

PECK'S MARITIME COLLABORATIVE  
2023-2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & AGREEMENT  
AS OF JULY 12, 2023

**Long-term goal: stakeholder ownership of real property**

I understand that Laura Opie (Laura), owner of Pecks' Boats, Inc. (PBI) and the boatyard property at 3800 Falmouth Road, is organizing her boatyard resources so that the property can eventually be owned by an engaged community of stakeholders. She believes the community she helps create with the boatyard property will be much more meaningful and valuable to her than the one-time income from the sale of the property would be. Ideally, she would like to create a successful model that can be replicated by others for the transferal of business and property ownership to stakeholder ownership.

**A little about cooperatives – Laura's preferred model**

I understand that Laura's preference and passion is to use a cooperative model, as described by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) on their website, <https://www.ica.coop/en/cooperatives/what-is-a-cooperative>:

Cooperatives are **people-centred enterprises** owned, controlled and run by and for their members to realize their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations.

Cooperatives bring people together in a democratic and equal way. Whether the members are the customers, employees, users or residents, cooperatives are democratically managed by the '*one member, one vote*' rule. ...

... Putting fairness, equality and social justice at the heart of the enterprise, cooperatives around the world are allowing people to work together to create **sustainable enterprises** that generate long-term jobs and prosperity. ...

The cooperative movement is far from being a marginal phenomenon, **at least 12% of humanity** is a cooperator of any of the 3 million cooperatives on earth.

I also understand that Laura is interested in drawing on ICA's cooperative values as a basis for bringing people together, along with the values of integrity, respect, and authenticity. Again from the ICA website:

Cooperatives are based on the values of **self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity, and solidarity**. In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.

**PMC for a broader appeal**

In spite of her enthusiasm for and belief in cooperatives, Laura realizes that not everyone will be attracted to a cooperative model. Yet we all share needs and values that make communication and cooperation desirable. To answer the broader need for communication and cooperation, Laura started Pecks' Maritime Collaborative (PMC) in 2021. PMC is currently defined as an association of individuals and businesses who are interested in brainstorming, networking, and action to achieve common goals and to address shared challenges. Having moved through initial planning stages with individual dialogues, PMC is positioned to start its development phase. The development of PMC will be independent of Laura's vision for stakeholder ownership of the boatyard, yet intertwined with the distinct possibility of merger.

**More than a sailing center**

I understand that while Pecks’ Boats, Inc., and the non-profit, Time to Sail, Inc. are focused on creating a sailing center at PBI, because of the broader conversations that affect us all, Laura wants PMC membership to include power boat owners and people who don’t sail. Indeed, Laura’s meaning for “Maritime” is wholistic, meaning it includes all aspects of living in a maritime community, not just those concerned with boats and boating. In addition to marine services, she sees a great need for cooperation around issues like housing, aging in place, carpooling, car-shares, and food production. Through PMC, her hope is to provide support, space, and networking to individuals who are motivated to work on these and other areas of concern. She wants PMC to be able to resist the pull toward an “us vs. them” culture.

**Pecks’ Boats, Inc. and Maritime Cooperative Store discounts**

As a PMC member, I will receive discounts on services offered by Pecks’ Boats, Inc. (PBI). Laura’s intention is to raise most of PBI prices by 10% this fall while offering PMC members a 10% discount. With the exception of a few prices that will be raised more than 10%, this will keep PMC members at the same pricing as 2022. PMC members will also receive “cost plus” discounts in the marine store, which is slated to reopen as a cooperative in 2024.

**Starting values for collaboration**

To give the development process a place to start, Laura intends to apply the principles of participatory decision making with consensus decisions and a 75% override for decisions that cannot be tabled.

**Statement of common ground**

My signature below indicates that I recognize enough common ground in Laura’s evolving vision to join PMC with a basic membership. By joining PMC during this time of development, my needs and values will help form the membership categories and organizational structure of PMC. Because most decisions will be made by consensus, I know that my ideas, needs and values will be honored in the developmental process when I attend meetings.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Winter Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Summer Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate dates at (circle one) Summer / Winter Address: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_