further in the following figures. The graphs show the

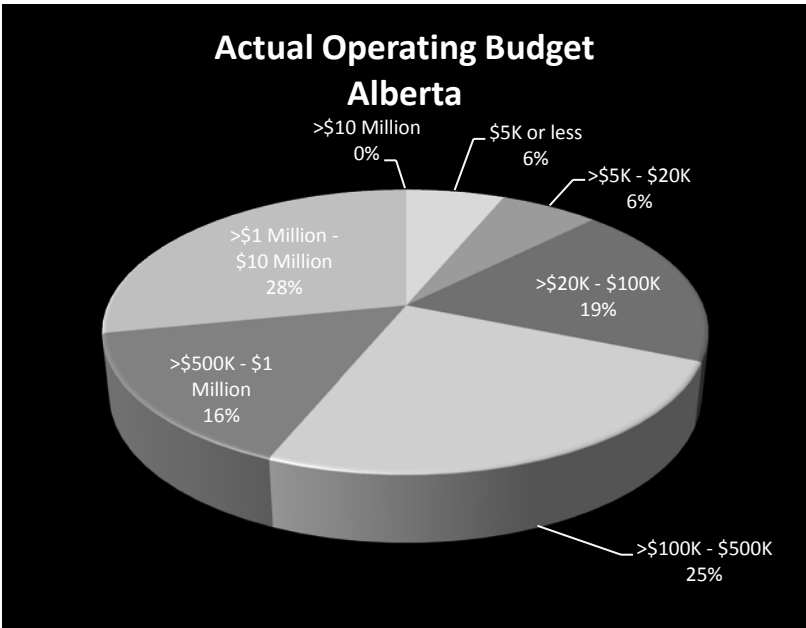


Figure 15: Breakdown of Alberta organizations actual operating budget.

Notes: N = 32.

proportion of organizations with operating and capital budgets within particular ranges (i.e., less than \$5K up to more than \$10 million).

In Alberta, the largest proportions of ESE organizations (who could provide budget information) have operating budgets within the categories of the \$100,000 to \$500,000 (25%; N = 88), and the \$1,000,000 to \$10,000,000 (28%; N = 9). See Figure 15.

As Figure 16 shows, the largest proportions of Alberta ESE organizations surveyed (who provided capital budget information) fall within the capital budget range of \$20,000 to \$100,000 (35%; N = 7).

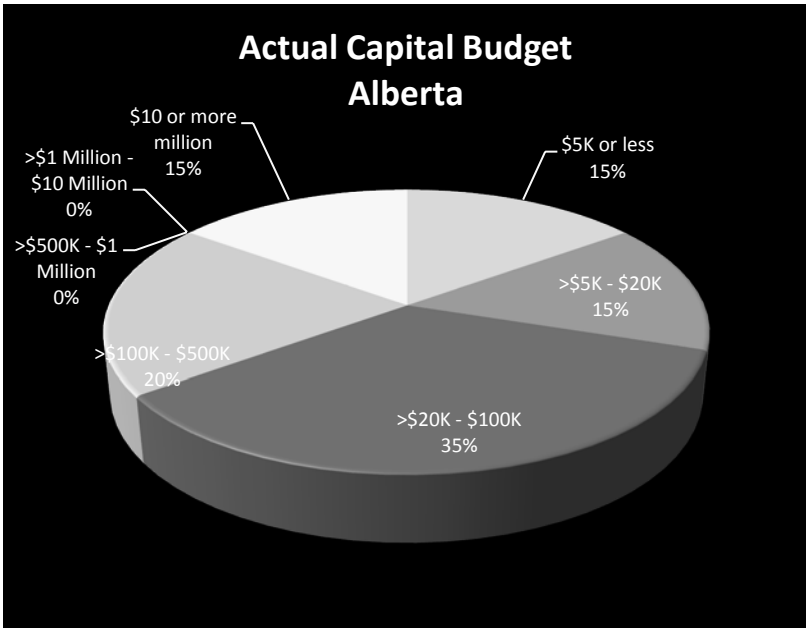
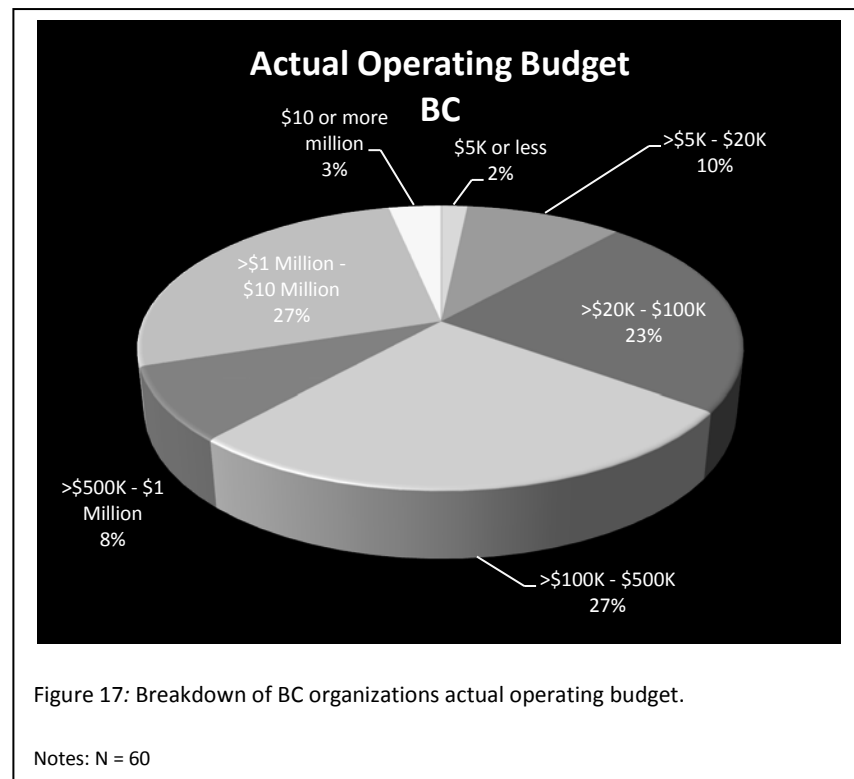


