



YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

HOLIDAY INN SOUTH 4751 OWEN AYRES CT. EAU CLAIRE, WI

MARCH 5-6
2018

CO-OPS COMMIT

The **Co-ops Yes! Youth Leadership Conference** is a youth-led event for Minnesota and Wisconsin high school students who want to develop their leadership skills and are curious about cooperatives.

Learn from the experts! Is a co-op career in your future? Take the opportunity to interact with cooperative leaders and business professionals to find out.

Get motivated! Whether you struggle with peers or simply want to become a better leader, learn life lessons that will hit home and move you to action.

Have fun! Work as a team and share some laughs with fellow students from across Minnesota and Wisconsin. There will definitely be a T-shirt and maybe even some dancing (or singing) involved.

Take the leap

Co-ops Yes! is \$250 per participant and is open to Minnesota and Wisconsin high school students. Local co-ops and affiliated groups fully sponsor participants and chaperones to attend. Contact your local co-op for details or contact Ethan Giebel to get connected.

Registration forms are available online at www.cooperativenetwork.coop. Cooperative Network must receive all completed forms and payments by **Feb. 16, 2018**.

Questions?

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Cooperative Network
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#CoopsCommit

- Co-ops provide more than 2.1 million jobs nationwide, creating annual wages of more than \$75 billion.
- There are more than 6,000 credit unions in the U.S. serving 100 million members.
- For every \$1,000 spent at a food co-op, \$1,600 is generated in the local economy.
- There are 2,106 agriculture co-ops in the U.S., with more than 2 million member-owners.
- 1 out of 3 Americans is a member of a cooperative.
- When you join a co-op, you are not only a MEMBER - you are an OWNER.



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MONDAY, MARCH 5

- 8–10 a.m. **Registration**
- 10–10:30 a.m. **Opening Session**
Welcome & Overview
Cooperative Network Youth Board Intros
Youth Mixer
Putting YOU on the YOUth Board
(campaigning for a 2018–19 board seat)
Let's Cooperate
(conference information and hotel rules)
- 10:30–Noon **Co-ops 101**
Courtney Berner, Director
University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives
- Noon–1 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1–2 p.m. **Next Generation Cooperation**
Hear panelists from cooperatives speak about the value of co-ops for the next generation as they take questions from the audience.
- 2–2:50 p.m. **Session TBD**
- 2:50–3 p.m. **Break**
- 3–6 p.m. **Breakthrough Leadership**
Craig Hillier, CSP, Winning Edge Seminars
(Lakeville, Minn.)
- 6:10 p.m. **Youth Board Interviews**
- 6:30–7:20 p.m. **Group Photos**
Please be downstairs and ready for pictures at 6:30 p.m. unless you have been directed otherwise.
- 7:30–8:30 p.m. **Banquet**
- 8:30–10 p.m. **Hypnotist**
Dr. Al Snyder (Mondovi, Wis.)
- 10:30 p.m. **Room Checks**

Dress Code

- Day One** - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - Casual
Day One - 6 p.m. on - Business Casual
Day Two - Casual (Co-ops Yes! t-shirt and jeans)

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

- 6:50–7:35 a.m. **Breakfast**
- 7:40–8:45 a.m. **General Session**
Welcome & Eye Opener (Youth Board)
2018–19 Youth Board Elections
- 8:50–9:25 a.m. **Breakout Session I**
Choose from the following:
- Your Credit Union: Individual Power & Input**
Presented by the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation Scholarship Council
Bridget Petersen
SPIRE Credit Union
(Falcon Heights, Minn.)
Amanda Kissner
Wakota Federal Credit Union
(South Saint Paul, Minn.)
- Leadership Through Cooperation**
Lisa Konkel, Big Foot High School (Invited)
(Walworth, Wis.)
- The REA Movement**
Minnesota Rural Electric Association
- Directing Your Future in the Cooperative System**
Land O' Lakes
- 9:30–10:05 a.m. **Breakout Session II**
Choose from the sessions above.
- 10:05–10:20 a.m. **Break**
Check out of hotel rooms.
- 10:30–11:30 a.m. **Keynote: Commit to Lead**
Valerie Early, Leadership Facilitator & Past National FFA Officer (Wykoff, Minn.)
- 11:30 a.m.–Noon **Closing Session**
Slideshow of Conference
Closing Remarks by 2017–18 Youth Board
Announcement of 2018–19 Youth Board
- 12 p.m. **Pick Up Box Lunches**