

2020-6 Strengthening Manitoba's Co-op Sector

Mover: Manitoba Cooperative Association

Whereas: There are over 275 cooperatives, credit unions and caisses populaires in Manitoba, comprising of over 1,000,000 memberships. Cooperatives account for 3% of all jobs in Manitoba, and contribute 3.2% to Manitoba's GDP. Additionally, in 2010 Manitoba cooperatives paid over \$500 million in taxes. Cooperatives are a more sustainable business model given their collective ownership and community commitment; 62 per cent of new co-ops are still operating after five years, compared with 35 per cent for other new businesses. After 10 years, the figures are 44 per cent and 20 per cent respectively.

Whereas: Cooperatives create economic democracy, root ownership locally, distribute profits equitably and often create jobs and services in communities where they are otherwise lacking.

Whereas: Supporting and strengthening the cooperative sector is required to achieve positive results for our economy and our communities.

Whereas: The Province of Manitoba has supported co-op development and has successfully partnered with the cooperative sector. Evidence of co-construction and co-implementation of good policy, public education, and co-op development, including under the Co-op Visioning Strategy, has been present in Manitoba.

Whereas: This strategic action plan for co-op development is most effectively rolled out through the sufficiently resourced co-implementation of its vision, policy and action plans.

Be It Resolved That: the Province of Manitoba commits to strengthening the co-op community by mobilizing resources and developing new resources in full partnership with the co-op sector through the co-creation and co-implementation of policy to best serve the co-op development needs of Manitoba.

How this Resolution will be Advanced: The Manitoba Cooperative Association remains the lead on co-op education and advocacy work in Manitoba. CCEDNet Manitoba members are encouraged to support the work of the MCA and support the cooperative sector as a crucial part of Community Economic Development.
