

# WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE A QUILT SHOP STAY IN SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS?

**WE WOULD!**

*Two employees of the soon to close Glad Creations Quilt Block are exploring the option of keeping a local quilt shop in the area by forming a  
**CONSUMER-OWNED COOPERATIVE***



## What is a Consumer-Owned Cooperative?

Consumer-owned cooperatives are organized to provide specialized goods or services to members and the local community. They are full-fledged businesses owned and sustained by customer membership. They are usually open to the public, but members receive specialized benefits.

### Membership

Customers pay a **one-time** membership fee and receive special benefits such as discounts, member-only coupons and early access to sales. All members have **one vote** in the governance of the cooperative. If the co-op is profitable in any given year, a member might receive a patronage refund on annual purchases.

### Board of Directors

Consumer-owned cooperatives are governed by a board of directors that guides the organization's future and hires the management.

### Examples of Consumer-Owned Cooperatives

Consumer-owned cooperatives you may be familiar with include credit unions, retail stores (like REI) and grocery stores (like The Seward Co-op).



## Why A Quilt Shop Cooperative?

The art of quilt making is by nature, community-oriented with roots and traditions found in cultures worldwide. As quilters, you often create in small groups in your homes and with friends. You share with each other, attend classes to learn and value the rich human connection inherent to the art. You understand the value of being able select quality fabric and tools you can see and touch. A cooperative has the power to make the art and its tools more accessible to current and potential participants.

### Discounts & Shared Costs

A co-op can often provide deals on availability, selection, and pricing of products to its members. Membership spreads the costs of providing goods over many and creates a sustainable business model.

### Return On Investment

In a profitable year, a co-op may choose to reinvest dollars to improve services to members or it may provide a small patronage refund to members. The co-op may be able to offer meeting space or contribute to related community programs.

### Community Involvement

Customers who have relied on a local quilt shop could have a hand in keeping this type of business going in the community.

**Interested? Help us gauge whether there is enough interest in this idea to move to the next stage of planning.**

**TAKE OUR ONLINE SURVEY - [CLICK HERE NOW](#)  
OR  
PRINT PAGE 2 OF THIS DOCUMENT AND RETURN IT TO GLAD CREATIONS**

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT [quiltshopcoopMN@gmail.com](mailto:quiltshopcoopMN@gmail.com)**

## Quilt Shop Co-Op Interest Survey

Would you be interested in becoming a member of a quilt shop co-op where you would receive special discounts and benefits for membership?

- Yes
- No

I am interested in: (Check all that apply)

- becoming a member
- attending an informational meeting to learn more
- participating in the next steps of development and planning
- offering some of my skills for development and planning
- investing capital

What would you pay for membership? (Check all that apply)

- \$100
- \$150
- \$200
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I have experience in the following areas that I could offer: (Check all that apply)

- small business expertise
- marketing/communications
- board participation and governance
- legal expertise
- project management
- community contacts and connections
- industry knowledge
- co-op leadership experience
- membership recruitment
- other:

I would like to stay in touch about this idea. Please add me to your contact list.

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email address:

### RETURN THIS SURVEY TO:

Glad Creations Quilt Block  
3400 Bloomington Avenue S. Minneapolis, MN 55407

Questions? Further thoughts? Contact us at [quiltshopcoopMN@gmail.com](mailto:quiltshopcoopMN@gmail.com)