

## Uniting New Zealand's co-op's

### Our purpose:

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Cooperative Business New Zealand is the industry body that unites and represents New Zealand's diverse range of member-owned businesses.

As the peak body, we independently represent co-operatives, mutuals and societies sitting across multiple sectors. Our aim is to increase awareness of the important contribution these organisations make to New Zealand's economy and society to enable them to continue to thrive and prosper.

Seven internationally agreed principles (Rochdale Principles) guide these businesses, emphasising democracy and shared equity, while providing economic and social returns to members and their communities:

- Voluntary and open membership
- Democratic member control
- Member economic participation
- Autonomy and independence
- Education, training and information
- Cooperation among co-operatives
- Concern for community.

Cooperative Business New Zealand helps our members maximise the value of their unique points of difference and address the challenges associated with the business model.

By sharing information and bringing together members, Cooperative Business New Zealand provides a platform for members to collaborate, to have a stronger collective voice and to educate the broader community on the value of the business model. We offer education and training to members and we provide specialist services that are not available elsewhere in New Zealand.

### The future:

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Society is asking hard questions of unbridled capitalism, where financial rewards are shared by a small few.

The co-operative model, where benefits are shared by all members, is relevant and right for our time and is likely to continue to grow.

With rapid environmental, political and social changes; businesses are under significant pressure. Cooperative Business New Zealand will help to continue to ensure these businesses have the right skills, capability and knowledge to adapt to meet the market. We are here to support our members to identify the issues, collaborate on solutions and celebrate their success.

## Our services:

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We have completed a strategic review and refined our service offering. From 2020, we are proud to offer the following benefits and services for our members to support their success.

Our services	Our aim	What we are doing
<b>Education and training</b>	<p>Specialist education and professional development on the co-operative model is readily available to assist current and future governors, as well as management, to effectively govern and lead these businesses.</p> <p>Education about the co-operative business model is readily available at tertiary and post-graduate level.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Providing leadership and governance training targeted to the co-operative business model including:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Short courses</li><li>– Six-month Cooperative Governance Development Programme, in partnership with Mayfield Group **</li><li>– Future Directors Programme, in partnership with the Institute of Directors. **</li></ul></li><li>• Lobbying government and tertiary institutions to include co-operative papers into tertiary studies (law, accounting and business) as well as masters programmes. **</li><li>• Providing specialist training through professional bodies (including the New Zealand Law Society and CA ANZ). **</li><li>• Incorporating education on the co-operative model into existing programmes such as the Nuffield and Kellogg scholarship programmes. **</li></ul>
<b>Lobbying and advocacy</b>	<p>The voice of members is heard and considered when legislative and regulative change is being considered.</p> <p>The significant contribution that co-operatives make to the New Zealand economy is understood.</p> <p>The relevance of the co-operative model in a rapidly changing, global environment is valued.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raising collective awareness of the impact of regulation and legislation on members:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Partnering with organisations on lobbying and advocacy work</li><li>– Ministers</li><li>– Government agencies</li><li>– Iwi **</li><li>– Regional councils.</li></ul></li><li>• Advocating for change that helps members to compete domestically and internationally.</li><li>• Tapping into international networks to leverage co-operative expertise through the International Cooperative Alliance.</li><li>• Promoting co-operative awareness through:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Speaking engagements</li><li>– Delegations</li><li>– Facilitating panel discussions</li><li>– Media relations.</li></ul></li><li>• Encouraging the establishment of an inquiry to examine the contribution member-owned businesses make to the New Zealand economy and what can be done to help the sector to grow (as occurred in Australia in 2014). **</li></ul>

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<b>Consulting services</b>	Members have access to specialist skills and support to enable them to sustainably grow their businesses.	Partnering with our Corporate Associate members to offer specialist services for our members including:** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal</li> <li>• Financial</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Human Resources / Organisational Development</li> <li>• Communications</li> <li>• Health and Wellbeing</li> <li>• Training and Education</li> <li>• Supply Chain.</li> </ul>
<b>Starting up a co-op</b>	The co-operative model is accessible as an option when establishing new business ventures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing advice and practical guidance.</li> <li>• Provision of guidelines and templates.</li> <li>• Facilitating engagement to assist in establishing these businesses.</li> </ul>
<b>Research and insights</b>	Members have access to the latest, relevant co-operative data and studies to help guide their development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertaking research on the sector to support education and regulatory change.</li> <li>• Accessing case studies on successes and failures to enable future learning.**</li> <li>• Engaging with local and global academics.</li> </ul>
<b>Networking events</b>	<p>Opportunities for senior leaders to engage with peers, hear from thought leaders and share learnings.</p> <p>Messaging from these forums is provided to decision makers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting forums and Think Tanks for members, governors and C-Suite executives.</li> <li>• Hosting a conference alongside our Corporate Associate members, which provides education and learning opportunities for senior leaders.**</li> <li>• Informal gatherings within the regions.**</li> </ul>
<b>Celebrating success</b>	The success of the unique business model is celebrated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosting the Annual Business Awards.</li> <li>• Supporting international award entries.</li> </ul>
<b>Access to funding</b>	Funds to enable investment into the sector, start-ups and research are accessible.	Support applications for accessing funding by approaching: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members</li> <li>• Government</li> <li>• Others.</li> </ul>

\*\*New services from 2020

## Our members:

### Cooperative Business New Zealand offers five types of memberships:

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**Full membership** – for member-owned organisations operating under co-operative principles.

**Provisional membership** – for individuals/groups looking to establish a co-operative, mutual or society.

**Individual membership** – Senior leaders who are advocates for the model and want to independently be involved.

**Honorary members** – awarded to individuals who have made a significant contribution to the sector.

**Corporate associate members** – organisations identified as offering specialist services for our full membership body.

As a member of Cooperative Business New Zealand, you are part of a much larger ecosystem. We belong to the international membership body, the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA), and our close relationships with our APEC counterparts enable us to collaborate and leverage knowledge to support the three million co-operatives around the world that turn over more than \$US 3.0 trillion annually, have 1.2 billion members and have created more than 280 million jobs.



Photo by Chris Sisarich



Photo by David Straight



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