

DE Advocates for a Sustainable Future

A cadre of skilled leaders, managers and employees promoting sustainable communities.

To be achieved by Co-ops and CUs integrating social, economic and cultural activities.

ACCU Forum
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Australia
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Development Education

- ✓ Development Educators
- ✓ DE Purpose
- ✓ DE Program
- ✓ Advocates in the CU movement

DE Cadre of Advocates

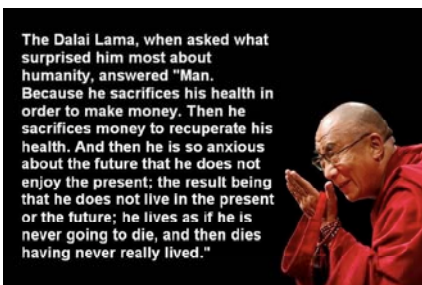
- ✓ A core group in the organisation
- ✓ Specialists providing support for team success
- ✓ Their role is to ensure the Vision can be achieved by providing appropriate administration and logistics
- ✓ Who can join the cadre of CU advocates? All stakeholders including: Customers, employees, managers, directors, business leaders, and community groups
- ✓ What does a CU do for the community? Does your team earn community respect for their integrated support schemes? If so, is the CU growing?

Our Changing World

- ✓ Economic – GFC, Post GFC, Trade, Interest rates, Inflation, employment, exchange rate, globalization
- ✓ Social – personal life experience, cultural harmony, language, population demographics, cycle of social change
- ✓ Political – international events, border friction, refugees, terrorism, UN treaty ratification, Legislation
- ✓ Advocates provide a voice for each point of view

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An Advocate for Life



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Preparing for Change

- ✓ Geographical – the world is a closed system where single events influence the globe eg. Volcanic eruptions
- ✓ Global Warming – Arctic, Iceland, Pacific nations, environmental change
- ✓ Seasonal Issues – Flood, Fire, Drought & Tsunami impact on food, clothing, shelter, health and employment. These require national and international responses
- ✓ What is your CU doing? What are its policies? Does it advocate disaster planning or just rhetoric?

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Change for the Better?

- ✓ Technology – mechanisation & automation can negatively effect employment, cultural identity and social roles, while new medicine and plant seed may improve household income. New technology is often difficult to manage
- ✓ Electronic communication has changed the time frames for sharing data, generating information and effective decision making
- ✓ Social Media is a new phenomena impacting on inter-relationships for individuals, business and government.



Advocates for a Better World

- ✓ Change is normal – slow change is comfortable
- ✓ Rapid change creates anxiety
- ✓ The world is experiencing vast and rapid change
- ✓ How are Credit Unions responding
- ✓ Are we reactive or proactive?
- ✓ What change is desirable?
- ✓ Sustainability – looking to the future through co-operative enterprises.



CU Response to Change

- ✓ Proactive or reactive – are you advocating positive new controls and directions, or simply responding to events as they occur?
- ✓ Does your CU have policies that address its vision, operations, best practice and customer base?
- ✓ Are there regular opportunities for self assessment and training?
- ✓ How do you address the important family, cultural and social role of women?
- ✓ What self help programs have you initiated (customer & community) and how do you analyse their success?





Building a Better World

- ✓ Building sustainable communities
- ✓ Generating sustainable paths for the future
- ✓ Key partners addressing community issues

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A Better World for Families

- ✓ Generated by advocates, leaders and teachers as development educators in local communities
- ✓ Across the region
- ✓ Through sustainable systems – health, education, food, and employment
- ✓ Through mutual support structures and programs

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Successful Advocacy

- ✓ Use this formula to determine your achievements: $S=V+P+E$ all over T
- ✓ S = Success
- ✓ V = Vision
- ✓ P = Plan
- ✓ E = Energy / Effort
- ✓ T = Time
- ✓ Also consider Failure and Good Habits

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Co-operative Enterprises

- ✓ Identify issues concerning the traditional roles of men, women, children & other interest groups.
- ✓ Issues might include: poor soil, low output, broken tools, low prices, loan repayments, delivery to market, getting a loan, sickness, child care, attitudes to change (inertia)
- ✓ Marshall resources (stakeholders' time, skill, labour, money & equipment) and allocate priorities.
- ✓ Establish achievable goals with realistic time frames.



Advocacy Helps CU Growth

- ✓ While your projects are creating social and economic development the CU should also plan to improve its policies and operations.
- ✓ There are many women customer members but very few in leadership positions. This reflects on your gender policies and attitudes toward change.
- ✓ A financial literacy program for customers will reduce delinquency
- ✓ A better defined Loans policy will assist the CU help more people into the future
- ✓ The CU will also benefit from employee training programs.



DE Advocates for a Sustainable Future

- ✓ Development Educators Cadre
- ✓ DE cadre of Advocates
- ✓ Our changing world
- ✓ Preparing for change
- ✓ Change for the better
- ✓ Advocates for a better world
- ✓ Credit Union responses to change
- ✓ Building a better world
- ✓ A better world for families
- ✓ Successful advocacy
- ✓ Co-operative enterprises
- ✓ DE Advocacy promotes CU and personal growth