Figure 16: Breakdown of Alberta organizations actual operating budget.

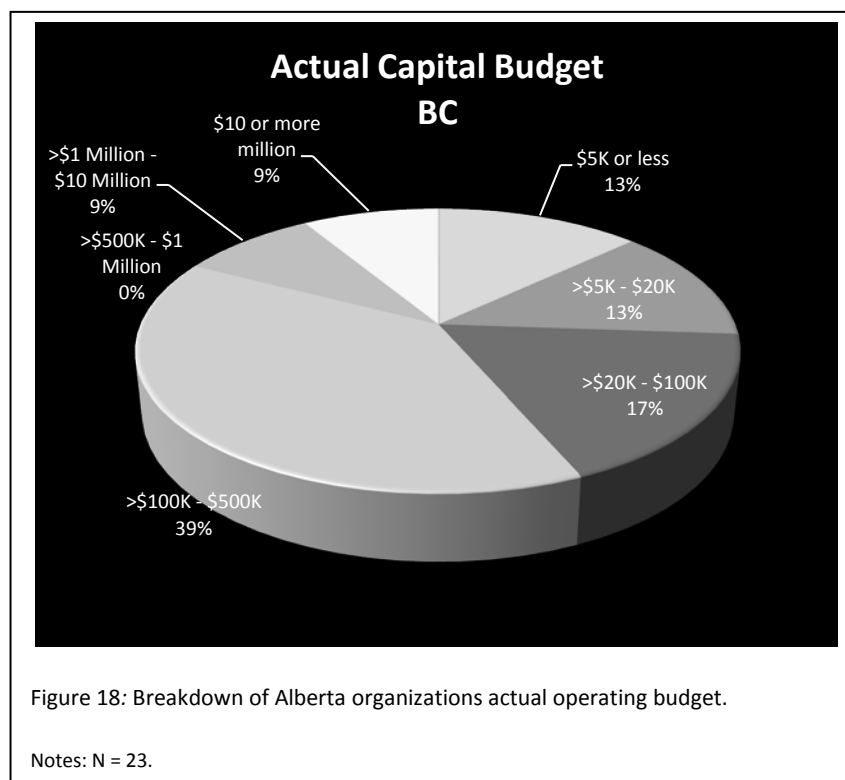
Notes: N = 18

As Figure 17 shows, the largest proportions of BC ESE organizations surveyed (who provided operating budget information), like those in Alberta, fall within the \$100,000 to \$500,000 range (27%; N = 16), the



\$1,000,000 to \$10,000,000 (27%; N = 16) and the \$20,000 to \$100,000 (23%; N = 14) range for operating budgets.

As Figure 18 shows, in regards to actual capital budgets, the largest proportions of BC ESE organizations surveyed (who provided capital budget information) fall within the \$100,000 to \$500,000 range (39%; N = 9).



