
NEWS RELEASE

The Co-operators welcomes BC Agriculture Council as its newest member

Abbotsford, BC, March 22, 2018: The Co-operators Group Limited is pleased to announce its newest member organization, the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC). The Co-operators, a Canadian insurance and financial services co-operative, now has 44 members, including co-operatives, credit union centrals and representative farm organizations.

"Today we celebrate an exciting day for B.C. agriculture," says Stan Vander Waal, Board Chair with BC Agriculture Council (BCAC). "BCAC has recently become a member partner with The Co-operators and look forward to a successful and mutually beneficial partnership. The Co-operators share many of the same values that guide our approach to business and we believe that by working together, this relationship will prove valuable to our members and the farmers and ranchers of British Columbia." Vander Waal continues, "This partnership also aligns with BCAC's strategic plan for organizational sustainability."

As a co-operative, The Co-operators Group Limited is owned and democratically controlled by members who use its services or products. The membership of The Co-operators consists of 44 organizations from every region of the country, representing the agriculture, finance, retail/consumer, service, health, and labour sectors of the Canadian economy.

"It is a pleasure to welcome the BC Agriculture Council as our newest member," said John Harvie, chairperson of the board of directors of The Co-operators. "As an organization representing BC farmers and farm associations, the BCAC will strengthen our co-operative by bringing its insights and perspective to our governance table."

About The Co-operators: *The Co-operators Group Limited is a Canadian co-operative with more than \$48 billion in assets under administration. Through its group of companies it offers home, auto, life, group, travel, commercial and farm insurance, as well as investment products. The Co-operators is well known for its community involvement and its commitment to sustainability. The Co-operators is listed among the Best Employers in Canada by Aon Hewitt and Corporate Knights' Best 50 Corporate Citizens in Canada. For more information, visit www.cooperators.ca.*

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