

# Organization of co-operative development in Quebec

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*Canadian Association for Studies  
in Co-operation  
Saskatoon, May 2007*

# Introduction

## ■ Results

- For the two last years
  - 160 new co-operatives
  - 1,223 jobs created or maintained
  
- For the ten last years
  - 11,000 jobs created or maintained

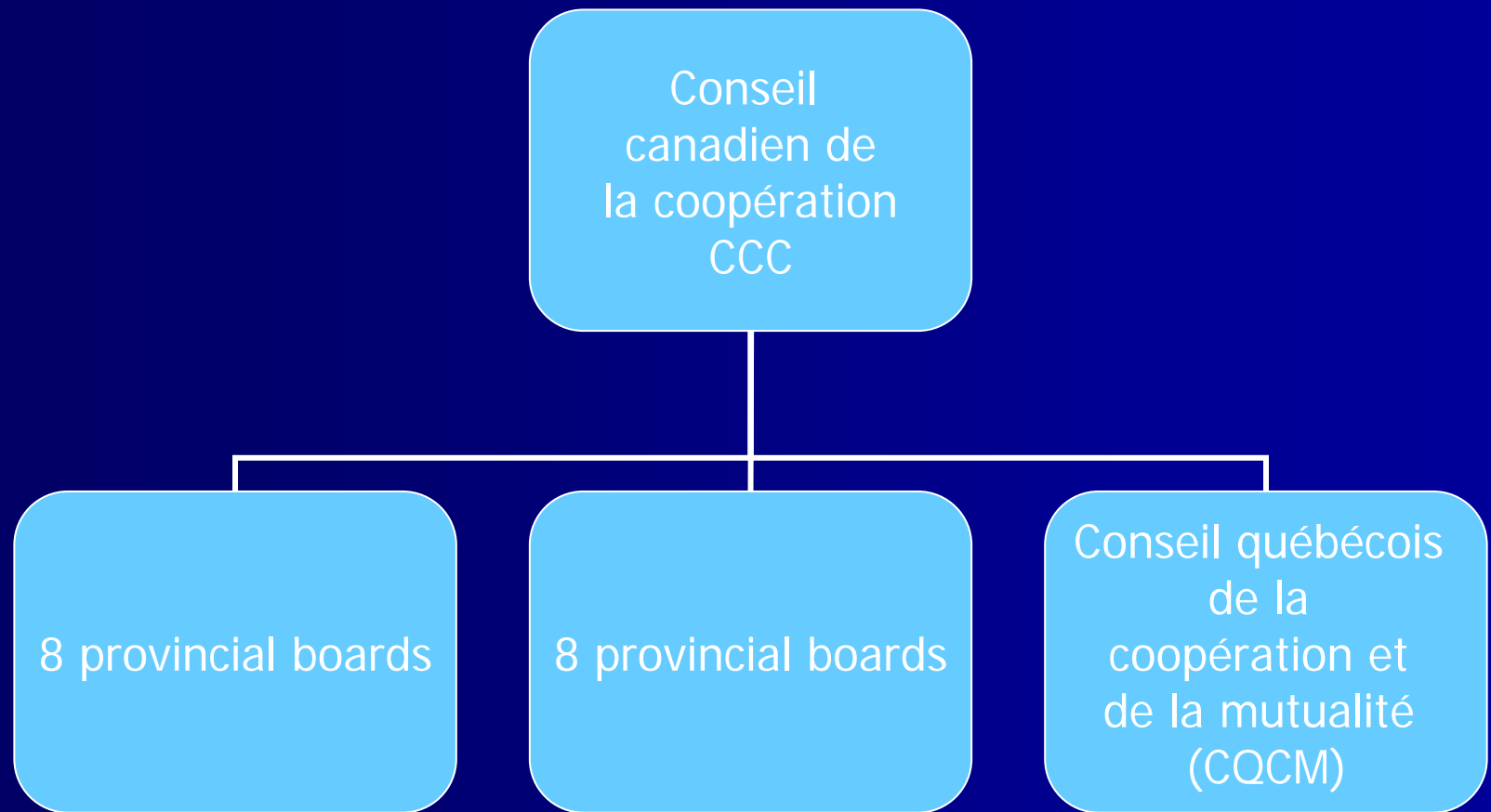
# Structure of Presentation

- An overview of the organizations
- The regional development co-operative network
- The key to success
- Three conditions for co-operative development

