

# North American Network for the Solidarity Economy

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please e-mail completed application to [ccelewis@island.net](mailto:ccelewis@island.net)  
or fax to **250) 723-3730** or send to mailing address below.

Membership Payment       **\$75 US for American members**  
  **\$75 CDN for Canadian members**

Please make out cheque to the *Centre for Community Enterprise (re: NANSE)* and mail to CCE, PO Box 1161, Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 7M1 Canada. Enclose cheque with the membership application.

Name of Organization or Network (if individual just place name under contact person)

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Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate with an X the type of organization or network. (More than one category may apply.)

- Membership based organization or network
- Non-Profit
- Co-operative
- Foundation
- Government
- For-Profit
- Other

The following information is requested so as to ensure that we can understand the breadth and depth of the membership among each other as the Network evolves. It may be used on the Web Site in future.

Please Describe the Mission of the Organization or Network Applying

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Please Identify the Key Functions, Activities and Priority Projects or Targets for Action (in brief only)

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Please describe your membership

How many members \_\_\_\_\_

What sectors \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What geographic area \_\_\_\_\_

What can you see your network contributing to ensure the success in this networking effort?

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The initial assumptions guiding the network formation are articulated on the next page. Is your network or organization willing to work to continue to evolve a North American network that includes these assumptions as a building block?

Other comments welcome with respect to assumptions, suggested priorities or projects that could contribute to NANSE's growth and future effectiveness.

## **DRAFT NANSE VISION AND ASSUMPTIONS**

The following is a draft of NANSE's operating assumptions that will help us define our partners in building a dynamic movement for community economic development and the social economy.

CED and the Social Economy only really evolve in an economy based on *solidarity* that taps into the creativity, ingenuity, determination, and passion of all of our residents. We contend in the market and the state for control and ownership of our societies' assets, guided and strengthened by our community and democratic values.

1. Our main objectives are the eradication of poverty and the development of a society that is economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable. These objectives are practical and achievable. Our approach is holistic and comprehensive and seeks the building of a strong and effective civil society. We take into consideration all social, cultural, and political factors, and particularly the issues of race, class, gender, and the environment.
2. We pursue High Road strategies in the creation of wealth and profit. The High Road seeks family-supporting and fulfilling jobs for the employee; a sustainable society and economy; high performance companies; a high degree of participation and local ownership; and accountability to the broader community and the various stakeholders of the enterprise. We advance a proactive High Road solution as we block and oppose the Low Road. Low Road strategies, simply put, are those that destroy productive and human capacity in the search for return on investment or benefits for a narrow constituency. Low Road business strategies are the emerging and most powerful trend in the global economy—and must be countered with a positive High Road alternative.
3. Community development can only be achieved through a strategic alliance of labor, community, and business to drive the creation of wealth, promote the just distribution of wealth, and seek government policy to support the High Road and block the Low Road. Essentially, this is a struggle for power. It requires building the institutional capacity of our partners and the self-sufficiency of communities.
4. Community economic development must be rooted in effective action at the micro-level of the economy - at the level of the firm, the household, and the local community. This reality must guide and inform as well as be supported by effective macro policy and government action.
5. While we are particularly responsible for our local community, we must be guided by a commitment to promote stability and sustainable development in all the world's communities. We have a particular commitment to building a dynamic development linkage between the developed and developing worlds recognizing that we increasingly face similar conditions, similar challenges, and can learn from and assist each other in finding solutions in our respective countries.

We are eager for your comments as we shape our guiding principles. Please forward any comments and suggestions to Dan Swinney at [dswinney@clcr.org](mailto:dswinney@clcr.org)