Sources of Revenue

To gain information about sources of revenue for Alberta and BC SE organizations, survey participants were asked “for the last fiscal year, please indicate your organization’s total revenues from the following areas”. Most environmental SE organizations depended on many different sources of revenue, including government grants, sales of goods, donations, and memberships and subscriptions. Respondents were given a list of 12 predetermined categories and the opportunity to identify “Other” sources not provided in the list. A small proportion (1% Alberta; 0% BC) used this category to identify revenues from casinos and gaming activities, so this was added as a separate category in Figure 19.

Again, not all respondents were able to provide detailed revenue information. Respondents for 35 Alberta and 57 BC organization provided revenue information in one or more of the categories. For this group of participants if one or more categories were filled in but other categories were left blank, an

assumption was made that the blank categories represented \$0. Participants were not given the option, in responding to this question, to indicate that they were aware of receiving income from a particular source but were unable to specify the exact (or estimated) amount. In those cases where participants were unable to complete any of the revenue information categories they were treated as “missing” (N = 12 Alberta; N = 20 BC) for this analysis. Thus, our summary underestimates the numbers of environmental SE organizations receiving income from any particular source.

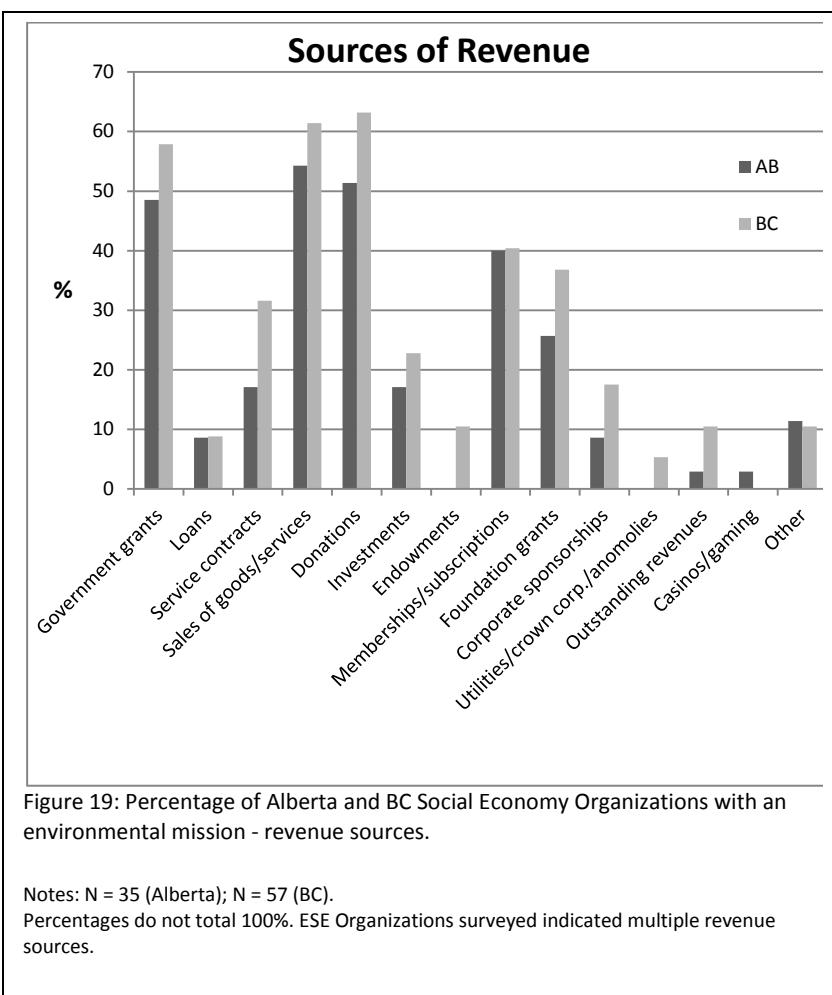


Figure 19 shows that for Alberta and BC ESE organizations, the most frequent sources of revenues reported were from the sales of goods and services (54% and 61% respectively), government grants (49% and 58%), donations (51% and 63%), and memberships and subscriptions (40% and 40%).

Table 9 provides a summary of revenues, both median and sum totals, for those participants who included a dollar amount greater than zero in one or more of the revenue categories, while Table 10 provides the sum totals from all categories.

