Write to your MP

If you do nothing else in National Co-operatives Fortnight – write to your local member!

We are taking the opportunity of a year-long focus on our business model to write to as many politicians as possible seeking their views on the important role of co-operatives in the economy and in the community.

You can write to your local MP during National Co-operatives Fortnight, seeking their views on co-operatives in your electorate. If you know of other co-operatives are in your area, make sure to include them in your letter to remind your State and Federal members of the significance of co-op businesses in the local economy.

Use the LETTER TO MP TEMPLATE or write your own.

Recommendations


Why not attach these Facts to your letter to your MP?

Co-operatives Australia Top 100 List 2011 – download from www.australia.coop

Australia - Land of co-operators Facts sheet in this toolkit
Dear (insert name of MP)

On behalf of (insert name of your co-op) I am writing to seek your views on the role of co-operatives in the local economy in our electorate of (insert name of your electorate).

September 10-24 marks Australia's first National Co-operatives Fortnight. This year is of particular importance given that 2012 is the United Nations International Year of Co-operatives.

As part of the local celebrations for National Co-operatives Fortnight, our co-operative will host (insert event or activity details) on (insert date), and we would like to extend an invitation for you to join us at this event.

Co-operatives play a vital role in the Australian economy. It is not widely known that there are around 1800 co-operatives and more than 7.5 million co-operative members. The top 100 Australian co-operatives, including mutuals and credit unions had turnover of $14.7 billion in 2011. Co-operatives are found in all sectors including agriculture, finance, health, banking, retail and renewable energy.

In this International Year the UN encourages Governments and regulatory bodies to establish policies, laws and regulation conducive to co-operative formation and growth. We believe that strong government support will go a long way to helping us achieve these goals.

The (insert number) members of our co-operative would welcome your recognition of the significant contribution of co-operatives to the local economy and the community.

National Co-operatives Fortnight provides co-operatives with the opportunity to raise awareness about the important role they play in the community and their contribution to the economy. I sincerely hope that you can join us on (insert date) for our National Co-operatives Fortnight celebrations.

Yours Sincerely,

(insert name and contact details for CEO, EO, GM, Chairperson or Secretary)