

## Joseph G. Bergeron Candidate Statement:

There are many strong and talented leaders in our cooperative movement. I consider myself very fortunate to have been serving among some of them on the board of the National Cooperative Business Association for the past three years. I believe that NCBA CLUSA has come a very long ways during this short period of time, and I'm very hopeful for support that enables me to continue service with fellow NCBA board members as the organization continues on its development path toward a world-class trade association.

NCBA CLUSA does valuable development work throughout many parts of the world where people can benefit from the cooperative approach to self-help. Domestically, our cooperatives may be more numerous and more developed in many ways, but so are the challenges for a supporting organization such as NCBA CLUSA. Remaining relevant and valuable to a broad array of cooperative sectors with varying issues is a challenge met by strategy, practicality, and innovation, among other things. NCBA CLUSA has made strong strides in being relevant and beneficial to growing numbers of present and prospective coop members in recent years. I believe my three decades of experience operating a trade association and with cross-sector facilitation between coop sectors at the local, state, and national level can continue to be of assistance to the members of NCBA CLUSA as it strives to advance our nation's cooperatives and the benefits they provide.