Table 9: Sources of revenue

	Alberta			BC		
	N	Median	Sum	N	Median	Sum
SALES REVENUE						
Service contracts	6	\$64.5K	\$3.6 Million	18	\$100 K	\$22.1 Million
Sales of goods/ services	19	\$20 K	\$244 Million	35	\$80.7 K	\$29.7 Million
Memberships/ subscriptions	14	\$4 K	\$3.2 Million	23	\$1.6 K	\$481 K
SUBTOTAL			\$250.8 Million			\$52.3 Million
SOURCES OF FINANCE						
Donations	18	\$42.5 K	\$45.8 Million	36	\$28.3 K	\$55.7 Million
Government grants	17	\$43K	\$3.7 Million	33	\$80K	\$21.6 Million
Investments	6	\$3.8 K	\$167.9 K	13	\$6K	\$24.4 Million
Loans	3	\$15K	\$177 K	5	\$100 K	\$1.0 Million
Endowments	0	--	--	6	\$285 K	\$2.2 Million
Foundation grants	9	\$70 K	\$1.6 Million	21	\$29.6 K	\$1.6 Million
Corporate sponsorship	3	\$5 K	\$134.7 K	10	\$34.2 K	\$1.3 Million
Utilities/crown corporations	0	--	--	3	\$24 K	\$75 K
Outstanding revenues/ anomalies	1	--	\$41.1 K	6	\$70 K	\$154 K
Casinos/gambling	1	--	\$57.8 K	0	--	--
Other	4	\$57 K	\$1.5 Million	6	\$17.5 K	\$1.8 Million
SUBTOTAL			\$53.2 Million			\$109.8 Million

Table 10: Total revenues in \$ amounts for ESE organizations by province

Revenues	N	Median	Sum	N	Median	Sum
Total Revenues	35	128,000	303.5 Million	57	220,000	162.1 Million

In terms of ranges of revenue, the largest proportions of Alberta ESE organizations that provided revenue information reported revenues less than \$20K (26%). Another 20% of the organizations reported total revenue ranges between \$20K - \$100K and \$500K - \$1 Million.

BC environmental SE organizations reported different ranges. The largest proportions of BC organizations that provided revenue information reported revenues between \$100K and \$500K (30%), with another 23% reporting ranges between \$1 million - \$10 million.

Market Activity

Environmental SE organizations in Alberta and BC participated in a number of market based activities. If the earned revenue from market based activities are considered to be service contracts (\$25.7 million), the sales of goods and services (\$273.7 billion), and membership and subscriptions (\$3.7 million) environmental SE organizations in AB and BC earned over \$303.1 million from market activities.

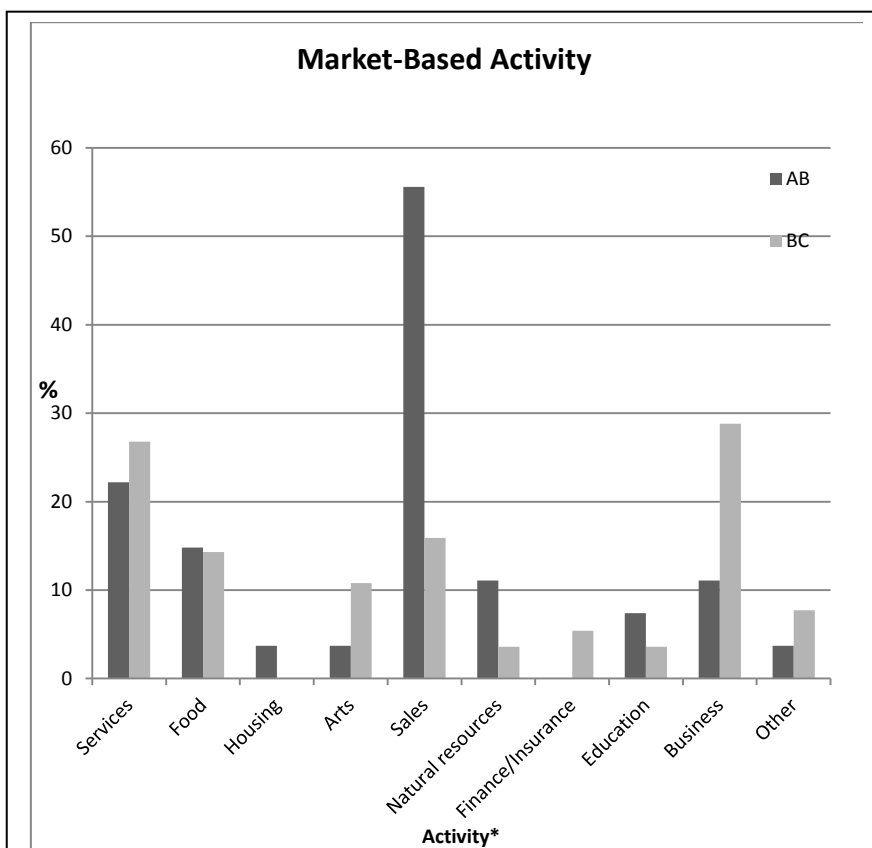


Figure 20: Percentage of Alberta and BC Organizations engaged in market-based activities.

