

Work Stoppages in Social Economy Organizations: Dimension, Causes and Beyond Project #26

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Introduction

- ❑ The study examines the scale, duration and dimension of work stoppages in SEOs in Ontario.
- ❑ Explains the contextual dimension by examining the causes and implications of work stoppages for clients, employees, and community.

Background and Rationale

- ❑ Is explanation of work stoppages in SEO consistent with the collective voice
- ❑ Are labour disputes indication of social movement unionism

Project Methodology

- ❑ Quantitative data
- ❑ Data on work stoppages between 1994 and 2005 from the Ontario Ministry of Labour
- ❑ Types: i) nonprofits and cooperatives; ii) private, municipal, provincial, federal and various; iii) Association Canada categories:
- ❑ Simple descriptive statistics and regression analysis for research questions 1 to 3

Main Findings/Deliverables

- ❑ SEOs lost 490,190 persons days to 196 work stoppages resulting from labour disputes.
- ❑ Size related to work stoppages $R^2 = .07$. adjusted $R^2 = .07$. $p < .01$.
- ❑ Small organizations more prone to labour disputes.
- ❑ Highest person days lost in 1996, 1998 and 2000
- ❑ Coincided with downsizing in public sector, downloading to nonprofits and new funding regime

Implications for the Social Economy

- Public services are affected by work stoppages
- Absence of binding arbitration as in HLDAA
- Issue of ability to pay

How Students Benefited from the Project

- Research experience
- Data collection
- Statistical analysis

Conclusions and Next Steps

- Manuscript under review
- Presentation at conferences