

Agenda for Transformative Co-operative Leadership Masterclass
International Centre for Co-operative Management
Saint Mary's University

Dates: October 26-30, 2026

DRAFT AGENDA VERSION Oct 5, 2026



Saturday: Travel and arrive in Halifax, NS, Canada.	
Hotel: Cambridge Suites Halifax	
Sunday: Free day to explore Halifax.	
Monday: October 26	
Training day on-campus (Saint Mary's University - 903 Robie Street, Sobey Building, 4th Floor , Unilever Lounge)	
Content Focus: Develop a common understanding of the co-operative enterprise model and alignment with the International Co-operative Alliance's Statement on the Co-operative Identity. Meeting the group and their co-ops.	
INSTRUCTIONS:	Pack your water bottle and re-usable mug; business casual and comfortable walking shoes.
8:30am	Arrive and settle in between 8:30am-9:00: Coffee/tea and light snack available
9:00-9:30am	Course launch, territory acknowledgement, opening reflection, overview of ICCM
9:30-10:00am	Introductions - who is in the room.
10:00-10:15am	Break
10:15-11:00am	State of .Co-ops - From Global to Local, including Canada, Atlantic Canada, Nova Scotia
11:00-11:30am	Philippines co-op sector overview (all sectors) (Donna Dizon, Group Senior Vice President for Admin and Corporate Planning; CEO and Principal – Co-operative College of the Philippines)
11:30-12:00pm	Questions and Discussion of Global to Local and Philippines Sector Overview
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch - Private Dining Room, Loyola Building (attached to & adjacent to Sobey Building), Room 298
1:00-2:00pm	Enterprise Model (operationalizing the Statement on the Cooperative Identity- ICA)
2:00-2:15pm	Break
2:15-2:30pm	Introduce Enterprise Model framework for use during vignettes
2:30-3:30pm	PART 1: Vignette presentations on each organization in the room - 5 minutes each. Participants are asked to prepare in advance. Such info as: type of co-op, sector, age/maturity, products/services, location, size, membership, etc.
3:30-3:45pm	Break
3:45-4:45pm	PART 2: Vignette presentations on each organization in the room - 5 minutes each.
4:45-5:00pm	Wrap-up the day.
	At 5pm, the group is free to explore Halifax, have dinner, etc.
Tuesday: Training day on-campus (Saint Mary's University - 903 Robie Street, Sobey Building, 4th Floor , Unilever Lounge)	
Content Focus: Social, economic, and environmental systems and complexity.	
INSTRUCTIONS:	Pack your water bottle and re-usable mug; business casual and comfortable walking shoes.
8:30am	Arrive and settle in between 8:30am-9:00: Coffee/tea and light snack available
9:00-9:30am	Open reflection and discussion of takeaways from previous day
9:30-10:15am	Part 1: Co-operators - organization overview and alignment with enterprise model (Shawna Sykes, VP of Compliance and Chief Compliance Officer)

