

Rural Co-operation in Canada

Murray Fulton
University of Saskatchewan, Canada

Abstract

The last decade has seen major changes to the agricultural landscape in Canada and with them major changes to the cooperative sector. The grain handling co-operatives on the Prairies have disappeared, as have most of the dairy co-operatives and chicken processing co-operatives outside of Quebec. Rural retail and farm input co-operatives, however, continue to thrive. This paper traces the changes that have occurred in the rural co-operative sector in Canada over the last 10-15 years and links them with the events that have occurred in agricultural policy, industrial structure, farmer philosophy and co-operative governance.