

INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROVINCE-WIDE PETITION

WHAT IS THE PETITION FOR?

On Co-op is asking for **your** help to encourage the province to implement various policy initiatives that would benefit all co-ops and credit unions. The petition requests that government “create an environment that encourages the development of co-operatives, allowing them to compete on equal footing with other forms of business enterprise.”

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED

Please help us to achieve this goal...it will only take a few minutes of your time. Here are the simple steps to take in order to participate:

1. **Print** off a hard copy (or several copies as required) of the Petition on the next page.
2. Clearly print your **name and address and sign** your name in the spaces provided.
3. **Collect** as many signatures as possible, by asking all the other staff at your organization to sign it.
4. **Distribute** the petition to your contacts and networks as much as possible: post it to your organizational website and any other social media you may use; include it in your electronic newsletters; bring it to your board and committee meetings; place copies near your cash registers and at all your branches/locations and ask your members to sign it; take copies with you to your meetings, events and conferences you attend, and so on.
5. Once the petition(s) is as full as possible, make a copy for yourself and **send the original version to On Co-op** in the mail, to the address listed at the bottom of this page.

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION

- **For signing the petition...**
Almost anyone can show their support and sign the petition. You do *not* have to be a member of On Co-op, or of a co-operative or credit union. You should be a resident of Ontario. You do *not* have to be of majority age (i.e., over 18).
- **For getting the petition tabled...**
A petition can only be tabled if it has original, authentic signatures on it. Only one signature per page is required for tabling, but MPPs are more likely to table it if it has many.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

We will be asking MPPs to begin tabling the petition during Co-op Week 2010. Our goal, therefore, is to collect **as many signatures as possible** between now and **October 1st, 2010**.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To learn more about the Petition, visit www.ontario.coop/government. If you have any questions, you can contact Audrey Aczel, Public Affairs Manager at On Co-op, at 1.888.745.5521 or by e-mail at aaczel@ontario.coop.

**Please Return to: Ontario Co-operative Association (On Co-op)
450 Speedvale Avenue West, Suite 101 Guelph, ON N1H 7Y6**

