



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	<i>Field not completed.</i>
First Name	Nichole
Last Name	Oleson
Today's Date	1/5/2021
Street Address	3211 Cottonwood Avenue
City	Bellingham
Zip	98225
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	3603198284
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	nichole@nongmoproject.org
1. Name of Board or Committee	Food System Committee
Food System Committee position:	Processing/Distribution
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 2
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	<i>Field not completed.</i>
9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	I am the Director of Operations at the Non-GMO Project, a non-profit organization offering rigorous non-GMO food verification and trustworthy education that empowers people to care for themselves, the planet, and future generations. Located in Bellingham, we work nationally with brands and manufacturers of all sizes that are actively navigating avoidance of GMOs in the food supply. We also work closely with leaders in the soil health and regenerative farming industry. I graduated from Western Washington University in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science Degree (Pre-Physical Therapy) and spent 10 years working in the health and wellness industry prior to my work with the Non-GMO Project.
10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	I am passionate about food access and food security and eager to serve on a board/committee that focuses on the critical components of sustainability and equitability. I want to be of service in my local community and feel that my perspective as an advocate for natural and healthy foods, my experience with business operations and a national food verification program, and my direct experience working with our Board of Directors and various committees would contribute to the success of the initiative(s) set forth by the Food Systems Committee.
References (please include daytime telephone number):	Megan Westgate, Executive Director, Non-GMO Project, 510-292-0987 Darby Cowles, City of Bellingham, Senior City Planner, 360-820-1416 Riley Sweeney, City of Ferndale, Communications Officer, 360-441-4191
Signature of applicant:	Nichole S Oleson
Place Signed / Submitted	Bellingham, WA