



July 13, 2017

The Board of Representatives of the TPSS Co-op wants to inform the Co-op membership and community of shoppers that Abdi Guled, General Manager, and Marilyn Berger, Head of Administration and Expansion Project Manager, no longer work at TPSS.

The Board has taken quick action to ensure stability for the store, our employees, our member-owners, and our community of shoppers, neighbors and partners. The Board is preparing to launch a search for a permanent General Manager. To ensure that the store remains under strong management through the search, we have hired an experienced Interim General Manager, Martha Whitman. She will start on Wednesday, July 19. Until that time, Hussein Choteka will be Acting General Manager. We appreciate his willingness to fill this important role.

Martha served as general manager of La Montanita Co-op in New Mexico after working in other roles, including as Vice President of Finance at a credit union. She was later the President of La Montanita's Board and, most recently, filled in as Interim Store Manager in one of its six stores. Thus, she has strong experience in management and finance, and understands the nuances of diverse aspects of co-op operations, administration, customer service, member engagement, and governance. She grew up in the DC area and is looking forward to returning to the area for a while, working with our diverse staff, and engaging with members and the community.

The Board is confident that TPSS is on solid ground and poised to move forward with success. The store's financial performance remains healthy and the future continues to be bright for TPSS. We have a terrific staff, and appreciate all they do to make TPSS a welcoming, locally oriented grocery store that gives back to our community. We have a large base of dedicated members, and strong support from our community. Together, we will continue to make TPSS even better.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the Board at board@tpss.coop.

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