

# COOPERATIVE TRAINING SERIES

**SPARK A LIGHT,  
START A FIRE**

*NEXT STEPS ON THE COOPERATIVE JOURNEY*

**THURSDAY, APRIL 27TH, 2023 FROM 6:30 - 7:30 P.M.  
VIRTUAL ON ZOOM / REGISTER AT [PPNA.ORG/CALENDAR](https://ppna.org/calendar)**

**Join us for one or more session in  
the cooperative training series!**

4/13 - Mutual Aid and Cooperatives  
4/20 - Pre Cooperative Work  
4/27 - Spark a light, Start a Fire

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY:**



**nexus**  
COMMUNITY PARTNERS

# Land Acknowledgement

We want to take a moment to acknowledge those who came before us, and original stewards of the land on which we stand. Here in the Twin Cities, we are gathering on the ancestral and occupied territory of the Dakota people, the Ojibwe and Anishinaabe peoples, past, present, and future.

By offering this acknowledgment, we commit to disrupting the on-going violence of colonization and genocide, and we affirm and celebrate the existence, rights, and sovereignty of Native nations in Minnesota and beyond.

We invite you to drop in the chat which lands you are calling in from – if you aren't sure, here is a link to find out whose land you are on:

<https://native-land.ca>

# Labor Acknowledgement

In addition to naming the stewards of this land. It is also important to acknowledge the stolen labor, life and humanity of Enslaved Africans and their descendants, who built the foundation of these United States.

We owe much of what we know of this country today, including its culture, economic growth, and development throughout history and across time, to those who suffered greatly under chattel slavery, and Jim Crow.

By offering this acknowledgement, we commit to disrupting the on-going violence of anti-blackness and racism, and we affirm the need for redress and reparations.

In that spirit, we want to offer a link to an amazing Black housing co-op that you can learn more about and donate to directly called [Yo Mama's House](#)

# Introduction

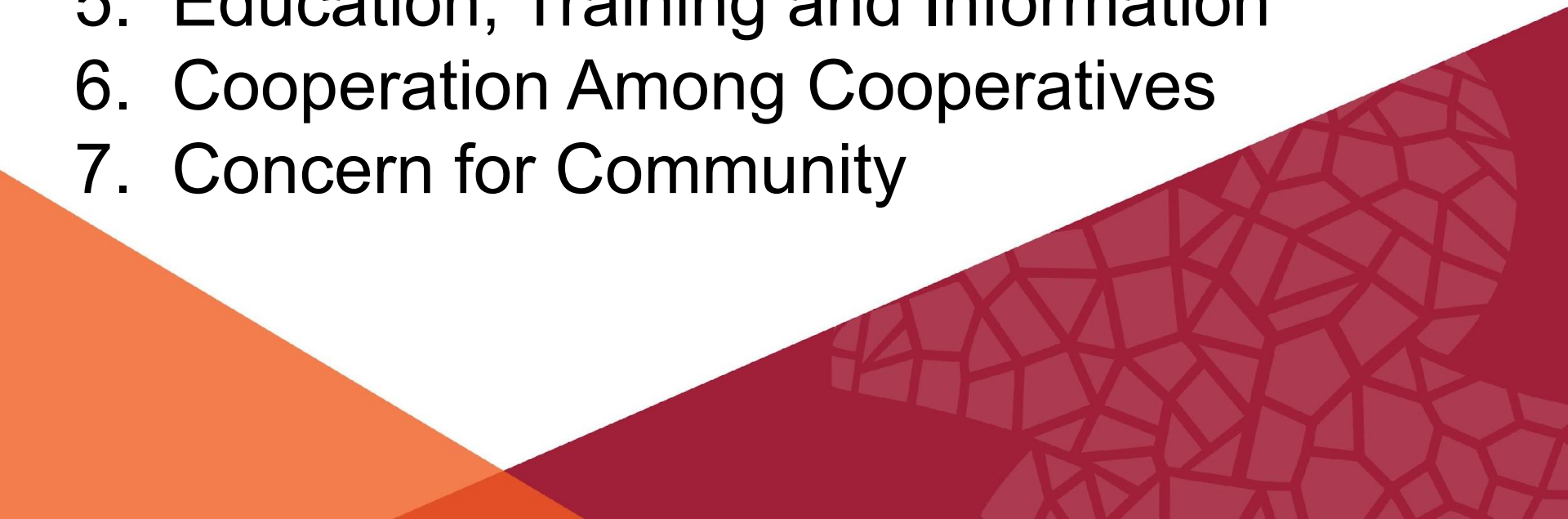
Nexus Community Partners supports strong, equitable and just communities in which all residents are engaged, are recognized as leaders and have pathways to opportunities. We believe the key to building more engaged and powerful communities of color lies in the connections between authorship, leadership, and ownership.



