



BCCA Co-OP WEEK
INNOVATION FORUM

SPEAKERS

DIALOGUE SESSION: **SCALABLE SECTOR AND COMMUNITY CHANGE: AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE**



NORA MENKIN is the **Executive Director** of **The Co-op Funeral Home of People's Memorial**, a funeral home and mortuary that provides dignified, affordable burial and cremation services to individuals and families in Seattle and throughout the King County area.

SUSANNA SCHULTZ is the **Marketing Director** of **Central Co-op**, a natural grocery co-op located in Seattle, WA which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2018. Central Co-op is an example of a Solidarity Model of worker and consumer ownership that implements a better than \$15/hr entry level wage.



KATERI GUTIERREZ is a **Founder/Worker-Owner** of **Collective Avenue Coffee**, a worker-owned, co-operative that blends hand-crafted, specialty coffee with community and the arts - bridging the gap between inner-city youth and the lack of communal spaces to learn and grow through coffee.

DIALOGUE SESSION: **INNOVATION FOR IMPACT: A BC PERSPECTIVE**



TRISTA PEWAPISCONIAS is the **Indigenous Relations Lead** at **Co-operatives First**, an organization that provides the tools and connections group entrepreneurs need to start a co-operative business and help their communities grow and thrive. Trista is a member of the Little Pine First Nation in Saskatchewan and works alongside community members with their co-operative projects through business development and planning.

JESSICA VALENTINE is the **Sales Marketing Manager** at **Wood Shop Workers Co-op** which creates reclaimed and sustainably sources wood furnishings while focusing on meaningful employment for their workers and supporting local community development initiatives. Wood Shop was also highlighted as an example of women and youth entrepreneurship in the Government of Canada's M-100 Consultation "What We Heard" report. Jessica is also a co-founder and co-owner of Wood Shop.



LISA GIRODAY is the **Garden Design/Builder, Marketing Manager, and Co-Founder** of **Victory Gardens Co-operative**, a team of farmers for hire who specialize in transforming residential and commercial spaces into viable urban food gardens. With a background in environmental studies, sustainable product development and entrepreneurship, Lisa hopes to positively influence and affect the ecosystems to ensure future generations have a safe and sustainable place to live.

CHRISTINA BAKER is the **Director of Community Lending** at **Canadian Co-operative Investment Fund (CCIF)** and the President of Canada's Emerging Co-operators. Christina leads business development at CCIF and has more than 10 years of experience providing lending and financial services to businesses and community-based organizations.

