Business Entities for Local Food

April, 2015  Andrew Crow
Overview
Basic Legal Structures

- Sole Proprietor
- Partnership
- Corporation
  - For profit
  - Nonprofit
  - Cooperative
- Limited Liability Company

Form should follow function!
Nonprofits

Courses between March 29 and April 12
1. All About Seeds and Starts
2. Drip Irrigation Workshop
3. Blacksmithing Tool Making (two day class)
4. Blacksmithing Overview
5. Beginning Organic Gardening

Other Educational Programs
• Field Trips
• Wool Spinning
• School Garden Initiative
• Learning Ecology and Alaska Farming
• EATinG (Summer Camp)
• Farmer Training

http://www.calypsofarm.org/
Cooperative

“A business that is owned and controlled by the people who use it.”

Co-op Principals

- Open membership
- Democratic Control
- Member Economic Participation
- Autonomy and Independence
- Education, Training and Information
- Cooperation Among Cooperatives
- Concern for Community
Alaska Cooperatives

- AlaskaUSA
- Sitka Food Co-op
- Inside Passage Electric Cooperative
- REI
- Co-op Market
Welcome to Co-op Market
Building our community-owned grocery store together

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Building our own member owned grocery store together

Who we are and what is membership

Co-op Market is a grocery store established by member-owners to serve the Fairbanks area. The store will be located in part of the Foodland Building on Gaffney Road. Find out more.

- Join Now
- Member Loan

Local Food First

Co-op Market is committed to buying quality local products FIRST, purchasing from outside of Alaska when a quality local option is not available. We are committed to working with local producers to provide:

- Alaska Grown produce (in season)
- Local Meat
- Alaska Seafood
- Alaskan Dairy Products
- Locally made Bread & Baked Goods

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SOLIDARITY as a Business Model

A Multi-Stakeholder Cooperatives Manual

Published by

cooperative development center
@Kent State University

A program of the Ohio Employee Ownership Center

http://www.fifthseasoncoop.com/

http://www.gardensofeagan.com/
Starting
An Online, Local Food Cooperative

Local Food for Local People

Northwest Cooperative Development Center
Olympia, Washington
www.NWCDC.coop
2011

https://www.idahosbounty.coop/
Resources

- Northwest Co-op Development Center
  http://nwcdev.coop/

- University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives
  http://www.uwcc.wisc.edu/

- Kent State, Ohio Employee Ownership Center
  http://www.oeockent.org/

- USDA Publications on Cooperatives
  http://www.rd.usda.gov/publications
What will your business do?

How much money do you need and how will you raise it?

Can it sustain itself or will it continue to need grants and donations?

How will you get value out?

What is your tolerance/ability to go to meetings and work toward consensus?

Are there other people who are committed and who you can work with?
How to contact me

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Alaska Cooperative Development Program

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http://ced.uaa.alaska.edu/acdp/index.html