

# EMMA MCCORMICK

## CANDIDATE STATEMENT

My name is Emma McCormick and I have had the privilege of serving on the NCBA CLUSA Board of Directors for three years. My Board member experience has helped me learn more about cooperatives across sectors, as well as providing opportunities to engage with like-minded individuals and work towards common goals. The opportunity to work with NCBA CLUSA members, fellow Directors and staff has been an invaluable experience which I hope to continue.

As Senior Director of Engagement at National Farmers Union (NFU), I oversee our cooperative education programming. At NFU, we are committed to cooperative education and cooperative business development. We provide both youth and adults with the necessary tools to be good co-op members and ambassadors of the co-op model, and we encourage them to be involved in their co-op's board. Our in-person and online events help us connect with our members in the U.S. and to share resources with individuals across the world. We recently restructured our virtual cooperative education to provide leadership development training, encourage cross-sector collaboration, and expose our members to new cooperative businesses they may not have been previously aware of. NFU also promotes rural economic and cooperative development by supporting existing agricultural co-ops and helping to form new farmer co-ops and other rural businesses.

I am passionate about providing representation for and educating America's family farmers and ranchers. Through my work with NCBA CLUSA, I feel like the voices of farmers and ranchers are being heard, respected and considered in decisions related to cooperatives. I also believe that my work with NCBA CLUSA has allowed me to highlight connections, new ideas and collaborative opportunities to members of rural communities. These efforts align with NCBA CLUSA's Principle 6 Initiative, which I feel is important to uphold and advance.

If re-elected, I will continue to be an active member of the Board of Directors by advancing NCBA CLUSA's mission of developing, advancing and protecting cooperative enterprise; assisting in recruiting more members from rural communities; and being an advocate for all NCBA CLUSA members.