Notes: N = 93 (Alberta); N = 201 (BC).

Percentages do not total 100%. Many of the ESE Organizations surveyed identified multiple market based activities. *Services includes social, professional, technical, scientific, administrative, public, health care, employment, personal, business, and consulting; Food includes service/catering, production and distribution; Housing includes accommodation, housing, and property management; Arts includes arts and culture, gallery arts, theatre and performing arts; Sales includes retail and wholesale; Natural resources includes Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Mining; Finance/Insurance includes only finance/insurance; Education includes only education; Business includes production/manufacturing, construction, transportation/storage, real estate, etc.; Other includes unspecified and unclassifiable data. Details describing market based activity categories in this graph can be found in Table 11.

Provincially, 57% (N = 27) of Alberta and 73% (N = 56) of BC environmental SE organizations reported that they had earned at least a portion of their income through market-based or business activity (i.e., through the provision of goods and/or services).

Figure 20 provides a summary of the proportion of environmental SE organizations in Alberta and BC who reported involvement in a variety of market based activities. Alberta ESE organizations reported much higher participation in sales than did BC organizations (56% and 16% respectively), while BC organizations reported higher participation in

services (AB=22%; BC=27%), arts (AB=4%; BC=11%), and business (AB=11%; BC=29%).

Table 11 provides a detailed account of the types of market-based activity reported by the ESE organizations surveyed in Alberta and BC. Note that the work sector groupings in Table 11 were used to inform the categories seen in Figure 20.

Table 11: SE Organizations market based activity by province.

	Alberta		BC		Total	
Work Sector	N	%	N	%	N	%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining	3	11.1	2	3.6	5	6.0
Finance/insurance	--	--	3	5.4	3	3.6
Arts						
Arts and culture	--	--	2	3.6	2	2.4
Gallery arts	1	3.7	1	1.8	2	2.4
Theatre and performing arts	--	--	3	5.4	3	3.6
Food						
Service/catering	2	7.4	2	3.6	4	4.8
Production	1	3.7	1	1.8	2	2.4
Distribution	1	3.7	5	8.9	6	7.2
Housing						
Accommodation	--	--	--	--	--	--
Housing	1	3.7	--	--	1	1.2
Property management	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sales						
Retail	15	55.6	8	14.3	23	27.7
Wholesale	--	--	1	1.6	1	1.2
Services						
Social	--	--	--	--	--	--
Professional	--	--	--	--	--	--
Technical/scientific	3	11.1	7	12.5	10	12.0
Administrative	1	3.7	--	--	1	1.2
Public administration	--	--	--	--	--	--
Health care	--	--	--	--	--	--
Employment	--	--	1	1.8	1	1.2
Personal	2	7.4	1	1.8	3	3.6
Business	--	--	4	7.1	4	4.8
Consulting	--	--	2	3.6	2	2.4
Education	2	7.4	2	3.6	4	4.8
Business						
Production/Manufacturing	--	--	--	--	--	--
Construction	--	--	--	--	--	--

Transportation/storage	--	--	1	1.8	1	1.2
Real estate	1	3.7	3	5.4	4	4.8
Communications	1	3.7	--	--	1	1.2
Waste management	--	--	3	5.4	3	3.6
Recreation/tourism	--	--	1	1.8	1	1.2
Day care	--	--	3	5.4	3	3.6
Janitorial/cleaning	1	3.7	2	3.6	3	3.6
Landscaping/gardening	--	--	2	3.6	2	2.4
Movers/hauling	--	--	--	--	--	--
Printing	--	--	1	1.8	1	1.2
Repair/maintenance	--	--	--	--	--	--
Sewing	--	--	--	--	--	--
Other						
Unclassifiable	1	3.7	5	5.9	6	7.2
Unspecified	--	--	1	1.8	1	1.2

Notes: N= 27 (Alberta); N = 56 (BC); N = 83 Total (Alberta and BC combined); columns % reflect proportion of the 83 organizations specifying a particular market based activity. Given that organizations could specify more than one activity column Ns total is greater than 83 and column %s add up to more than 100%.

Profit Distribution

A final characteristic used by BALTA to define a social economy organization was the ways in which profits are distributed. SE organizations should “reinvest surpluses back into the community or into the organization/enterprise for the purposes of achieving social/environmental goals.” To explore this measure, survey participants were asked “Typically, if your organization generates a financial surplus or profit, how does it distribute most of the surplus earned?”