10:15-10:30am	Break
10:30-11:30am	Systems Thinking Across Human, Social, Economic and Environmental Dimensions (Guest Presenter - Jorge Campos, Universidad FUNDEPOS, Costa Rica)
11:30-12:00	Interactive element - your sustainability worldview and leadership
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch - Private Dining Room, Loyola Building (attached to & adjacent to Sobey Building), Room 298
1:00-2:30pm	Climate Leadership - Vancity Credit Union Case Study
~5 minutes	Wrap-up comments and reminders for tomorrow
2:30pm	Transport to Maritime Museum
3:00pm	Maritime Museum of the Atlantic - guided tour (1 hour) followed by time to explore the museum (open until 8pm on Tuesdays)
	At 5pm, the group is free to explore Halifax, have dinner, etc.
Wednesday: Travel to/from Annapolis Valley of Nova Scotia for co-operative visits	
Content Focus: Co-operative visits, and thinking through the lens of co-op enterprise model and complex systems (social, environmental, economic)	
INSTRUCTIONS:	No open-toed shoes allowed for apple processing plant tour and Just Us! Note the processing plant is refrigerated so dress for colder temperatures. Pack your water bottle and re-usable mug; comfortable clothes and walking shoes. Opportunities to purchase souvenirs (bring a reuseable shopping bag).
7:45am	Load bus in front of Cambridge Suites Hotel entrance
8:00am	Depart hotel on bus for the Valley (~1 hour drive)
9:15-10:30am	Scotian Gold (producers co-op) tour with David Parrish, CEO
	Travel - Coldbrook to Wolfville (20 min)
~11:00am	Visit to Wolfville Farmers' Market Cooperative - Q & A Session with Kelly Marie Redcliffe, Executive Director
12:00-2:00pm	Lunch followed by time to walk in Wolfville Lunch spot: Troy Restaurant (in Wolfville) - 12 Elm St.
2:00pm	Bus departs for winery location (10 min drive to vineyard)
2:15-3:15pm	Wine tasting at Benjamin Bridge (1966 White Rock Rd, Wolfville)
3:30-4:45pm	Just Us! Coffee Roasting Co-operative (worker co-op)
4:45pm	Bus departs Just Us!
~6:00pm	Drop off at hotel in Halifax. Free evening and dinner on your own.
Thursday: Training day on-campus (Saint Mary's University - 903 Robie Street, Sobey Building, 4th Floor , Unilever Lounge)	
Content Focus: Complex co-operative networks, co-operation among cooperatives and solidarity.	
INSTRUCTIONS:	Dress for group photos. Pack your water bottle and re-usable mug.
8:30am	Arrive and settle in between 8:30am-9:00: Coffee/tea and light snack available
9:00-9:20am	Open reflection and discussion of takeaways from previous day

9:20-9:50am	Feature partner presentation: US Co-ops (Virginia Brown, Director of Cooperative Engagement and Member Outreach)
9:50-10:45am	Complex Co-operative Networks Framework
10:45-11:00am	Break
11:00-11:30am	From Strong Cooperatives to Strong Cooperative Ecosystems; Co-operative Development Foundation (Kirstie Boyette, Deputy Director, CDF, USA)
11:30-12:00pm	Group photos, including with Saint Mary's University sign (outside)
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch - Private Dining Room, Loyola Building (attached to & adjacent to Sobey Building), Room 298
1:00-2:00pm	Interactive Element - Analysis of Complex Co-op Networks Framework (context of those in the room)
2:00-2:15pm	Break
2:15-2:50pm	Co-operators - "one organization" from local to global. Presenter: Shawna Sykes, VP of Compliance and Chief Compliance Officer
2:50-3:00pm	Wrap-up comments and instructions for tomorrow Grab & go snacks and cold drinks
3:00-4:30pm	University Campus Guided Tour and visit University Bookstore (closes at 4:30pm)
	After the bookstore, you are free to explore Halifax, have dinner, etc.
Friday: Final day (Saint Mary's University - 903 Robie Street, Sobey Building, 4th Floor , Unilever Lounge)	
Content Focus: Circularity as strategy and business models for achieving circularity	
8:30am	Arrive and settle in between 8:30am-9:00: Coffee/tea and light snack available
9:00-9:20am	Open reflection and discussion of takeaways from previous day
9:20-10:00am	Circularity - what it is, why it matters, and business model framing
10:00-10:15am	Circularity - Co-operators vignette (Karen Flamand recording)
10:15-10:30am	Break
10:30-11:30am	Circularity - Examples/vignettes (Guest Presenter - Jorge Campos, Universidad FUNDEPOS)
11:30-12:30pm	Circularity - Interactive component
12:00-1:30pm	Lunch - Private Dining Room, Loyola Building (attached to & adjacent to Sobey Building), Room 298
1:30-3:00pm	Transformative Co-operative Leadership - Bringing it all together and next steps
3:00-4:00pm	Closing session, presentation of certificates of completion, photos, and celebratory snack
Saturday: Travel home or extend stay in Nova Scotia for tourism.	