

Cathy-Ann Glockner

Why are you interested in joining our board?

The Co-op is a vital part of the Kootenay region which offers our community access to healthy, organic products; provides a market for local producers; and fosters a positive workplace where people are treated equitably and with respect.

For 35 years, I've had the privilege of supporting this incredible Co-op as a staff member, supplier, board member, and loyal shopper. It has shaped my life in meaningful ways, and I care deeply about its continued success.

If I'm able to serve another 3 years, I will bring that same commitment to ensuring the Co-op thrives for future generations.

What do you see as the most important role of our Co-op in our community, now and in the future?

The Co-op's most important role, now and in the future, is to remain a trusted source of healthy, ethical, and accessible products while providing stable, respectful employment. Strengthening local resilience by supporting regional growers and producers, keeping more dollars in the Kootenays, and offering a place where people can work and shop according to their values are priorities. As food systems face growing challenges, the Co-op will be essential in advancing sustainability, strengthening local supply networks, and ensuring access to nutritious organic food.

What personal values will you bring to our board?

I am a hard working person with a strong love for people, organics, and the Co-operative movement.

Occupation (current and/or former)

Currently we are self employed owning a tourist accommodation business in Nelson and running a landscaping company. For years I was an employee of the Co-op.

How will your personal or professional skills and experience benefit our Co-op?

With more than 35 years of involvement with the Co-op and running small businesses, I bring a combination of operational, entrepreneurial, and governance experience. Since 1990, I have worked as a cashier and assistant manager, supplied products to the wellness department through our natural soap business, served for many years as the staff representative on the Board of Directors, and am now completing a three-year term as director. My long-standing commitment to organic gardening and sustainability aligns closely with Co-op values. This depth of experience provides me with a strong understanding of the Co-op's operations, culture, and future opportunities.

Do you have experience in the areas that the board seeks this year - HR, law, leadership?

With our current and past businesses and my experience in management at the Co-op I have knowledge in HR and leadership. I worked as a legal assistant in Nelson for 2 years so am familiar with some basic civil and criminal law.

What skills or experience do you have in working cooperatively or collaboratively?

I have worked for years with our Co-op and I feel that I can work well with people. Our current board is a shining example of respect and collaboration!

I also volunteer for a local outdoor organization where we meet and work together in creating plans, making decisions collaboratively, and working together on projects.