# Today's Agenda

1. Check in on Last Week
2. Review of Key Questions
3. Creating a Cooperative Mission
4. Scenario I - Housing Cooperative
5. Scenario II - Business Cooperative
6. Resources for next steps
7. Contact List

# 7 Co-op Principles

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
  2. Democratic Member Control
  3. Members' Economic Participation
  4. Autonomy and Independence
  5. Education, Training and Information
  6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
  7. Concern for Community
- 
- A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner of the slide. It consists of overlapping geometric shapes in shades of orange and red. One shape is a large triangle pointing towards the bottom left. Another is a larger, more complex polygonal shape with a pattern of smaller, interconnected triangles inside it, resembling a honeycomb or a network structure.

# Cooperative Questions

- Why does your co-op exist?
- Who does your co-op serve?
- What will it do to strengthen community?





# What Brings You Together as a Cooperative?





# Example I - Housing and Real Estate Cooperatives

**Find local examples of the kinds of cooperatives you want to emulate when possible:**

<https://www.neic.coop/our-story>

<https://blacklivesuu.org/board-guidance-groups/bylaws/>

<https://matchcooperative.wordpress.com/about-us/>

<https://www.ic.org/directory/mutual-aid-twin-cities-housing-cooperative/>

<https://www.creativeenterprisezone.org/taproot-investment-cooperative>

# Example I - Housing and Real Estate Cooperatives

Determine what examples are most resonant with your groups goals and develop a list of questions:

- How long did it take you to design your co-op?
- Where did you get funding for your cooperative?
- How did you locate a property?
- Do you have any Technical Assistance Partners that you worked with?
- Did you have a real estate person that you worked with?

## **Example I - Housing and Real Estate Cooperatives**

Add value to your co-op by serving on a board of directors:

<https://www.propelnonprofits.org/join-a-board/>

Explore a toolbox for readiness and resources:

<https://northcountryfoundation.org/toolboxes>

# Example II: Business Cooperative

Find local examples of the kinds of cooperatives you want to emulate when possible:

**Worker Owner:**

<https://www.thehubbikecoop.org/>

<https://www.happyearthcleaning.com/>

**Artist:**

<https://www.artspace.org/black-table-arts>

## Example II- Business Cooperatives

Determine what examples are most resonant with your groups goals and develop a list of questions:

- How long did it take you to design your co-op?
- Where did you get funding for your cooperative?
- How did you start your business?
- Do you have any Technical Assistance Partners that you worked with?

# Technical Assistance Providers:

Up to 50 hours for each resource provider in Minneapolis:

- **Co-opera Co./M Lund Associates**  
National consultant in cooperative finance serving primarily businesses <50 employees. Services offered include Financial analysis, pro-formas, cooperative conversions, business strategy.  
612-750-1431  
[mlund95@gmail.com](mailto:mlund95@gmail.com)
- **Cooperative Development Services**  
Serving all persons/groups starting or expanding a co-op. Provides education on the development process; business planning; membership development.  
651-287-0184  
[kedberg@cdsus.coop](mailto:kedberg@cdsus.coop)
- **Nexus Community Partners: Worker Ownership Initiative**  
Serving businesses with BIPOC employees and cooperative startups. Assists business owners with succession planning, with a specific expertise in helping them sell to their employees.  
651-583-8666  
[cnicholson@nexuscp.org](mailto:cnicholson@nexuscp.org)
- **Davis Law Office**  
Serving all businesses, from start-up solos to over 250+ employees at all stages of business.  
612-293-9308  
[davis@davismeanbusiness.com](mailto:davis@davismeanbusiness.com)
- **Hortensia Law Office\***



# Questions



# Thank you!

[cnicholson@nexuscp.org](mailto:cnicholson@nexuscp.org)  
[ownwork.org](http://ownwork.org)



# Resources Week III

<https://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1186&context=tapestries>

<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/employees/employee-news-stories/black-history-month-resistance-through-agricultural-innovations>

[https://resources.uwcc.wisc.edu/History\\_of\\_Cooperatives.pdf](https://resources.uwcc.wisc.edu/History_of_Cooperatives.pdf)

<http://sheisafrica.eu/2019/07/06/international-day-of-cooperatives-cooperatives-in-africa/>

<https://mutualaiddisasterrelief.org/>

<https://www.neic.coop/starting-a-co-op>

<https://uwcc.wisc.edu/start-a-co-op/>

<https://everything.coop/>