



Application for Appointment to Whatcom County Boards and Commissions

Public Statement

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the information provided will be available to the County Council, County Executive, and the public. All board and commission 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	Mr.
First Name	Prakash
Last Name	Sundaresan
Today's Date	7/10/2021
Street Address	735 Kendor Dr
City	Point Roberts
Zip	98281
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Primary Telephone	4252332936
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	p_sundaresan@hotmail.com
1. Name of Board or Committee	Point Roberts Community Advisory Committee
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 5
4. Are you a US citizen?	Yes
5. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes

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

No

7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission?

No

8. 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

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

[Prakash Sundaresan Resume 2021.pdf](#) - attached

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education

See attached resume.

10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission

The Covid crisis has been especially hard for Point Roberts (PR) due to the extended border closure and its impact on both the residents and businesses of PR. While we can hope that the border will eventually re-open, it is not a given that everything will go back to the old normal. What we need is a fundamental re-imagining of what PR is and can be, leveraging it's unique geographical, historical, natural, and human assets while maintaining the essential character that make PR what it is. As a relative new-comer (I have been a member of the PR community since Oct 2019) but with skills and experiences that might be increasingly relevant to the future of PR, I would be happy to volunteer my services to help PR emerge from this crisis stronger, more resilient, and with a clear plan for the future.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Available upon request.

Signature of applicant:

Prakash Sundaresan

Place Signed / Submitted

Point Roberts, WA

Prakash Sundaresan

Point Roberts, WA

p_sundaresan@hotmail.com

Experienced corporate leader and software entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience building high performance teams that build, deploy, and support innovative mission-critical products and services for customers world-wide. Repeatedly demonstrated the ability to identify challenging problems, win approval / funding for a plan to address the challenge, and build a team to go execute successfully against the mission.

Track Record

VP of Engineering, Amazon Web Services (AWS)

2020 – 2021

At AWS, I was the single-threaded leader responsible for a portfolio of analytics services ([Amazon EMR](#) and [Amazon Athena](#)) with over \$1 Billion in annual revenue and a team of 300+ employees. My responsibilities included strategy formulation, hiring, engineering execution, pricing, go-to-market and supporting production customers around the world. During my time, we led a strategic re-positioning of the Athena service (including growing the investment in that service by 2x) as well as a comprehensive quality and security overhaul of the EMR service. Both services accelerated growth during my tenure while increasing quality and optimizing operational expenses.

VP of Engineering, Workday

2019 – 2020

After Workday's acquisition of Trusted Key in 2019, I joined the senior leadership team for [Workday Credentials](#), "*the world's most advanced network for verified and trusted credentials, powered by blockchain technology.*" In this role, I lead the team of 50+ engineers building all aspects of this product, including the blockchain trust layer, the credentials runtime platform, the credentials administrator portal, integrations with Workday's HCM and other applications, APIs for issuers and verifiers, as well as the end-user facing WayTo credentials management application for iOS and Android. The product hit Limited Availability in March of 2020 and is now in the process of onboarding production customers.

Co-founder, founding CEO, and CTO of Trusted Key

2016 – 2019

I was the primary founder of Trusted Key, a startup aimed at reshaping digital identity as we know it. It is generally agreed-upon that a personal digital identity (one that is owned and controlled by the individual) is one of the key missing foundational concepts in today's Internet. In early 2016, it occurred to me that there finally was a way to solve this problem, securely and at scale, using increasingly ubiquitous and mature technologies such as smartphones with trusted execution environments, public-private-key cryptography, and a programmable blockchain platform such as Ethereum.

As founding CEO, I took the startup from idea to incorporation and fund-raising, hired a top-tier team of full-stack developers, and built an industry-leading product (including an enterprise-facing digital identity platform and an end-user facing mobile app for iOS and Android). Along the way, Trusted Key applied for over a dozen patents in this space, the first and most significant of which was successfully awarded in March 2020.

In Jan 2018, I made the decision to bring on a more business-focused CEO and move to the CTO role. Over the next 18 months, Trusted Key completed successful PoC and pilot implementations with 2 of the top 5 commercial banks in the US as well as with the leading consortium of over 200 healthcare companies, and established go-to-market partnerships with 2 of the top 4 technology consulting companies world-wide. On the back of this growing momentum, Trusted Key landed the first public investment from Okta Ventures in early 2019 and was acquired soon after by Workday.

