

*Proposal Summary for the 2021 ACE Institute:*

**Research and Development Priorities for Strengthening the Cooperative Community in  
Canada, the United States and the Caribbean**

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The international cooperative community -- including cooperatives and their affiliated and support organizations in Canada, the United States and the Caribbean -- may be at a critical turning point in the way it defines and addresses domestic and international cooperative research and development priorities. This turning point is a shift from primarily reactive, sector-specific and piecemeal approaches to proactive, cross-sectoral and comprehensive strategies designed to strengthen and expand the influence of cooperatives in the world economy and society.

The proposed paper will be written in English. It will present selected examples, lessons and recommendations from my book *Strengthening the Cooperative Community*, published in March 2021. The book is based on over 50 years of experience in researching, developing, teaching, and writing about cooperatives. (See the accompanying PDF of the book.)

The major results to be featured in the proposed paper will be an annotated set of 16 recommendations derived from the book's historical and contemporary case studies. The presentation of the recommendations will focus on measurable, practical actions that can be taken by ACE and its members by 2030. (See the accompanying draft summary of recommendations from the book.)