

## Margin Mission and Sustainability

Board Members Member **Shareholder** Needs and Return on Patronage Investment Ethical Social Consumers Lenders Co-op **Producer** Reserves and Funds and Restricted Special Funds **Projects** Social Movements

## Finance and Operations

- Preoccupation with rapid growth and innovation Lots of ideas no execution
- Ideological or mission aspects subvert sound business decisions
- weak profit taking set the stage for a complicated financing structure
- over capitalization & high cost, US denominated debt had been over leveraged at the expense of returning shareholder and member value

Too much borrowing masked operational inefficiencies

## Governance

- Power between the Board, Management and Members out of alignment
- Member attrition and a lack of solidarity, cultural erosion
- Board left holding the fiduciary responsibility for the Co-op and for finding solutions to our collective failures



**DEMUTUALIZATION??** 

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