Canadian Social Enterprise Sector Survey Highlights

Disability-Focus

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.

Disability-focused social enterprises are defined as those that train, employ or provide services to people living with physical, psychiatric or intellectual disabilities.

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 Disability-Focused Social Enterprises...

Support Disability Communities

23% of Canada's responding 1,350 social enterprises are disability-focused.

Create Missionfocused Employment

Disability-focused social enterprises employ more people as part of their mission than other SEs.

Pay Wages and Salaries

Disability-focused social enterprises pay almost twice as much in wages and salaries compared to other SEs.

Are Socially Driven

87% of Canada's disabilityfocused social enterprises have a social purpose.

Receive Support from "Parents"

Disability-focused social enterprises receive almost twice as much financial support from "parent" organizations as other SEs.

Engage More Volunteers

Disability-focused social enterprises engage more than 3 times as many volunteers, on average, as other SEs.

Work with Everyone in a Community

41% of disability-focused social enterprises employ, train or provide services to all people in a community.

Operate in a Range of Sectors

Disability-focused social enterprises sell a diverse range of goods and services.

Key Findings

Canada's Disability-focused Social Enterprises...

Are focused on particular needs

41% of disability-related social enterprises work with all people living in a particular community.

Work with Low Income People and Women

Disability-focused social enterprises are almost twice as likely to train, employ or provide services to low income individuals.

Balance Multiple Purposes

Most of Disability-focused social enterprises work to balance multiple purposes

Create New Enterprises

Disability - focused social enterprises are a little more likely than other SEs to be less than 5 years old.

Are Profitable

Disability-focused social enterprises, on average, have a net profit of \$13k.

Create More Jobs

On average, Disabilityfocused social enterprises employ more people than other SEs.

Have an Employment Development Purpose

Almost half (45%) of disability - focused social enterprises have an employment development purpose.

Receive Fewer & Lower Government Grants

Disability-focused social enterprises reported receiving less on average in operating grants than other SEs.



Key Findings

Canada's Disability-focused Social Enterprises...

Are Young

More disability-focused social enterprises, are less than five years old than other SEs.

Are WISE trainers

More than one-third of disability-focused social enterprises are also a Workforce Integration Social Enterprise (WISE).

Get Parental Support

41% of disability-focused social enterprises have a "parent" organization.

Address Employment Barriers

Responding disabilityfocused SEs are more than twice as likely to train, employ or provide services to people living with employment barriers.

Support Arts and Culture

28% of disability-focused social enterprises have a cultural purpose.

More Urban than Rural

Disability-focused social enterprises are more likely to be Urban than other SEs.

Protect the Environment

21% of disability-focused social enterprises have an environmental purpose. This compares with 28% for other SEs.

Fight Poverty

83% of disability-focused social enterprises are also poverty-focused.

