

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CED) GUIDING PRINCIPLES

(Courtesy of Neechi Foods Worker Co-op)

1. USE OF LOCALLY PRODUCED GOODS AND SERVICES ♦ purchase of goods and services produced locally ♦ circulation of income within the local community; less income drain ♦ stronger economic linkages within the local community ♦ less dependency on outside markets ♦ greater community self-reliance ♦ restoration of balance in the local economy
2. PRODUCTION OF GOODS AND SERVICES FOR LOCAL USE ♦ creation of goods and services for use in the local community ♦ circulation of income within the local community; less income drain ♦ stronger economic links within the local community ♦ less dependency on outside markets ♦ greater community self-reliance
3. LOCAL RE-INVESTMENT OF PROFITS ♦ use of profits to expand local economic activity ♦ stop profit drain ♦ investment that increases community self-reliance and co-operation
4. LONG-TERM EMPLOYMENT OF LOCAL RESIDENTS ♦ long-term jobs in areas with chronic unemployment or underemployment ♦ reduced dependency on welfare and food banks ♦ opportunities to live more socially productive lives ♦ personal and community self-esteem ♦ more wages and salaries spent in the local community
5. LOCAL SKILL DEVELOPMENT ♦ training of local residents ♦ training geared to community development ♦ higher labour productivity ♦ greater employability in communities with high unemployment ♦ greater productive capability of economically depressed areas
6. LOCAL DECISION-MAKING ♦ local ownership and control ♦ co-operative ownership and control ♦ grassroots involvement ♦ community self-determination ♦ people working together to meet community needs
7. PUBLIC HEALTH ♦ physical and mental health of community residents ♦ healthier families ♦ more effective schooling ♦ more productive workforce
8. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT ♦ healthy, safe, attractive neighbourhoods ♦ ecological sensitivity
9. NEIGHBOURHOOD STABILITY ♦ dependable housing ♦ long-term residency ♦ base for long-term community development
10. HUMAN DIGNITY ♦ self-respect ♦ community spirit ♦ gender equality ♦ respect for seniors and children ♦ Aboriginal pride ♦ social dignity regardless of psychological differences, ethnic background, colour, creed or sexual orientation
11. SUPPORT FOR OTHER CED INITIATIVES ♦ mutually supportive trade among organizations with similar community development goals