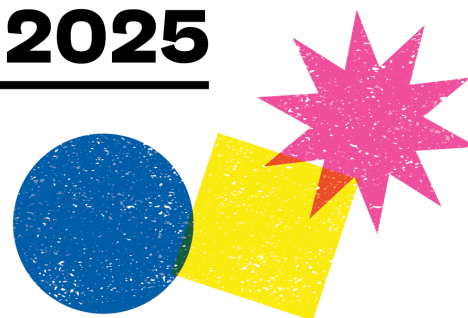


# CO-OP ASSEMBLY 2025

March 20 & 21- Sydney, Australia



## Program – Day 1

Date: Thursday 20 March 2025

Venue: Meers Hall, Naala Badu (New Northern Building), Art Gallery of NSW, Art Gallery Road, Sydney

Time	Session	Focus	Speakers/Panellists/Debaters
9:00am	<u>Opening Session</u> Welcome & Keynote Address	<b>Co-operatives Build a Better Australia</b> The 2025 International Year of Co-operatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What's in it for the world?</li> <li>What's in it for Australia?</li> <li>Youth</li> </ul>	Welcome to Country – Uncle Allan Murray <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sam Byrne (Secretary) The Co-op Federation</li> <li>Ariel Guarco (President) International Co-operative Alliance (video)</li> <li>Dr Patricia Jenkins (President) United Nations Association of Australia (NSW)</li> <li>Clr Jess Miller (representing Lord Mayor Clover Moore AO) City of Sydney</li> <li>Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP (Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury) Federal Government</li> <li>Our Youth Ambassadors</li> </ul>
10:00am	<u>Session 2</u> Panel Discussion	<b>The State of Australian Co-operatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cathy Main (CEO) Barossa Co-op</li> <li>Marissa Costello (General Manager) Killarney Co-op</li> <li>Peter Wells (Secretary) Co-operatives WA</li> </ul> Facilitator: Sam Byrne
11:00am	Morning Tea	Showcase & Networking	
11:30am	<u>Session 3</u> Debate	<b>Can Co-operatives Build a Better Australia Today?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greg Patmore (Emeritus Professor) University of Sydney</li> <li>Nasteha Mohamud (Chair) United Housing Co-op</li> <li>Hon Mick Veitch (Consultant &amp; former NSW MP)</li> <li>Rebel Black (Chair) The Rural Woman Co-op</li> <li>Dr Garry Cronan (Co-op Researcher) University of Sydney</li> <li>Anthony Esposito (Managing Director) Union Co-op Society</li> </ul> Chair/Adjudicator: Peter Tregilgas (Director) The Co-op Federation & Mercury Co-op
12:30pm	Lunch	Showcase, Networking & Co-op Musical Performance	
1:15pm	<u>Session 4</u> Panel Discussion	<b>Co-operative Housing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liz Thomas (Chair) Australian Co-operative Housing Alliance &amp; (CEO) CEHL</li> <li>Shane Sylvanspring (Managing Director) Planning Regenerative Communities</li> <li>Dr Sidsel Grimstad (Co-op Researcher) Griffith University</li> </ul> Facilitator: Andrew Beer (Professor/Executive Dean School of Business) University of South Australia
2:30pm	Short Break	Showcase & Networking	
2:45pm	<u>Session 5</u> Panel Discussion	<b>Marketing the Co-operative Advantage</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christian Johansson (Chief Marketing Officer) Beyond Bank</li> <li>Jess Scully (Author &amp; former Dep. Lord Mayor of Sydney)</li> <li>Ghil'ad Zuckermann (Professor) Flinders University</li> </ul> Facilitator: Molly Kendall (Communications & Business Development) The Co-op Federation
4:00pm	Day 1 Close	Showcase & Networking	
6:00pm	<b>Networking Drinks</b>	<b>NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre, 37 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills</b>	Music - Lane Cove Music Education Co-op featuring Cameron Jones & Gino Pengue Drinks - Hopsters Co-operative Brewery Canapes - The Estonian House Co-op

# CO-OP ASSEMBLY 2025

March 20 & 21- Sydney, Australia



## Program – Day 2

Date: Friday 21 March 2025

Venue: NSW Teachers Federation Conference Centre, 37 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills (Sydney)

Time	Session	Focus	Presenters/Speakers/Panellists	Location
9:00am	<u>Welcome and Panel Discussion</u>	<b>Key Co-operative Development Sectors Today</b>	Acknowledgement of Country Hon Anthony D’Adam MLC (NSW Parliament) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Belinda Russon (CEO) Tranby Aboriginal Co-op</li> <li>• Claudia Hodge (Project Manager) Community Power Agency Co-op</li> <li>• Steve Anthony (Director) Supporting Independent Living Co-op</li> </ul> Facilitator: Rebel Black (Chair) Rural Woman Co-op	Auditorium
10:00am	<u>Sector Workshops</u>	Ag/Regional Retailing Co-ops	Facilitator: Marissa Costello (General Manager) Killarney Co-op	Room 4
		Worker Co-ops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Emma Lees (Researcher) University of Sydney</li> <li>• Kate Biondo (Coordinator) Galactic Co-op</li> <li>• Richard Warner (Coordinator) Nundah Community Enterprises Co-op</li> </ul> Facilitator: Molly Kendall (Communications & Business Development) The Co-op Federation	Boardroom
		Co-operative Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nasteha Mohamud (Chair) United Housing Co-op</li> <li>• Shane Sylvanspring (Managing Director) Planning Regenerative Communities</li> </ul> Facilitator: Nick Sabel (CEO) Common Equity NSW	Auditorium
	<u>Workshop</u>	<b>Collaborative Strategic Planning</b> - Wicked Elephants Co-op <i>How do you involve your member base authentically in your planning?</i>		Heritage
11:30am	Morning Tea	Showcase & Networking		
11:45am	<u>Panel Discussion</u>	<b>Investment, Innovation and Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nathan MacPhee (Director) Invest In Farming</li> <li>• Tom Reddington (National Director) CoPower</li> <li>• Carolyn Suggate (Director) ORICoop</li> <li>• Ben Davis (CEO) Yolla Producers Co-op</li> </ul> Facilitator: Molly Kendall	Auditorium
12:45pm	Lunch	Showcase & Networking		
1:30pm	<u>Conversation</u>	<b>Co-ops &amp; Social Enterprise</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kylie Flament (CEO) SECNA</li> <li>• Sam Byrne (Secretary) The Co-op Federation</li> </ul>	Auditorium
2:00pm	<u>Sector Workshops</u>	Ag/ Regional Retailing Co-ops	Facilitator: Marissa Costello	Room 4
		Arts Co-ops	Facilitator: Bettina Kaiser (Director) Rizzeria Co-op	Mezzanine
		Food Co-ops (supported by Maple Street Co-op)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charlotte Fogarty-Henderson (Shop Manager) Maple Street Co-op</li> <li>• Jane Tyler (Chair) Manly Food Co-op</li> </ul> Facilitator: Sandra Clark (Director) Co-op Grocers	Boardroom
	<u>Workshop</u>	<b>Shared Leadership in Co-ops</b> - Percolab Coop <i>Explore practical ways to share leadership, and why it’s important</i>		Heritage
3:30pm	<u>Final Plenary</u>	<b>Outcomes - What’s Youth Got to Do with It?!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Youth Ambassadors</li> </ul>	Auditorium
4:00pm	Close	Thanks, Farewell & Networking		