

Simon Ennis

Why are you interested in joining our board?

I really like what the coop supports, and think that it's important to support local when possible. I think I bring with me some of the experience and expertise that the board is looking for, and strongly believe in the cooperative principles.

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

Local sustainability. I think there's huge value in a community based coop where the local economy is supported. Employing local residents, redistributing profits to members, and favouring local suppliers is what I think anchors the value proposition of the coop.

What personal values will you bring to our board?

Integrity, honesty, open-mindedness, optimism, a good work ethic, and respect.

Occupation (current and/or former)

Lawyer

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

I think that depends on what the Coop is working on! I bring board experience and used to practice corporate, real estate and estate planning law prior to my current job as a lawyer for an environmental consulting firm. I think my experience will benefit the Coop by bringing a younger perspective from someone who has lived and worked in other communities in BC. I think that perspective can help drive the value the Coop can offer its members by ensuring a sustainable business model for its younger membership.

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

Yes. Most recently and primarily in law, but I also have a Bachelor's degree in Marketing and HR Management. Prior to law school, I worked in the HR department of a credit union in the lower mainland.

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

Aside from the skills that come inherently as a member of the legal team at work, I think my most relevant experience comes from my board experience - specifically at Lake View Credit Union. I recently attended a credit union conference in that role where half of the BC Credit Union system came together to tackle the challenges facing credit unions in BC. It was a wonderful illustration of the benefits of collaboration and being able to see the cooperative principles in action!