

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [Jill Nixon](#); [Jake Logan](#); [Executive](#); [Cathy Halka](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Advisory Group Application
Date: Monday, January 06, 2025 4:33:47 PM

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 Ms.

First Name Kerri

Last Name Burnside

Today's Date 1/6/2025

Street Address

City Bellingham

Zip 98229

Do you live in
Whatcom County? Yes

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

Primary Telephone

Secondary Telephone *Field not completed.*

Email Address

Step 2

1. Name of Advisory Housing Advisory Committee

Group

Housing Advisory
Committee Position

Housing Advocate

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 1

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

[Kerri resume 2024.pdf](#)

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

Occupation: I am currently an Organizer with the Bellingham
Tenants Union (BTU), where I lead initiatives to support renters'
rights and advocate for policies that address housing insecurity
and homelessness.
Former Occupations:
• Systems Improvement Advisor: With experience at Intalco, I

and education

was an instructor for the Alcoa Business Systems (ABS), focusing on process improvement and change management. I collaborated on creating best practices for the HR department across Primary Metals plants and implemented these practices across various locations.

- Safety Officer: Served with Whatcom County Fire District 8, gaining experience in emergency planning and disaster response.
- Peer Debriefing: Worked with the Critical Incident Stress Management Team for 12 years.
- Disaster Response Team Member: Part of an airline's disaster response team, adhering to strict federal regulations.

Professional and Community Activities:

- Legislative Lead for the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance (WLIHA), assisting with the organization of statewide efforts to advance housing policies.
- President of the Silver Beach Neighborhood Association and representative on the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Committee (MNAC), fostering community involvement and advocating for neighborhood development.
- Former board member of the Whatcom Peace and Justice Center and volunteer with the Human Rights Taskforce, emphasizing human rights and social justice.
- Volunteer firefighter/EMT, contributing to community safety and emergency response.

Education:

- Associate in Liberal Arts Degree, Whatcom Community College (Graduated with honors, 2017).
- Certified Hypnotherapist, Bellingham Technical College (Graduated with honors, 2002).
- PHR (Professional Human Resources Certification), Human Resources Certification Institute.
- Completed training in Total Quality Management (TQM), Alcoa Business Systems, and various software and project management tools.

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

I am passionate about ensuring all my fellow community members have safe affordable housing.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

COB Councilmember -Lisa Anderson [REDACTED], Washington
Low Income Housing Alliance - Michelle Thomas [REDACTED]

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Kerri Burnside

Bellingham, WA

Place Signed /
Submitted

(Section Break)

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Experience

Bellingham Tenants Union, Bellingham, WA

Organizer (April 2023 - Present)

- Advocate for Built for Zero, rent stabilization, and tenant protections at city council meetings and through direct engagement with council members and legislators.
- Lead volunteer efforts as a Legislative District Lead with the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, organizing advocacy for tenant rights.
- Organize rallies, endorsement events, and community awareness initiatives supporting tenant protections and housing solutions.
- Collaborate in drafting and promoting policies and ordinances that address homelessness and housing equity.
- Provide mediation and support to tenants navigating housing services and disputes with landlords.
- Develop and deliver "Know Your Rights" workshops in partnership with local organizations to empower renters.
- Member of the Whatcom Housing Alliance (WHA) Policy Task Force.

SELF EMPLOYED, Bellingham, WA / 2004-2023

HR Consultant, Newspaper Publisher, Hypnotherapist & Hypnotherapy Instructor

- Provide HR support to non-profits and small businesses.
- Owner/publisher of the Bellingham Muse, a bimonthly wellness journal
- Coordinate and teach an accredited Clinical Hypnotherapist Program.
- Maintain private practice for Clinical Hypnotherapy.
- Develop, coordinate, and deliver classes/workshops for interpersonal skills and stress reduction.

INTALCO ALUMINUM CORPORATION, Ferndale, WA / 1994-2004

Human Resources Generalist & Process Improvement Specialist

- Process Improvement: Instructed Alcoa University's process improvement training, focusing on the Alcoa Business System (ABS), an adaptation of the Toyota Production System).
- Best Practices Development: Co-authored best practices for HR across Primary Metals, leading implementation and continuous improvement efforts in multiple plants.
- Audit and Implementation: Part of the auditing team that ensured adherence to HR best practices, identifying areas for enhancement and driving systemic improvements.
- Cross-Functional Support: Traveled to various Alcoa plants to support process improvement initiatives, including production and administrative processes, ensuring efficiency and alignment with company standards.
- HR Responsibilities: Managed recruitment, training, diversity initiatives, and labor relations, with a strong focus on employee development and organizational effectiveness.

SKILLS

- Process Improvement & Implementation
- Change Management & Leadership
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Stakeholder Engagement & Collaboration
- Team Building & Facilitation
- Public Speaking & Advocacy
- Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
- Project Management
- Policy Development
- Conflict Resolution & Mediation

EDUCATION

- Associate in Liberal Arts degree, WCC (Graduated with honors 2017)
- Certified Hypnotherapist, BTC (Graduated with honors 2002)
- PHR (Professional Human Resources certification)

TRAINING

- Total Quality Management (TQM) Alcoa University (Alcoa Business Systems training based on the Toyota Production System).
- Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook).
- CRM & Project Management: Salesforce, Infusionsoft, Act!, Asana, Monday.com.
- Collaboration & Productivity Tools: Google Suite (Docs, Sheets, Slides, Drive).
- Leadership & Development: Completed numerous courses in diversity, team building, conflict management, public speaking, leadership, and dispute resolution.