

MEDIA RELEASE

GPO Box 5166 Sydney NSW 2001
P 02 9239 5916 E info@bccm.coop
www.bccm.coop



Tireless champion of co-ops and mutuals succeeds to Nationals Deputy Leadership

7 December 2017

The BCCM, on behalf of the whole of Australia's co-operative and mutual sector, extends our sincere congratulations to Senator Bridget McKenzie, on her election today as Deputy Leader of the Nationals.

The BCCM and Senator McKenzie have worked closely together for several years, from the early days of the Senate Inquiry into our sector (which Bridget co-proposed), through the Hammond Review, and continuing through her current role as the Co-Chair of the Parliamentary Friends of Mutuals and Co-operatives. We're grateful to Bridget for her support for our push for a bi-partisan co-ops and mutuals Parliamentary Group from the beginning.

Senator McKenzies' background in education and commitment to regional Australia has seen her champion education and training for agricultural co-operatives through the Farming Together program and more broadly for accounting and law students.

We look forward to working with Bridget into the future. No matter what portfolio she is appointed to, we are sure that Bridget will remain a strong supporter of our sector.

-ENDS-

For requests:

Mark Egelstaff Ph: 0420 709 809

The Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals (BCCM) is the national peak body representing Australian member-owned businesses. Formed in 2013, the BCCM is led by the chief executives of Australia's co-operative and mutual businesses in all sectors including agriculture, financial services, health insurance, retail, housing, motoring services and human services. The BCCM works to promote the role of member-owned enterprises in the national economy. With over 2000 co-operative and mutual organisations operating nationally representing a total of 29 million memberships, the BCCM highlights the contribution co-operatives and mutuals make to economic and social development in Australia. www.bccm.coop