

Cities generate immense wealth through their economic activity, yet much of this value is captured by financial actors, reshaping home ownership patterns, redistributing wealth, and destabilizing urban systems. Drawing on experience with a Waterloo start-up housing co-operative called Union Co-op and her research into models of urban dynamics, Dr. Kirsten Wright from the Waterloo Institute for Complexity and Innovation (WICI) will share her thoughts on how co-operatives can serve as a central solution to our pressing urban challenges by stabilizing tenure, preventing displacement, and preserving the productivity gains of urban agglomeration. By reinvesting urban rents into community-driven initiatives—such as affordable housing, renewable energy, and public infrastructure—co-operatives align urban growth with long-term equity and resilience.



KIRSTEN WRIGHT

Dr. Kirsten Wright is the managing director of the University of Waterloo Institute for Complexity & Innovation. She is a leading thinker on scaling social change set in the context of environmental sustainability.





Presented By:







