



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

FedDev Ontario Supports Launch of Economic Reactivation Program in Southern Ontario

Ottawa, July 13, 2020 - The Société Économique de l'Ontario (SÉO) and the Cooperation Council of Ontario (CCO) will launch a virtual economic reactivation program in the coming weeks to support Francophone businesses in Southern Ontario get back on their feet during this time. This program is made possible thanks to a \$1.5 million investment as part of the Government of Canada's [Regional Relief and Recovery Fund \(RRLF\)](#) delivered in Southern Ontario by Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario, [FedDev Ontario](#).

Further to the government's announcement of June 26, 2020, the SÉO and the CCO make the following statements:

"One of the core values of the SÉO is innovation and the creation of opportunity. We are honoured by Minister Joly's confidence in our organization to be a key player in rebuilding and reviving businesses in Southern Ontario. The project that we will implement in collaboration with the CCO is resolutely solutions-oriented and focused on working closely with entrepreneurs to contribute to the recovery of the Ontario economy. " Denis Laframboise, President of the SÉO

"Together with the SÉO, we are a big force behind economic development of Francophone and bilingual communities in Ontario. It is with great pleasure that we accept this mandate from FedDev Ontario to get the economy of Southern Ontario back on track and prepare it for a new wave of innovation. This revival project will increase our recovery efforts tenfold and our co-ops and social enterprises will not be left behind." Hosni Zaouali, President of the CCO

The SÉO and the CCO thank FedDev Ontario for their important role in the economic recovery.

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About the Société Économique de l'Ontario:

As a leader in Ontario's Francophone and bilingual economic sector, the SÉO facilitates innovative economic development, entrepreneurship, employability and immigration to ensure the prosperity of every stakeholder in the Ontario and Canadian economy.

About the Cooperation Council of Ontario:

The [Cooperation Council of Ontario](#) is an Ontario non-profit social enterprise founded in 1964. The CCO works to promote, develop and innovate cooperatives and social enterprises (collectively called collective enterprises) in Ontario. They are major players in community economic development, they do social

research and innovation, they are experts in organizational management, and they build international business relationships between collective enterprises here and abroad.

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