Note that not all organizations were able to respond to this question (89%, N = 42 Alberta; 91%, N= 70 BC).

Figure 21 summarizes, for each province, the ways in which ESE organizations manage their distribution of profits.

Participants were given four possible alternatives to describe the ways in which their organizations distributed profits, as well as an

additional “Other” category. A proportion of participants in Alberta (N = 8) and BC (N = 3) used this “other” category to indicate that their organizations had “no surplus” (e.g., “work on a balanced budget,” “no profits,” “never had a surplus”). This new category was added.

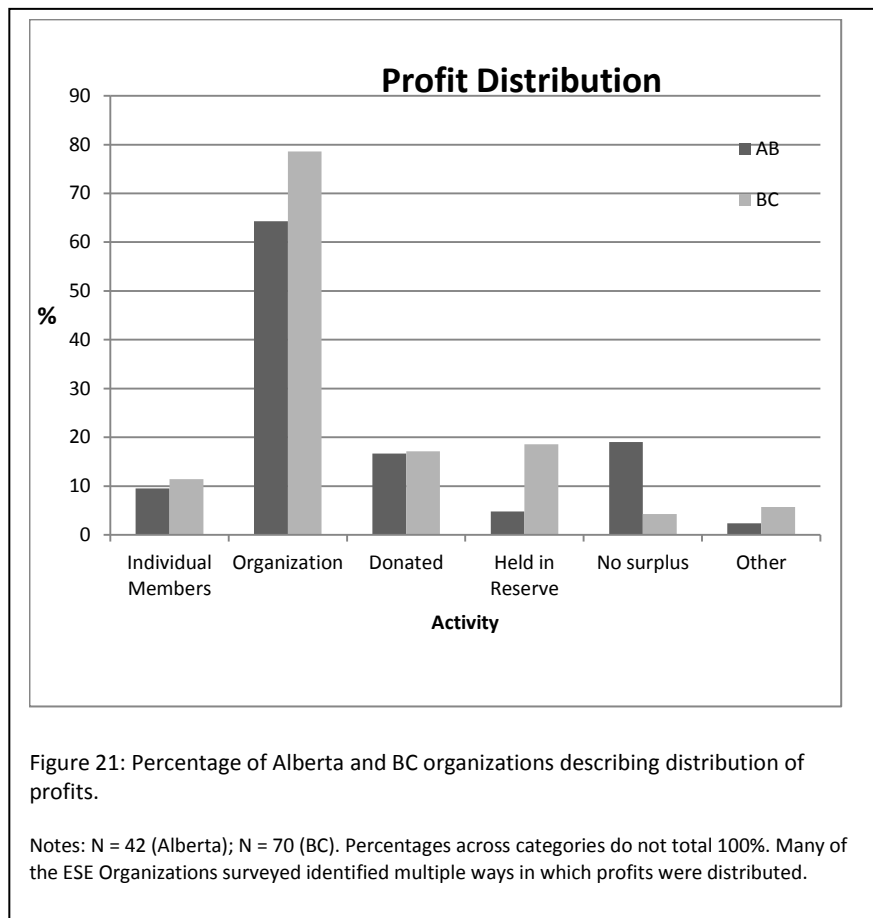


Figure 21 shows that in Alberta and BC the largest majority of organizations invested their profits back into their organizations (64% and 79% respectively), while another 17% in each province reported donating to other community organizations.

Appendix 1: Survey Questions

BALTA Social Economy Survey Questions (Abbreviated Format)

