

# The Seven Cooperative Principles



# The Seven Cooperative Principles

Our objectives:

- Share the origin story of your credit union.
- Learn about the history of the cooperative business model, and learn the Seven Cooperative Principles.
- Discuss how your credit union continues to honor the Seven Cooperative Principles.

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

What's your story?

- How did your credit union get started and why?
- How many people started your credit union?  
What problem(s) were they trying to solve?
- Who was the original sponsor of your credit union? Has your field of membership changed or evolved over time?

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

The original Rochdale Principles...

1. Open membership
2. Democratic control
3. Distribution of surplus
4. Payment of interest on capital
5. Political & religious neutrality
6. Cash trading
7. Promotion of education

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

The original Rochdale Principles...

1. Open membership 👍
2. Democratic control 👍
3. Distribution of surplus 👍
4. Payment of interest on capital
5. Political & religious neutrality
6. Cash trading
7. Promotion of education 👍

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

The Seven Cooperative Principles Today ...

1. Open & Voluntary Membership 👍
2. Democratic Control 👍
3. Member's Economic Participation 👍
4. Autonomy & Independence
5. Education, Training and Information 👍
6. Cooperation among Co-ops
7. Concern for Community

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

## 1. Voluntary Membership

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all people able to use its services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

## 2. Democratic Member Control

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members—those who buy the goods or use the services of the cooperative—who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions.



# The Seven Cooperative Principles

## 3. Members' Economic Participation

Members contribute equally to, and democratically control, the capital of the cooperative. This benefits members in proportion to the business they conduct with the cooperative rather than on the capital invested.

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

## 4. Autonomy & Independence

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If the co-op enters into agreements with other organizations or raises capital from external sources, it is done so based on terms that ensure democratic control by the members and maintains the cooperative's autonomy.

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

## 5. Education, Training and Information

Cooperatives provide education and training for members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperative. Members also inform the general public about the nature and benefits of cooperatives.

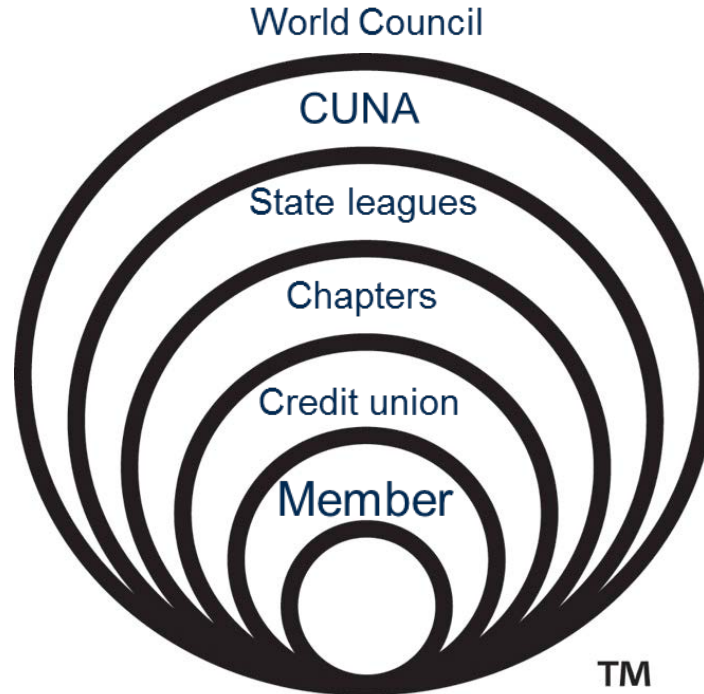
# The Seven Cooperative Principles

## 6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives

Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

## 6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives



# The Seven Cooperative Principles

## 7. Concern for Community

While focusing on member needs, cooperatives work for the sustainable development of communities through policies and programs accepted by the members.

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

## Conclusions

- Cooperation is about democracy, ownership, mutual self-help, solving problems and improving lives.
- The Seven Cooperative Principles remain alive and well.
- YOU are part of this powerful movement!

# The Seven Cooperative Principles

