

# HAND IN HAND: A CO-OPERATIVE GUIDE FOR NEWCOMERS TO CANADA

Volumes 1 (CLB Levels 1-4)  
and 2 (CLB Levels 5-12)

Hand in Hand is an integrated skill resource appropriate for adult ESL learners, developed by Saskatchewan Co-operative Association. The series is written in plain language, with Volume 1 focused on Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) levels 1-4, and Volume 2 suitable for learners at Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) levels 5-12.

We developed the series to allow instructors/facilitators to incorporate co-operative-related content into their program planning and teaching to meet the needs and interests of their learners/participants. The manuals focus on topics related to the ESL/LINC theme Commercial Services & Business. They may also serve as supplementary material for the Employment and Career programs offered to newcomers.

Contents and activities aim at increasing learners' knowledge and awareness of how co-operatives (co-ops) can meet their social and economic needs. Although the resource is designed for instructors in language training programs to integrate co-operative-related content into their teaching, and to support newcomers in learning about key topics and concepts related to co-operatives, it is also useful to newcomers outside of these programs.

Our goal in developing Hand in Hand is to provide newcomers with the opportunity to learn about co-operatives and to consider co-ops as an opportunity for business development and employment. Co-operatives are a significant part of the economy in Saskatchewan, and there are employment opportunities in many of the ~800 co-operatives in the province, as well as the opportunity for people to work together and create their own employment by developing their own co-op.



**VOLUME 1** focuses on why and how people first started co-operatives, how they are different from other types of businesses, and presents and explains the co-operative principles.

**VOLUME 2** includes the topics from Volume 1 and explores types of co-operatives and guides learners through the basics of how a co-operative can be formed to meet a community need.



Both resources are available in print and digital forms, free for newcomers and instructors to use. Please contact us if you'd like to receive a print copy of either/both of the resources. The digital version can be downloaded from the **SCA website [sask.coop/learn-about-co-ops/tools-and-publications/guides-and-publications](https://sask.coop/learn-about-co-ops/tools-and-publications/guides-and-publications)**.

Saskatchewan Co-operative Association brings together all types of co-operatives in the province. Incorporated as a community service co-operative, we support and promote the co-operative model for community and economic development. SCA educates young people about co-operatives, leadership, and teamwork, provides co-operative development services, and educates adults about co-operatives.

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