

Public Bank Advocates, Laboring on Behalf of the Public Good.

The public banking success in New Jersey, Seattle, Santa Fe, California, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Vermont's did not just spring out of the blue. They are the result of many weeks, months and years of hard work, and set-backs faced by the many volunteers working to establish public banks across our land.

Most are motivated to do this work to create a more just economy. A public bank serves this purpose by saving public funds and returning a profit that can be used to benefit the public good, rather than private interests as now is the case.

Almost all public bank organizers have worked through the challenges of learning how banks work. They did so because they knew they would need to explain to the public and elected official why the public should own its own bank. They've also had to learn community organizing principles, give public presentations, lobby, and write legislation and figure out how raise funds to get it done. They are hard-working, committed and know they are in it for the long haul.

A hundred years ago, North Dakotan farmers and ranchers were learning how to do the same thing. They captured the message correctly when they called themselves the Non-Partisan League.

A public bank has nothing to do with politics, and everything to do with plain common sense and a desire to serve the public good.

After years of hard work, organizing, set-backs and tears, the farmers and ranchers got their big win in 1919 when The Bank of North Dakota was enacted into law. Of course, the Bank continued to face opposition from the private banking industry over the next years.

As you support the public bank story growing across our land, ground yourself by watching this half hour documentary about who gave the Bank of North Dakota its start.

Learn about the surprising turn of events that eventually put the Bank of North Dakota on solid financial ground.