Canadian Social Enterprise Sector Survey Highlights

Social Enterprises by Age

Social enterprise is defined here as a nonprofit organization that sells goods or provides services in the market for the primary purpose of creating a blended return on investment, both financial and social/ environmental/cultural.

Social enterprises were analyzed by three age groups: less than 6 years old; 6-15 years of age; and 16 years of age or more.

Survey Purpose

These highlights of social enterprise surveys represent all provinces/territories except Quebec, and report on activities and finances for 2013-14. They provide the first snapshot-in-time profile of the impact of social enterprise across Canada to inform procurement, training, investment and supporting policy action. 7,000 social enterprises were invited to participate and 1,350 responded.

The responding social enterprises reported at least \$1.19 billion in revenues, including over \$828 million in sales. They paid at least \$442 million in wages and salaries to 30,800 employees, of whom 76% were mission-focused employees. These social enterprises trained 116,000 people, provided services to over 5.48 million individuals, and engaged 116,000 volunteers.

Community Partners

Funding, guidance and support for the Social Enterprise Sector Survey included the Institute for Community Prosperity, Mount Royal University, Simon Fraser University, Enterprising Non-Profits Canada, and generous local sponsors and supporters in every Province and Territory. A full list of funders and partners is available at www.sess.ca.



Community Impact

Canada's Social Enterprises by Age...

Generate Sales Revenue

The more established 16+ yr social enterprises earn 80% of their revenue through sales.

Create New Jobs

On average, social enterprises hire more people as they mature.

Are both New and Established

When classified by age, 17% of responding SEs are 0-5 years old; 21% 6-15 years; and 62% are 16+ years.

Are Profitable

On average, net profits increase with maturity.

Engage Volunteers

Social enterprises engage more volunteers, on average, as they mature.

Have an Employment Development Purpose

Newer 0-5yr social enterprises are most likely to have an employment development purpose.

Are Co-operatives

Both older and younger age SEs are more than twice as likely to be a cooperative.

Are Socially Driven

Newer 0-5yr social enterprises are most likely to have a social purpose (90%).

See http://www.sess.ca for more highlight reports.

Key Findings

Canada's Social Enterprises by Age...

Address Employment Barriers

Canada's newer 0-5yr social enterprises are most likely to work with people living with employment barriers.

Include Nonprofits and Charities

84% of 6-15yr social enterprises are nonprofits, but newer SEs are less likely to be registered charities.

Receive Support from "Parents"

On average, social enterprises in the 6-15 year range provide most financial support to parents.

Operate in a Range of Sectors

Social enterprises sell a diverse range of goods and services.

Pay Employee Wages

The more established 16+ yr social enterprises pay, on average, \$664k in wages and salaries.

Receive Grants and Donations

As social enterprises mature they receive, on average, a higher amount of grants and donations.

Create Missionfocused Employment

Mission-focused employees account for 77% of total employees in all SEs.

Work with Diverse Communities

For most of the surveyed 17 target groups social enterprises employ, train or provide services to there is little difference based on age.



Canada's Social Enterprises by Age...

Support Multiple Disability Communities	Are WISE trainers	Protect the Environment
Canada's social enterprises, train, employ or provide services to people with physical psychological, and intellectual disabilities.	6-15yr social enterprises train about twice as many people as other ages.	Newer 0-5yr social enterprises are most likely to have an environmental purpose (43%).
Have an Employment Focus	Support Arts and Culture	Are both Urban & Rural
44% of 0-5yr social enterprises are likely to be employment-focused.	Social enterprises in all 3 age groups are equally likely to have a cultural purpose. (46%).	All age groups of social enterprises are similar in their Rural and Urban distribution.
	Fight Poverty	Generate income for "Parent"
	enterprises are most likely to have a poverty focus (58%).	On average, social enterprises in the 6-15 year range provide "parent" organizations with the highest revenue.