

I would like to serve on the Breadroot Natural Foods Co-op Board of Directors because I believe deeply in the cooperative model and in Breadroot's role as a community resource. Breadroot is more than a grocery store, it supports local producers, prioritizes sustainable and ethical food systems, and creates access to nourishing food in a way that reflects shared ownership and community care. I am motivated to contribute my time and perspective to help ensure Breadroot remains a successful Co-op in the Black Hills. Serving on the Board will provide a meaningful opportunity to learn and grow alongside the Co-op team of Directors.

I have experience in public and private-sector marketing, human resource management and policy writing, and general management practices. I would bring a combination of strategic thinking, thoughtful analysis, and a strong commitment to cooperative values to my service on the Board of Directors. I'm comfortable engaging with complex issues, asking constructive questions, listening carefully, and contributing to discussions that would help excel Breadroot into the future. I am also a certified yoga instructor, and would bring integrity, curiosity, and a willingness to learn.

From a Board perspective, several important issues stand out. One is maintaining long-term financial stability amongst a challenging retail environment, including rising costs and competition from conventional and online grocers. Another key issue is balancing accessibility and affordability with Breadroot's commitment to high-quality foods. Member engagement and relevance is also important. As community needs and shopping habits evolve, the cooperative should seek ways to increase value and encourage member participation.

NEW
CANDIDATE

RACHEL
WESTER