- Q1 – Q5: Organization name and contact information.
- Q6: Incorporation/Constitution year
- Q7: Web address
- Q8(a): Does your organization have more than one establishment in Alberta and/or BC?
- Q8(b): What geographic area does your establishment serve?
- Q9: Does your establishment have a membership base?
- Q10: How many persons are on your organization's board of directors?
- Q11: What is the legal form of your establishment/organization?
- Q12(a): Please identify the sector(s) that your establishment works in.
- Q12(b): Please specify the primary sector of your establishment.
- Q13(a): Does your establishment have an explicitly stated social/purpose/mission?
- Q13(b): Please identify the categories that apply best to your establishment's social mission or scope of activities.
- Q13(c): Please specify the primary category.
- Q14(a) : Does your establishment have an explicitly stated environmental purpose/mission?
- Q14(b): Please identify the categories that apply best to your establishment's environmental purpose/mission.
- Q14(c): Please specify the primary category.
- Q15: Please indicated the number of employees within your establishment during the last financial year.[full-time, part-time, seasonal, freelance and contract, volunteers]
- Q16: Does your establishment employ specific target groups (or intended beneficiaries such as persons with disabilities, homeless people, women, persons with mental illness, ethnic communities?
- Q17: Does your organization earn some of its income through a market-based or business activity (i.e., through the provision of goods and/or services)?
- Q18: Does your organization offer/provide support to other organizations?
- Q19: Typically, if your organization generates a financial surplus or profit, how does it distribute most of the surplus earned?
- Q20: What was your actual operating budget and actual capital budget for the last full accounting year?
- Q21: For the last fiscal year, please indicate your organization's total revenues from the following areas [government grants, loans, service contracts, sale of goods/ services, etc.].
- Q22: Are you a member of any networks, associations or umbrella groups?
- Q23: Please list other social economy organizations that you interact with (if you interact with multiple organizations please name the three most frequent).
- Q24-Q26: Follow-up questions and comments.

Appendix 2: Comparison of Environmental SE organizations with General SE organizations from BALTA Mapping Project

	Social Economy Environmental N=124		Social Economy General N=478	
Organizational Structure	AB N=47	BC N=77	AB N=159	BC N=319
Age (years)	19	15.5	28.7	25.9
Legal form				
Not for profit organization	45%	51%	47%	50%
Society	45%	29%	30%	34%
Not for profit corporation	11%	8%	16%	13%
Co-operative	9%	7%	16%	8%
Charity	11%	14%	7%	11%
For profit corporation	4%	21%	6%	10%
Association	4%	1%	4%	2%
Foundation	4%	7%	3%	4%
Other	2%	8%	3%	4%
Membership base	N=33 ²	N=41	N=112	N=204
Members: median	210	142	135	126
Less than 500 members: organizations	73%	83%	78%	83%
Board of directors	N=46	N=70	N=156	N=291
Directors: median	9	8.5	9	9
Women directors: median	3	4	3.5	4
Geographic Range Serviced	N=47	N=77	N=159	N=319
Neighborhood	32%	30%	25%	33%
City / town	40%	36%	41%	46%
Region	51%	60%	48%	51%
Province	36%	29%	28%	25%
National	26%	20%	13%	14%
International	19%	21%	8%	9%
Support for other organizations	N=38	N=68	N=120	N=231
Organizations	81%	88%	76%	72%
Type				
Networking	66%	67%	63%	65%
Advocacy and promotion	63%	57%	55%	52%
Training	37%	52%	50%	47%
Capacity building	53%	71%	43%	60%
Research and education	47%	52%	39%	37%
Financial	32%	32%	32%	35%
Organizational development	37%	43%	31%	40%
Technical	32%	44%	28%	33%
Enterprise development	11%	28%	12%	23%

Other	5%	6%	4%	4%
Purpose and Mission	N=43	N=73	N=133	N=286
Social mission	92%	95%	84%	90%
Activity				
Education	44%	43%	43%	29%
Basic needs provision	39%	16%	36%	16%
Health	51%	29%	32%	15%
Housing	21%	11%	29%	20%
Human rights	28%	14%	24%	12%
Family services	12%	12%	21%	13%
Legal/financial services	7%	12%	10%	6%
Fair trade	19%	14%	8%	5%
Environment	9%	15%	4%	4%
Social/economic development	2%	1%	2%	3%
Arts and culture	0%	7%	1%	10%
Other	0%	1%	3%	2%
Target groups served				
General community	49%	45%	44%	37%
Children/youth	30%	26%	38%	21%
Lower income individuals	21%	29%	31%	24%
Indigenous peoples	28%	23%	29%	16%
Persons with disabilities	16%	22%	27%	27%
Homeless persons	19%	18%	27%	16%
Women	21%	25%	24%	19%
Persons with mental illness	14%	21%	23%	20%
Unemployed persons	16%	22%	23%	20%
Elderly persons	21%	21%	20%	17%
Ethnic communities	19%	18%	19%	11%
Refugees	19%	7%	17%	5%
Other	0%	0%	0%	1%
Environmental mission	100%	100%	30%	24%
Activity				
Conservation and protection	55%	46%	55%	46%
Resource management	49%	34%	49%	34%
Health	40%	18%	40%	18%
Pollution prevention	38%	29%	38%	29%
Agriculture and food	38%	26%	38%	26%
Alternative energy	38%	18%	38%	18%
Climate change	36%	27%	36%	27%
Alternative business practices	34%	44%	34%	44%
Waste management/recycling	30%	29%	30%	29%
Transportation	21%	16%	21%	16%
Research/independent science	19%	13%	19%	13%
Ecolabeling/auditing/monitoring	15%	8%	15%	8%

