



**Co-operative Housing International**  
A Sector of the International  
Co-operative Alliance



**CHI Panel Discussion - October 10, 2016**

**14:00-15:30**

### **Long-term Economic Sustainability**

Housing co-operatives place a priority on long-term economic success over short-term, unsustainable financial benefit, through comprehensive asset management and long-term financial planning. In this way, housing co-ops contribute to the sustained social well-being of the citizens whose housing needs are met through co-operation. Join our panel discussion on how housing co-ops around the world are taking the long view in financial planning and revenue generation.

### **Panelists**

---



**Alexandra Wilson** discovered a passion for co-op housing in 1974, when she and her neighbours organized the conversion of 260 rental flats to a housing co-operative, putting a stop to the owner's plans to evict the low-income tenants. This led to professional roles in the development, management and provision of association services to housing co-operatives. After 15 years as executive director of the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada, Alexandra stepped down to start up the Agency for Co-operative Housing, becoming its first CEO in 2005. The Agency regulates federally funded housing co-operatives in four Canadian provinces, providing risk-management, compliance-management, default-management and information services.



**QUEBEC** INTERNATIONAL  
**2016** SUMMIT  
OF COOPERATIVES

**OCTOBER 11-13**

**COOPERATIVES: THE POWER TO ACT**

## Panelists for Panel Discussion on Long-term Economic Sustainability



**Guido Schwarzendahl** is Managing Director of Bauverein Halle & Leuna in Germany which houses 17,000 occupants in over 8,000 flats. Due to a successful merger with another co-operative they are now one of the biggest housing co-operatives in Germany. Following the success of the merger he was invited to be a member on the evaluation committee for adjusting the local housing markets of the federal building ministry of Germany in 2007 and 2008 and again in 2014 up to 2016.



**Errum Sharif Bhajji** started working for co-operatives in Pakistan in 2004 when there were few women involved in co-ops. Before that, Errum worked in commercial banking where she worked for 14 years as a Credits Manager. The dire need for co-operative development in Pakistan influenced her to switch careers and start working with her husband under the banner of Karachi Co-operative Housing Societies Union Limited. She has since developed a women's co-operative wing and is currently working on expanding a co-operative school and is also starting a co-operative college.



**Nicholas Gazzard** is currently the President of Co-operative Housing International and has been Executive Director of the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada since 2005. Before that he was Executive Director of COHO, a housing co-op management services group in British Columbia. Nicholas has more than 30 years' experience in co-op housing, including close to 20 years as a housing co-op member. He served five years on the board of a co-operative lending institution.



**Allan Gaudrault** is a consultant analyst who's main interests are on strategic planning, innovative development and financing in the fields of housing and social economy. He has worked as Planning and Development Advisor for Société de développement de Montréal (SDM) and Senior Advisor, Community Development for Société d'habitation et de développement de Montréal (SHDM). He has also been a member of the Board of Directors and President of Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada and director of BRICH resource group. As a consultant he has collaborated with numerous community based and public organizations.



**Co-operative Housing International**  
A Sector of the International  
Co-operative Alliance