

# THE NLFC ANNOUNCES PROJECT EXPANSION



ST. JOHN'S, NL – TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2025

**Dear Members, Partners and Supporters,**

The Newfoundland-Labrador Federation of Co-operatives (NLFC) is pleased to announce the expansion of the Co-operative Incubator Program in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

The NLFC has received more than \$300,000 in total funding to support the expansion of the Co-operative Incubator Program. This new initiative introduces two complementary streams: The Build Your Co-op Incubator Program and the Grow Your Co-op Start-up Program. Together, these programs aim to strengthen the co-operative ecosystem in Newfoundland and Labrador by supporting both emerging and early-stage co-operatives through hands-on training & workshops, mentorship, peer support, funding, and expert guidance. The aim is to see this program play a crucial role in fostering innovation, economic development, and community empowerment throughout the province.

The NLFC extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government of Canada (through the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) and the Government of Newfoundland & Labrador for their support for this initiative. Their recognition of the significance of co-operatives in the local economy and their commitment to supporting innovative projects is truly commendable.

The NLFC is excited about the growth of co-operation in the province and is committed to ensuring that this newly-expanded Co-operative Incubator Program achieves its objective of seeing eight new co-ops incorporated in Newfoundland and Labrador and inviting two more start-up stage co-operatives to grow with the cohort.

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The expanded initiative will also address the growing need for co-operative development expertise in the province with Economic Development Officers receiving specialized training and first-hand experiences in co-operative development, adding to their professional toolkit and enhancing the mentorship capacity available to co-ops across the province.

Further details about the program's timelines and details will be shared through the NLFC's website, newsletter, and social media pages. Interested individuals and organizations are encouraged to visit and sign up to get the latest updates.

Quotes:

**“Together, we will cultivate a vibrant co-operative ecosystem in Newfoundland and Labrador that drives sustainable development and creates opportunities for all. Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to our organization and the co-operative movement. We look forward to embarking on another transformative journey together.”**

- Dave Walsh, Managing Director, NLFC

**“Co-operatives are powerful drivers of inclusive economic growth and community resilience. ACOA's investment in the Newfoundland and Labrador Federation of Co-operatives will help entrepreneurs turn ideas into thriving businesses that, in turn, will create jobs and strengthen local economies. These types of investments matter because they empower communities to innovate, collaborate and build sustainable futures.”**

- The Honourable Joanne Thompson, Member of Parliament for St. John's East, Minister of Fisheries, on behalf of the Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., K.C., Member of Parliament for Central Nova, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency