

# 2020 VISION

## The 2020 Compass Charting a course for your co-op's future



*'Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?' said Alice.  
'That depends a good deal on where you want to get to,' said the Cat.  
'I don't much care where,' said Alice.  
'Then it doesn't matter which way you go,' said the Cat.*

### Introducing the 2020 Compass

Unlike Alice in Wonderland, all housing co-ops want to know where they are going so they can plan their future. That's why CHF Canada launched the 2020 Vision project in 2006, to chart a course for the future of housing co-ops and the co-op housing sector. And housing co-ops across Canada are getting excited about the prospects for 2020 and beyond.

What should be the first step for your co-op as you tackle the challenge of 2020? Wouldn't it help if your members understood why your co-op exists and what values your community stands for?

That's why CHF Canada has developed the 2020 Compass, a process that will help your co-op clarify its purpose, what it values, and what kind of future it sees for itself.

How does your co-op chart its future? It begins with developing a mission statement and a vision for the future, based on your core values. That's where the 2020 Compass comes in. The 2020 Compass is a facilitated, step-by-step process that will help your co-op to develop a mission and vision based on your core values as a non-profit housing co-op.

The 2020 Compass is meant to involve your members. It's important to know that your community shares the same vision about the kind of future you want for your co-op, and the values that will help you choose the best path ahead.

### How the 2020 Compass works

The 2020 Compass is designed to be adaptable to each co-op's needs. By arrangement with your local federation, a trained 2020 Compass facilitator will start by helping you custom-design a 2020 Compass process that's the right fit for your co-op. Then your facilitator will

- lead you through that process from the very first step to a final result you can be proud of
- keep the process on track so that it's always relevant to your members
- assess your progress at each stage to make sure it's working for you
- help you present the final result for your members' approval

The 2020 Compass will offer you

- a framework for developing your mission statement, core values and a vision for your future that's already been tested by other housing co-ops
- a process that engages the members of your co-op in deciding where you should be going and why
- access to the progress that other co-ops are making toward the same end

## Our 2020 Compass facilitators

The 2020 Compass facilitators we use have been trained by CHF Canada to use the Compass. They are part of a network of facilitators who share their successes and challenges to improve the Compass every time it is used. They have access to the latest Compass developments through the 2020 Vision website, and they work closely with CHFT to ensure the best result for your co-op.

## Added value of the 2020 Compass

Besides being a roadmap for the future, the 2020 Compass brings other benefits to your co-op. It will

- improve co-op morale
- show you how to make your meetings fun and productive
- focus your members' attention on the things that really matter to your co-op community
- help you choose between competing priorities in the short and long term.

And the Compass will also prepare you to meet the challenge of all eight standards for 2020 Co-ops. After hearing from our members, CHF Canada has developed standards for co-ops that want to be certified as 2020 Co-ops.

You can find the list of the eight standards on the 2020 Vision website. The first two are

- a mission statement for your co-op and a vision for the future
- a commitment to the values of the Canadian co-operative housing movement.

You can see how the Compass can help you meet these two standards. What's more, because the Compass gets you thinking about all aspects of your co-op's future – for example management and governance, the need to plan and the importance of sustainability – you'll find that the Compass will give you a head start on the path to achieving all of the 2020 standards.

## How to bring the 2020 Compass to your co-op

CHFT is making the Compass available to member co-ops on a cost-recovery basis. A 2020 facilitator can work with you to design a Compass process that will work for your co-op – as it has for others. Here's what co-op members have to say about the 2020 Compass experience at their co-ops:

*"I would definitely recommend this process to other co-ops" (Lil Cameron, Halston Hills Housing Co-op)*

*"It was an eye-opener. It's amazing how we're all on the same page now about our future" (Gloria Sadler, Frances Gardens Housing Co-op)*

So get in touch with us at CHFT for more information. And start using the 2020 Compass to chart a course for your co-op's future. Here's how to contact us:

Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto (CHFT)  
Michelle Arscott, Advisor, Member Services  
306-658 Danforth Avenue  
Toronto, Ontario  
M4J 5B9

[www.coophousing.com](http://www.coophousing.com)  
[info@coophousing.com](mailto:info@coophousing.com)

phone: (416) 465-8688

