

Cooperative Planning Team
Friday February 5, 2010

Present

- Pam Brown
- Jan Burnikell
- Sharon Deane
- David Parkinson
- Giovanni Spezzacatena
- Julie Thorne

Absent

- Heather Wheating

1. Completing the Memorandum of Association

1.1. Name

We will all submit five names to Giovanni before noon on Saturday February 6, 2010. He will create an online survey allowing us all to vote (anonymously) for our favourites.

Voting will end Wednesday February 10, 2010.

1.2. Community Service Coop or Not?

We still have not got total clarity on this issue. David felt we should continue to incorporate as a community service cooperative, even though the consultant Marty Frost had suggested that we might have to limit member benefits to 50% of the cooperative's activity (with the other 50% going to the broader community) in order to convince the Canada Revenue Agency that we are a legitimate not-for-profit association.

It was agreed we will proceed in this direction and David will talk with John Restakis who is involved with drafting the legislation pertaining to "community service coops" to get more of our questions answered.

1.3. Joint Memberships

Agreed to allow joint memberships but to cap the number of joint members at 2 persons.

1.4. Restricting Membership

We will not impose a geographical restriction. The cooperative act already imposes an age restriction (no members under 16 years old).

1.5. Organizational Members?

We will not allow organizations to become members at this time. We can always revisit this choice at a later date if necessary.

1.6. Proxy Voting

Yes we will allow proxy voting (in cases where members would need to come by boat or air). However no one person will be allowed to attend a meeting holding more than one proxy vote.

1.7. Purchase of Membership Shares

Memberships will cost \$20 to be paid in one payment.

1.8. Board Positions and Term Limits

The membership will elect seven board members.

Board members may serve up to eight years consecutively and four years in any one position (i.e., president, vice-president etc.). After a hiatus of two years they will be eligible for reelection.

1.9. Statement of Purpose

This was rewritten by David after the last meeting (mainly to shorten it). We are all happy with this version with a small revision of the last line suggested by Brownie (change "human activity" to "life"). The current version (incorporating this revision) reads:

The purpose of the Cooperative is to

- 1) *help its members acquire and share the knowledge, skills, and resources they need in order to*
 - a) *grow, gather, raise, and catch healthful food as locally as possible;*
 - b) *preserve, store, prepare, and share the bounty;*
- 2) *build a strong community and a diverse local food economy based on mutual support, fair prices, living wages, and respect for the natural systems which sustain life.*

2. Publicity

2.1. Chamber of Commoners

David and Jan will attend this event on Wednesday February 10, 2010. Jan will be the set up person, David will arrive after the Kale Force meeting.

2.2. Seedy Saturday

David, Julie and Sharon will be attending this event on Saturday March 13, 2010 and will "share" responsibilities for the Coop information half table.

3. Visions and Principles

We can either adopt the Cooperative principles from the "Statement on the Cooperative Identity" and/or the Permaculture set of principles or "personalize" either one just using them as a framework.

We did not come up with a vision statement at this point. We will revisit this at our next meeting. (A vision statement should express what the world/Powell River would be like if this organization was totally successful in its intent.)

4. Next meeting

We decided to meet again in two weeks from today: Friday February 19, 2010 at 5:30 pm at Gianni and David's house.