

meet your RENTON NEIGHBOR

MEET Lange Woon >

- ☀️ **YOUR FRIEND FOR COFFEE**
- 📁 **OWNER/BAKER, COMMON GROUND COFFEE & CUPCAKES**
- 📅 **YEARS IN RENTON: 27**

Economic recession, Boeing worker strikes and COVID-19. Through all the speed bumps, Common Ground Coffee & Cupcakes continues serving homemade sweets with a smile.

“We’re thankful for the community support,” owner Lange Woon said. “They’ve been more than customers—they’ve become friends.”

Those friends have supported Common Ground with repeat visits and word-of-mouth referrals.

- ▼ *Heng Woon and the team at Common Ground Coffee & Cupcakes make sweets from scratch daily.*



- ^ *Common Ground Coffee & Cupcakes fulfills Lange Woon’s dream of owning a business. He and wife Heng opened the Renton shop after his 31-year career at Boeing.*

“People trust their friends more than Yelp,” Lange said of the power of satisfied customers.

Lange believes business will be in recovery next year, but Renton will continue to grow because it’s an affordable, close-in community. A Renton resident for 27 years, he loves the city’s incredible diversity.

“My cul-de-sac is like the United Nations,” he said. “No matter where you’re from, you can come to Renton and feel you fit in.”

- ▼ *What’s in the box? Treats and smiles fill Common Ground to-go orders.*



Lange grew up in his family's Chinese restaurant in Aberdeen, Washington. In his 20s he was a restaurant manager, then worked in Boeing's information technology department for 31 years.

The idea of owning a business was always in the back of his mind.

Not much was happening in downtown Renton in 2005. But Lange knew growth was coming after researching housing and traffic projections. In 2007 the family opened Common Ground in a downtown corner storefront.

"My wife and I like to bake. And, I like coffee, so that was it!" he laughed.

Community members have been more than customers—they've become friends."



^ *Lange Woon welcomes more coffee lovers as Renton continues to grow.*

Common Ground has always rotated its offerings to fit the season. They'll continue to experiment with the sandwiches introduced earlier this year. Muffins and other baked goods are also in the testing phase.

Business is down about 40% this year because of COVID-19. Most of the loss was from closing inside dining, to help prevent the virus from spreading. The shop also installed purifiers that clean the air 12 times an hour.

"We're thankful for our customers," Lange said. "We ask them to stay safe and hang in there." ❖

✓ *Well-dressed cupcakes in seasonal flavors are always on the menu at Common Ground.*



✓ *The coffee and cupcake shop on the corner opened in downtown Renton in 2007.*

