

CO-OPERATIVE OPERATING PRINCIPLES

The Maple Street Co-operative mission statement is as follows:

“Our mission is to provide our community with healthy, ethical and progressive choices for personal and planetary well-being through the practice and promotion of co-operative principles”

The Co-op operates with a Board of Directors (supported by a Secretary) broadly responsible for making policy, ensuring that all legal obligations are met under the Co-operatives Act, that the Co-op has sound and modern financial management, that the Co-op acts ethically and prudently in the interests of its members and meets its objectives as set out in the Rules.

The operations of the shop are carried out by the Manager who is appointed by the Board. The Manager and staff are responsible for the day-to-day efficient functioning of the shop in accordance with Board policy. All major decisions are made by consensus, including the hiring of all staff. Each staff member has their own area of responsibility in terms of ordering and this is rotated at timely intervals. For more detailed information please refer to the Manager’s and staff job descriptions at Sections 14 & 15.

All staff are required to attend a monthly staff meeting at which the roster for the next month is determined as are any other issues that may be brought up from time to time. This meeting is facilitated by a staff member as decided on the night.

The shop is open 7 days per week as follows:

Monday-Thursday:	9.00am - 5.30pm
Friday:	9.00am - 5.30pm
Saturday:	9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday:	9.00am - 4.00pm

The only day the shop is closed is Christmas Day.

The Co-op has implemented the following policies:

- (a) preferring organic and natural products where they are available;
- (b) of stocking only organic fruit & vegetables;
- (c) of not stocking any product that has been genetically modified;
- (c) of not stocking products that contain harmful additives;
- (f) where a customer requires one, of only using recycled plastic bags;
- (g) of ensuring that local producers are encouraged to supply their goods to the Co-op, particularly as consignors; and
- (h) of operating ethically and ensuring that sustainable practices are followed.