

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Advisory Group Application
Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2025 9:50:24 AM

Advisory Group Application

Step 1

Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Advisory Groups

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public advisory group, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All advisory group members are expected to be fair, impartial, and respectful of the public, County staff, and each other. Failure to abide by these expectations may result in revocation of appointment and removal from the appointive position.

Title *Field not completed.*

First Name Rich

Last Name Appel

Today's Date 2/26/2025

Street Address [REDACTED]

City [REDACTED]

Zip [REDACTED]

Do you live in Whatcom County? Yes

Do you have a different mailing address? *Field not completed.*

Primary Telephone [REDACTED]

Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

Email Address [REDACTED]

Step 2

1. Name of Advisory Business and Commerce Advisory Committee

Group

Business and
Commerce Advisory
Committee Positions

Agriculture

2. Do you meet the
residency,
employment, and/or
affiliation requirements
of the position for
which you're applying?

Yes

3. Which Council
district do you live in?

District 4

4. Have you ever been
a member of this
Advisory Group

No

5. Do you or your
spouse have a financial
interest in or are you
an employee or officer
of any business or
agency that does
business with
Whatcom County?

No

6. Have you declared
candidacy (as defined
by RCW 42.17A.055)
for a paid elected office
in any jurisdiction
within the county?

No

You may attach a
resume or detailed
summary of
experience,
qualifications, &
interest in response to
the following questions

Field not completed.

7. Please describe your
occupation (or former
occupation if retired),
qualifications,
professional and/or

I have been in partnership for 35 years with my family in dairy farming and processing our milk into cheese. We grow crops on approximately 500 acers to feed our dairy herd of 550 milk cows. My primary role is to manage the whole of the dairy operation and the growing of crops. Also to participate in the bigger

community activities,
and education

decisions as it pertains to the cheese making side of our business. I have served as the board chair for Whatcom Family Farmers for the past several years and am passionate to give the farmers voice to the challenges that we are facing in our community. Also a board member on the Laurel Water Improvement District as well as a participant in the Ag Water Board and Floodplain Integrated Plan.

8. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this Advisory Group.

I believe it is important that agriculture be represented on this advisory group because agriculture plays such a important role in the economic prosperity and the unique character of Whatcom county. It is very important to me that we do not unintentionally hurt the farmers and the supporting industries that they depend on to remain viable. Rather looking at ways that would insure that farming would be thriving in Whatcom county for the future generations.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Todd Burgers Larson Gross PLLC 360-734-4280 cell 360-510-8913
Brad Rader Raspberry Farmer 360-815-4808
Greg Ebe Seed potato grower 360-815-5255
Galen Smith Dairy farmer in Acme 360-739-4483

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Rich Appel

Place Signed / Submitted



(Section Break)