Trusted Key's approach to digital identity is now becoming industry norm, with efforts from leading companies such as [Workday](#), [Microsoft](#), [SAP + Oracle](#), [MasterCard](#), and others adopting the same fundamental approach.

CTO, Microsoft Asia-Pacific R&D (ARD) Group (based in Shanghai, China)

2012 – 2014

As CTO, I help set the strategic direction and innovation agenda for ARD, Microsoft's largest R&D group outside of the Redmond headquarters. ARD consists of over 2000 full-time engineers and researchers working on a variety of products in areas such as cloud computing, e-commerce, big data, search, hardware devices and more.

Key Achievements

- Partnered with global R&D and local Sales & Marketing to successfully land [Microsoft Azure in China](#). Microsoft was the first non-Chinese provider to receive government approval and start offering commercial cloud services in China.

- Championed and led the establishment of Microsoft Startup Accelerator in Beijing that helped startups be successful on Azure. The Accelerator graduated 100 companies in its first 3 years, for a combined market value of over \$5B.
- Led strategy and technology development to address the key Smart Cities opportunity targeting the over 100 cities in China with a population over 1M. This project grew into Microsoft's CityNext offering for partners that provides a customizable analytics platform for cities world-wide.

General Manager, Microsoft Server & Tools Business (STB) China R&D 2009 – 2012

I had overall responsibility for the strategy and operations of STB's R&D organization in China, consisting of over 400 full-time employees and an annual operating budget of over US\$ 100M. This role combined strategy development, large team management, coordination between HQ and China, as well as working with customers, partners, and stakeholders in China.

Key Achievements

- Planned and executed a broad organizational transformation, that, over a 3-yr period, transitioned the organization from over 20+ fragmented efforts to 6 Focus Areas. Along the way, the team was also up-leveled from one consisting primarily of junior engineers to one comparable with other global R&D centers in seniority & experience.
- Oversaw completion, inauguration and move-in into Microsoft's first fully owned campus in China (in Shanghai), with a capacity of over 2,500 seats, along with an executive briefing center, partner training center and other facilities.
- Built deep connections with the local ecosystem of Microsoft customers and partners, including the establishment of the China Cloud Innovation Center (CCIC), with a mission to help China customers and partners move to the cloud.

Product Unit Manager, Microsoft SQL Server China R&D 2007 – 2009

I volunteered to move to China to build SQL Server's R&D team in China. Over 2.5 years, I built a highly talented team of 100+ engineering across Beijing and Shanghai that successfully delivered into multiple releases of SQL Server. Three of the top five leaders on the team were female, and team had the best gender diversity ratio of any 100+ R&D team WW.

Director of Strategy at SQL Server, Microsoft 2005 – 2007

I was co-responsible for developing the long-term product and business strategy for the SQL Server. I was the primary creator of the Data Platform strategy to expand the reach of SQL Server from devices all the way to the cloud, supporting all types of data, and providing a rich set of services. This strategy was approved in a Bill Gates review and served as the north star for the SQL Server team for many years thereafter.

Principal Program Manager, SQL Server Customer Advisory Team, 2004 – 2005

I was part of a group of elite architects who worked with large enterprise customers to help implement the most complex, large-scale, mission-critical projects on the Microsoft platform. I supervised customer projects that deployed a core-banking system in Japan and a telco OSS system in Korea, both firsts for Windows and SQL Server worldwide.

Development Manager at Microsoft SQL Server 1998 – 2003

Led development of the Query Execution Engine for the SQL Server 2000 & SQL Server 2005 database product releases. Also led development of features in the core SQL Server product for the WinFS integrated storage initiative.

Development Lead at Informix Software (later acquired by IBM) 1994 – 1998

Led development of the Query Execution Engine for the massively parallel Informix XPS database product.

Research Intern at Digital Equipment Corp (DEC) 1993 – 1994

Pioneered massively parallel technologies in lab headed by Turing Award winner, the late Dr. Jim Gray.

Education

- University of Washington, Seattle, Foster School of Business Technology Management MBA (TMMBA)
- University of Wisconsin, Madison Master of Science (M.Sc.), Computer Science
- Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi Bachelor of Technology (B. Tech), Computer Science

Patents

<https://patents.justia.com/inventor/prakash-sundaresan>