

# Membership Package

## Cortes Natural Food Co-op

We are a local retail store that is owned and operated by its' members. When you purchase your share and pay your one-time operations fee then you are a part owner of the co-op and are entitled to a vote at our AGM held once a year, after February.

As a member, you will be entitled to the following benefits:

- serve on the Board of Directors
- purchase items that are on special
- pre-order goods in bulk at lower cost
- participate in our monthly promotion
- receive our monthly E-News

### **Mission Statement**

Cortes Natural Food Co-op provides *high quality wholesome food at fair prices* supporting environmental and economic sustainability. We support *organic* and *local* industries and goods that promote a healthy lifestyle.

### **Vision and Goals**

1. Foster individual and group empowerment
2. Participate in shared decision-making process and goodwill
3. Encourage community involvement and volunteering
4. Create income opportunities
5. Nurture meaningful social interaction
6. Establish a forum for information and resource sharing
7. Support non *Genetically Modified* foods
8. Stock high quality products emphasizing local, organic, and sustainable wild crafted goods
9. Use cooperative buying power to reduce cost to the consumer and the environment
10. Lower transportation impact
11. Minimize packaging
12. Connect local producers, workers and consumers
13. Expand market for local products and keep dollars local

## **Memorandum and Rules**

The following section forms the body of our Memorandum. This legal document, together with the Rules, reflect common principles of our members and create a binding structure that describes how we will work together. If you agree and wish to join the Co-op, please read the Memorandum and fill out the Membership Form below.

## **Shares and Fees Structure**

### **Membership Shares :**

**Members must purchase at least one membership share at \$20 each.** This is a one time, lifetime share. Membership entitles you to participate in the election of the Board of Directors and contribute in the governance of the Co-op. Members are entitled to redeem their shares when they withdraw from the Co-op. A member can only have one vote regardless of how many shares they possess.

### **Operation Fees:**

The purpose of operation fees is to help fund day-to-day costs of the Store so we can provide lower prices for subscribing members. The fee is a one time \$30 per family for a maximum of 2 adults, paid when joining as a new member. Only members who subscribe to the Operation Fees are eligible to place pre-orders and to serve on the Board of Directors. This fee is non-refundable and non-transferable.

Non subscribing members who have not paid the operation fee will not be eligible to place bulk or case pre-orders from the catalog (at 13% markup from cost).

## **Store Products and Hours**

The Co-op Store will stock products that members use. We need your input so that we can have efficient turnover of stock. If you do not see products you want, write it on our Wish list posted on the wall. We need your feedback.

As much as possible, we offer local, B.C and Canadian produce and grocery items first.

We are open **Everyday from 8 am - 8 pm and in the summer from 9 - 9 pm.**

## **Member Services**

As a member of the co-op you can place weekly pre-orders of bulk. Currently the charge is 13% above wholesale cost for this service. We are trying to make food as affordable as possible and at the same time cover our costs. Please pick up your orders within a week as we need our storage spaces.

## Cortes Natural Food Co-op

### MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION (Filed and registered 29 July 2004)

1. The name of the Association is Cortes Natural Food Co-op (The Co-op)
2. The purposes of the Co-op are:
  - to operate a member-owned and member-run co-op; and
  - to provide Cortes Island with organic and other foods that are produced as locally as possible; and
  - to improve member convenience and choice in the purchase of bulk organic foods; and
  - to provide a market for locally grown and produced goods supporting sustainable agriculture and local industries.
3. Authorized Share Capital:

	Maximum Number	Par Value
Membership shares	Unlimited	\$ 20.00
4. The liability of a member or investment shareholder of the Association is limited in accordance with the Cooperative Association Act.
5. On the dissolution or winding up of the Co-op, the assets remaining after the discharge in payment of all obligations, liabilities and debts of the Co-op including remuneration of a liquidator, and after payment to employees of the Co-op of any arrears of salaries or wages, and after redemption of shares to members, shall be distributed among one or more organizations, each of which is either
  - (a) A cooperative incorporated under the laws of British Columbia or of Canada, whose purposes are similar or complementary to those of the Co-op; or
  - (b) A charitable organization registered under the Income Tax Act (Canada).

This provision is alterable.

**Member #**

## Membership Form

Sign and fill in the details below. Then mail the signed section to:  
Cortes Natural Food Co-op, General Delivery, Manson's Landing, BC V0P 1K0.

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I agree with the purpose of the Co-op as stated in the Memorandum.  
I agree to support its aims and goals and undertake not to conduct myself in any way that is detrimental to the Co-op.  
By this signature, I agree to purchase at least one membership share at \$20 payable in cash.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone contact : \_\_\_\_\_

Email Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

I authorize the co-op to add my email to their newsletter subscription \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Shares** you wish to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 = \_\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Operation Fees (a one time charge) :** \$30 = \_\$ \_\_\_\_\_

(please enclose your cheque or pay cash in store)