Green building/architecture	13%	22%	13%	22%
Legal/financial services	4%	7%	4%	7%
Sustainability	4%	10%	4%	10%
Education	2%	6%	2%	6%
Other	4%	4%	4%	4%
Primary Work Sectors	N=47	N=77	N=155	N=311
Services	35%	30%	42%	41%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining	17%	7%	15%	4%
Housing	4%	0%	10%	7%
Environment	24%	19%	8%	5%
Education and training	7%	12%	8%	5%
Sales (retail and wholesale)	9%	4%	6%	2%
Arts and culture	2%	14%	4%	24%
Finance and insurance	2%	6%	4%	8%
Business (manufacturing, construction, transportation/storage, real estate, catering/hosting, communications, waste management, recreation/tourism)	0%	8%	3%	4%
Human Resources				
Volunteers: total / N organizations	2628 N=25	4773 N=45	9929 N=87	12,453 N=181
Full-time employees: total / N	227 N=25	5625 N=56	3096 N=108	9412 N=235
Part-time employees: total / N	77 N=16	786 N=38	1250 N=79	3256 N=196
Seasonal employees: total / N	85 N=11	325 N=19	258 N=39	713 N=76
Freelance and contract: total / N	69 N=14	398 N=36	268 N=62	1843 N=152
Target group members: total / N	N=12	N=21	454 N=33	1240 N=61
Financial Profile				
Total operating budgets: million	\$25.7 N=32	\$96.5 N=60	\$209.6 N=123	\$428.8 N=258
Operating budget: median	\$338,404 N=32	\$248,566 N=60	\$400,000 N=32	\$400,000 N=60
Total capital budgets: million	\$19.5 N=18	\$884 N=23	\$212.6 N=62	\$978.4 N=80
Total revenue: million	\$303.5 N=35	\$162.1 N=57	\$2.1 Bil N=115	\$521.5 N=240

Sales revenue				
Service contracts	\$3.6 mil	\$22.1 mil	\$27.2 mil	\$77.8 mil
Sales of goods/services	\$244 mil	\$29.7 mil	\$1.9 Bil	\$71.7 mil
Memberships/subscriptions	\$3.2 mil	\$481,000	\$10.4 mil	\$3.2 mil
Sources of finance				
Government grants	\$3.7 mil	\$21.6 mil	\$45.0 mil	\$117.1 mil
Donations	\$45.8 mil	\$55.7 mil	\$55.4 mil	\$74.3 mil
Investments	\$167,900	\$24.4 mil	\$2.2 mil	\$73.9 mil
Loans	\$177,000	\$1.0 mil	\$20.6 mil	\$23.5 mil
Endowments	\$0	\$2.2 mil	\$400,000	\$4.1 mil
Foundation grants	\$1.6 mil	\$1.6 mil	\$5.9 mil	\$6.2 mil
Corporate sponsorship	\$134,700	\$1.3 mil	\$1.5 mil	\$3.8 mil
Utilities/crown corporations	\$0	\$75,000	\$40,000	\$200,000
Outstanding revenues/anomalies	\$41,100	\$154,000	\$100,000	\$1.3 mil
Casino/gambling	\$57,800	\$0	\$400,000	\$100,000
Other	\$1.5 mil	\$1.8 mil	\$5.7 mil	\$64.3 mil
Market-Based Activity	N=27	N=56	N=93	N=201
Earn revenue through sales	57%	73%	58.5%	63%
Activity				
Services	22%	27%	30%	43%
Sales	57%	16%	30%	21%
Business	11%	29%	20%	35%
Food	15%	14%	15%	8%
Natural resources	11%	4%	13%	1%
Finance/insurance	0%	5%	8%	6%
Arts	4%	11%	5%	7%
Education	7%	4%	4%	5%
Housing	4%	0%	2%	5%
Other	4%	8%	4%	1%
Profit Distribution	N=42	N=70	N=142	N=270
Invested back into organization	64%	79%	74%	79%
Distributed to members	10%	11%	13%	9%
Held in reserve	5%	19%	11%	20%
Donated to other organizations	17%	17%	9%	11%
No surplus	19%	4%	9%	6%
Other	2%	6%	4%	2%

¹ "Q" refers to the question number from the BALTA Social Economy Survey Appendix A

² Unless otherwise stated, the N, or number of respondents, for any particular question was the entire survey population

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