

Carla Decker's Candidate Statement:

Please accept this as my interest to seek nomination for election to the Board of NCBA CLUSA. My interest to serve lies within my conviction that the cooperative sector plays a key role in supplementing and augmenting public and private efforts to strengthen our communities, and that NCBA / CLUSA is central in strengthening, mobilizing and connecting our sector worldwide.

My professional work lies in 26 years of experience in the financial services sector, in the management of credit unions. I am currently the President/CEO of District Government Employees Federal Credit Union, a low-income, minority depository, and community development financial institution. Our work in consumer finance is very local, and our linkages primarily to housing cooperatives in the District. But our collaborative enterprise model and our accomplishments in building financial security for our more than 10,000 member-owners, reverberate nationally. For our reputation of putting members first, I had the privilege of serving as the inaugural Chair to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's (CFPB) credit union advisory council.

My professional work also includes international development, within and outside the financial cooperative realm. I have served on the Board of an NGO that provided technical assistance, evaluation and assessments of public and private entities working with vulnerable communities worldwide. These engagements spanned from refugee resettlement to health care to agriculture to micro-enterprise development. More recently, I have facilitated leadership development programs in the Caribbean, graduating over 400 cooperative sector leaders in four years and becoming engaged in a number of graduates' "projects" aimed at strengthening the cooperative sector's to increase market share and participation.

So, my interest in serving is in participating in that unique space, that is NCBA CLUSA, where my experiences and interests can be aggregated to contribute with the volunteer and professional leadership to strengthen cooperatives everywhere to create a better world.