

POLICY TYPE: ENDS
POLICY TITLE: E1 – GLOBAL ENDS
ADOPTED: 12-09
LAST REVISED:

As a member-owned consumer co-operative, the organizational goals of the Oneota Community Co-op originate from our commitment to the seven internationally recognized Principles of Cooperation and reflect our concern for our community.

The Oneota Community Co-op serves primarily members, customers, and the OCC staff, but also its service extends outward to the following:

- vendors and suppliers,
- the larger community of cooperatives,
- the wider regional community.

Because the Oneota Community Co-op exists as an institution grounded in the cooperative principles, there will be the following:

1. a retail source for food and other products that, to the greatest extent possible, are organic, sustainably produced, locally grown and/or processed, and affordable.
2. a business that encourages the expansion of sustainably grown local food sources.
3. a business that promotes the development of cooperation and co-operative enterprise.
4. a community that is educated about food and other products that are healthy for people and the environment.
5. a business that promotes environmental sustainability.
6. employment in a work place that provides the personal satisfaction of collaborative work directed toward common goals.
7. a local community whose fabric is strengthened through caring, and sharing gifts of time, energy, and resources.
8. an institution that respects and encourages the diversity of its membership.

POLICY TYPE: ENDS
POLICY TITLE: E2 – COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES
ADOPTED: 12-09
LAST REVISED:

As a member-owned consumer co-operative, the organizational goals of the Oneota Community Co-op originate from our commitment to the seven internationally recognized Principles of Cooperation and reflect our concern for our community. The Principles are presented here for the purpose of reference. The Board shall use the global ends as the document to monitor.

The Cooperative Principles are the following:

FIRST PRINCIPLE: VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP

Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibility of membership.

SECOND PRINCIPLE: DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In cooperatives, members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote).

THIRD PRINCIPLE: MEMBER ECONOMIC CONTROL

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of the cooperative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the cooperative. They usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing the cooperative—possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the cooperative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

FOURTH PRINCIPLE: AUTONOMY AND INDEPENDENCE

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organizations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organizations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their cooperative autonomy.

FIFTH PRINCIPLE: EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND INFORMATION

Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representative, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public—particularly young people and opinion leaders—about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

SIXTH PRINCIPLE: COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES

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

SEVENTH PRINCIPLE: CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

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