

Happy National Cooperative Month

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from the Jason Wiener | p.c. team



To all of our cooperative friends and colleagues, we hope you're celebrating the cooperative movement this month! **We invite you to share your cooperative story with someone new at least once this month:** how has the power of cooperatives changed your community in ways big and small? We want you to talk "co-ops" to anyone and everyone you meet. Tell them about your involvement with co-ops and how they have changed your lives. Whether you are involved with an agricultural, utilities, worker, purchasing, marketing, platform, tech, or transportation cooperative, tell your story so more people get to share the experience of the cooperative business model.

A story I like to share: Before I became an attorney, I worked for a credit union. I did not know until I started that credit unions were a type of cooperative. Like all cooperatives, my credit union was member-owned and member-governed. The board of directors were all cooperative members and the credit union emphasized member ownership in all their communications with their members. Because they were member-owned, they were able to create a sense of community with the members, not just a banker and customer relationship. The members enjoyed knowing they were part of that community and having the opportunity to guide the direction of the credit union. This taught me how the power of member ownership can build communities.

Let's all take a moment this month to share our stories and let the world hear more about the wonderful benefits of cooperative ownership. Let's harness the power of storytelling to show the curious and the skeptical what cooperatives can do. And Happy Cooperative Month.

-Linda Phillips, Senior of Counsel

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