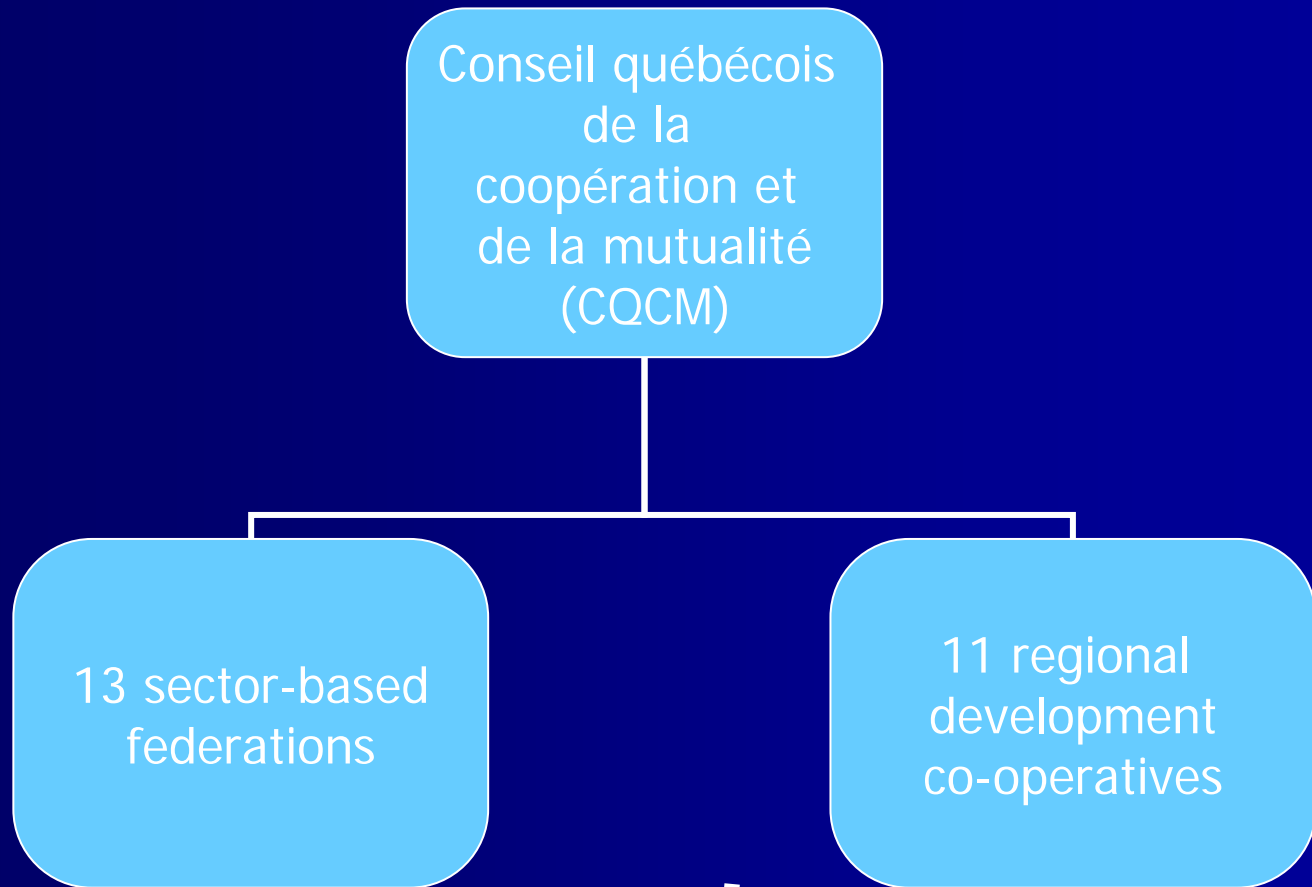
# Part One: An Overview of the Organizations (2004 statistics)

	All co-operatives	Non financial co-operatives
Number of co-operatives	2,834	2,223
Assets in Canadian \$	\$111 billion	\$4.1 billion
Number of jobs	77,000	36,900
Number of members	7.7 million (Quebec total population = 7.5 million)	

# Structure of the Co-operative Movement



# Structure of the Co-operative Movement



# Five Main Players

- Regional development co-operatives
- Federations
- Ministry of Economic Development
- Investissement Québec
- CQCM

# Organization of Co-operative Development in Quebec

Part Two:

The Regional Development Co-  
operative Network



# Part Two: The Regional Development Co-operative Network

- **3 objectives**
- Help promoters starting up
- Bring co-operatives together
- Represent co-operatives

# Role of Regional Development Co-operatives

## 1. To help promoters of projects that are starting up

- For the two last years
  - 160 new co-operatives
  - 1,223 jobs created or maintained
- For the ten last years
  - 11,000 jobs created or maintained
- Cost = \$2,500/job

# Role of Regional Development Co-operatives

2. To bring co-operatives together
  - A crossroads

# Role of Regional Development Co-operatives

## 3. To represent co-operatives on main socio-economic boards

- Municipal sector, education, economic development, health, culture, environment...
- Partnership with regional organizations

# Organization of Co-operative Development in Quebec

Part Three:

The Key to Success

# Part Three: The Key to Success

- Co-operative development done by and for co-operatives
- Two priorities
  - Respect of co-operative principles
  - Respect of local and regional priorities

# Organization of Co-operative Development in Quebec

Part Four:

Three Conditions for Co-operative  
Development

# Part Four:

## Three Conditions for Co-operative Development

- 3 conditions:
  - Legislation
  - Financing and professional assistance
  - Networking



# Part Four: Three Conditions for Co-operative Development

## Legislation

- A legislation that both encourages and frames the development
- Arbitration by CQCM between progressive and conservative forces

# Part Four:

## Three Conditions for Co-operative Development

Financing and professional assistance

- Fiscal system
  - Balance between private and co-operative sectors
- Access to capital
  - Fiscal policies promoting member investment in their co-operative
  - Capital offer for small and large co-ops
- Professional assistance
  - RDC, federations, partners

# Part Four:

## Three Conditions for Co-operative Development

### Networking

- Sector-based network
  - 13 federations
- Regional network
  - 11 regional development co-operatives

### From these networks:

- Balanced fiscal system, access to capital, professional assistance

# **Organization of Co-operative Development in Quebec**

## **Conclusion**

# Conclusion

- CQCM
  - Co-ordination role → networks synergy
- RDC help take advantage of and improve potential
- Regional commitment co-ops improve regional socioeconomic development

# Conclusion

- The crux
  - Co-operative development by co-operative movement
- A hope
  - A source of inspiration for further discussion

# Conclusion

## ■ References

- [www.coopquebec.coop](http://www.coopquebec.coop)
- [www.fcdrq.coop](http://www.fcdrq.coop)
- [www.mdeie.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.mdeie.gouv.qc.ca)
  - Click: entreprises
  - Click: coopératives

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- Thank you!
  
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