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NEWS RELEASE
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The Co-operative Grocery Store Project in Earlton Creates an Action Committee

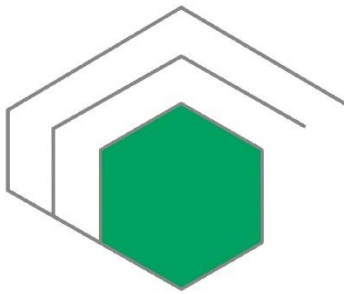
Earlton, September 12, 2018 — The Conseil de la coopération de l'Ontario (CCO), in partnership with the Municipality of Earlton, is proud to announce its Temporary Action Committee for the Co-operative Grocery Project in Earlton. This project will research and determine the possibility of opening a co-operative grocery store to serve the 1,200 residents in the village of Earlton.

Since the community meeting on June 27, 2018, which brought together more than 150 members of the Earlton community, more than 35 people have given their names to be part of the temporary action committee for the creation of a grocery cooperative. The CCO, being responsible for the selection process, unveiled the names of the 12 members of the Temporary Action Committee at a meeting on Monday night. The members of the committee are:

- Shanon Wiltmaack – President
- Samara Cull — Vice-President
- Melissa Cliche — Secretary
- Maryse Reinhardt — Treasurer
- Jean-Marc Boileau
- Daniel Dallaire
- Josée Gauthier
- Luc Grzela
- Lesha Lalonde
- Mathieu Rivard
- Reynald Rivard
- Gen Skelling

The committee brings together Francophone and Anglophone members of the community from various backgrounds. Dènik Dorval, Development Officer for the CCO says : "We have teachers, a dietitian, a business owner, a library director, co-operators, and many others on this committee. This project is proof of the power of cooperatives to bring their community together. Because the community owns the grocery store, people are encouraged to get involved and reinvest."

Following the closure of the village's only grocery store in Earlton, Grocery King in May, the Municipality of Armstrong passed a motion affirming the great need to create a co-op to provide local residents with a local choice. Luc Grzela, Action Committee member and teacher for



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the Jean-Vanier Catholic School says: "Many people depend on such a place because it's not easy to shop within a 20-minute drive. I had the privilege of seeing the benefits of the Moonbeam Co-operative and I want to see the same benefits in my community of Earlton. "

With strong multidisciplinary skills, the project moves forward with confidence. The action committee's mandate is to investigate and research the viability of a business that will meet the needs of the residents of Earlton. The next two meetings, organized by the CCO, will offer training on business succession in a cooperative model and a brainstorming period.

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About the Conseil de la coopération de l'Ontario

The Conseil de la coopération de l'Ontario is the organization of choice for education, promotion, collaboration and advisory services to ensure the sustainable development of French-language cooperatives and social enterprises in Ontario. The Conseil serves the community from its four offices in Ottawa, Toronto, Sudbury and Temiskaming Shores.

Photo Caption

The Temporary Action Committee for the Co-operative Grocery Project in Earlton.

Front row (from left to right): Daniel Dallaire, Lesha Lalonde, Gen Skelling, Shanon Wuitmaack et Maryse Reinhardt

Back row (from left to right): Samara Cull, Reynald Rivard, Josée Gauthier, Melissa Cliche, Mathieu Rivard, Jean-Marc Boileau et Luc Grzela

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