Cooperatives provide vital links between farm and table, serving their communities through a successful business model of member ownership. Consider how cooperative business models will contribute to the future of our local and regional food systems at this six-state conference.

**Regular Registration** $95 * September 11 through September 28

**Late Registration** $105 * September 29 through October 5, 2012

* Meals cannot be guaranteed after September 28.

Please scroll down to see the conference program. Registration fees are nonrefundable after September 28, 2012.

Contact: NW Cooperative Development Center, 360-943-4241

The conference will be held at the Red Lion on Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA

Hotel reservations: Co-ops Red Lion Reservations

**Reception October 5**

An Invitation by the Conference Co-Hosts and SLICE

Celebrate Northwest co-ops and enjoy the bounties of our regional food system with other co-op enthusiasts. Admission included with your conference registration. We hope to see you there!

Co-Hosts:

Northwest Cooperative Development Center
Mission Mountain Food Enterprise & Cooperative Development Center
Alaska Cooperative Development Program
CDS Consulting Co-op
Welcome 1:15 PM

Cooperatives & Rural Development

Chad Parker, Deputy Administrator
Cooperative Programs, USDA

Chad Parker draws upon his 21 years of experience with rural development to share a regional perspective of the role of cooperatives with USDA programs and the benefits to communities across the conference’s six-state area.

Cooperatives & Economic Development

Ken Meter, MPA, President
Crossroads Resource Center

Ken Meter’s work integrates market analysis, business development, systems thinking, and social concerns. Meter draws upon his pioneering research of rural economies to illustrate the impacts of cooperatives and their contributions to stronger local economies.

2:15 PM

3:15 Refreshment Break

3:30 PM

The Natural Alliance of Communities & Co-ops

Co-ops share their fresh experiences on cross-sector collaborations to support communities and food systems.

Bill Newbry, CEO,
Pacific Northwest Farmers Cooperative

Annie Hoy, Ashland Food Co-op, &
Darren Davidson, Grange Co-op, representing
“The Rogue Co-ops”, a collaboration of Ashland Food Co-op, Medford Credit Union, Grange Co-op, Rogue Federal Credit Union and Siskiyou Sustainable Cooperative

Growing Food Systems through the Cooperative Model

Moderator: Lucy Norris, Director of Marketing,
Northwest Agriculture Business Center

Michael Wittman, Vice President/Account Manager
Northwest Farm Credit Services

Dave Prather, General Manager &
Jan Tusick, Director
Western Montana Growers Cooperative &
Mission Mountain Food Enterprise Center

Kenna Eaton, General Manager
Port Townsend Food Cooperative

Pat Grover, President
North Cascades Meat Producers Co-op

5:15-5:30 PM
Perspectives for Saturday Program
Mark Goehring, CDS Consulting Co-op

Reception October 5th
6:30—8:30 p.m.
An Invitation by the
Conference Co-Hosts and SLICE

Celebrate Northwest co-ops and enjoy the bounties of our regional food system with other co-op enthusiasts. Admission included with your conference registration.

6:30—8:30 p.m.
Brief program at approximately 7:00 p.m.
Location:
FareStart restaurant at 700 Virginia Street, Seattle
Walking:
A ten-minute walk from the Red Lion hotel.
Van shuttle:
Starting at 6:15 p.m. outside the Red Lion lobby doors. Please wear your conference badge. Will transport in groups of 30.
SatADF, October 6 * Emerald Ballroom * Red Lion on Fifth Avenue * Seattle WA

8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Light breakfast and mixer begins at 8:30 a.m. Program begins promptly at 9:30 a.m.

Cultivating Cooperatives in Our Communities

Explore strategic direction for cooperatives in the region. Gain fresh perspectives, add your voice, and continue the directions with a take-home guide. Develop common understanding and alignment in a highly interactive day with in-person and recorded video presentations and small group conversations. A Strategic Seminar facilitated by CDS Consulting Co-op.

Framing Questions

How do we ensure that the cooperative model achieves its full potential?

How can we engage our communities in conversations about cooperatives?

In-person and recorded video presentations by a great mix of cooperators!

Greetings from Co-op Leaders

The Co-op Difference

Is the Economy an Angry God?

Seeing the Cooperative Landscape

The Importance of Alignment and Imagination

Warming Trend for Co-ops: the We/Me Cycle

Co-ops as a top brand for Sustainability, Democracy and Community

Healthy Foods, Healthy Communities: Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Food Co-ops

Making a Difference in the Region

All those who create and sustain a cooperative development culture are invited. Co-ops are encouraged to bring the entire Board, Board candidates, general manager, management, and staff. The day will provide an opportunity to engage, learn and help move the co-op movement forward. Conversations will be appropriate for community leaders and others who desire to utilize cooperative business solutions.
Our thanks to the Steering Committee:

Chuck Dawsey, Benton Rural Electric Assn.
Amanda Welch, Central Co-op
Barb Brant, Nourish the Flathead
Bonnie Buckingham, Community Food & Ag Coalition
David Bauermeister, NW Ag Business Center
Katrina Van Dis, Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council
Chris Harris, Main Market
Dan Hobbs, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union
Diane Peck, Alaska Dept. of Health & Social Services
Dick Hatterman, Co-Ag Inc.
Jayne Kaszynski, Olympia Food Co-op
Melanie Bondera, The Kohala Center/The Laulima Center
Nancy Matheson, Montana Dept. of Agriculture
Rodney Peach, USDA
Sandy Courtnage, Montana Farmers Union
Sarah Aday, Sitka Food Co-op
Ted Case, Oregon Rural Electric Cooperative Association
Tuana Jones, USDA
Alison Booth, Equal Exchange
Lucy Norris, Puget Sound Food Network
Mary Christensen, Co-op Market
Nella Parks, Oregon Rural Action
Arianna Rose Taylor-Stanley, Delridge Food Co-op
Colette DePhelps, Rural Roots