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**WHATCOM COUNTY
COUNCIL**



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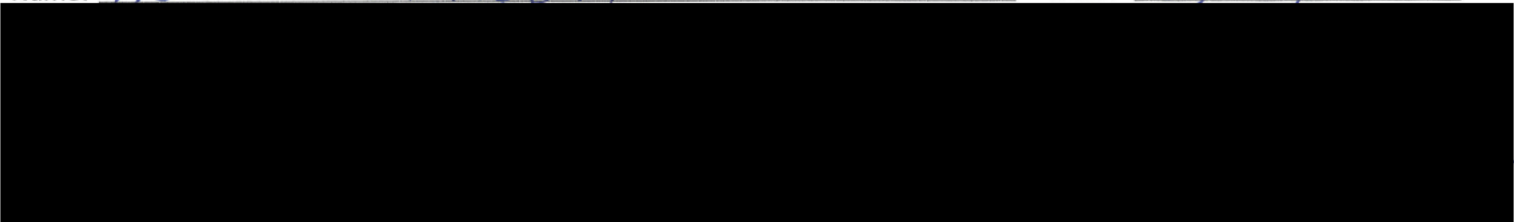
COUNCILMEMBERS
Barry Buchanan
Tyler Byrd
Todd Donovan
Ben Elenbaas
Carol Frazey
Kaylee Galloway
Kathy Kershner

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO WHATCOM COUNTY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY and COMPLETE ALL ITEMS

Name: Howard Shartstein

Date: 12/27/23



1. Name of board or committee—**please see reverse:** Climate Impact Advisory Committee
2. You must specify which position you are applying for. **Please refer to vacancy list.** Available vacancy
3. Do you meet the residency, employment, and/or affiliation requirements of the position for which you're applying? **(If applicable, please refer to vacancy list.)** ----- yes () no
4. Which Council district do you live in? ----- One () Two () Three () Four () Five
5. Are you a US citizen? ----- yes () no
6. Are you registered to vote in Whatcom County? ----- yes () no
7. Have you ever been a member of this Board/Commission? ----- () yes no
If yes, dates: _____
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? ----- () yes no
If yes, please explain: _____
9. Have you declared candidacy (as defined by RCW 42.17A.055, see instructions) for a paid elected office in any jurisdiction within the county? ----- () yes no

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

10. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education. Please see the attached resume and brief biography explaining my local climate resilience work

11. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission: See brief biography that describes my work with Kulshan Carbon Trust and attached articles detailing our work

References (please include daytime telephone number): David Roberts - (360) 483-7341

If appointed, I will comply with the Council & Executive Expectations of Boards and Committee Members and complete Open Government Training as required by RCW 42.30.205.

Signature of applicant: [Handwritten Signature]

THIS IS A PUBLIC DOCUMENT: As a candidate for a public board or commission, the above information 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.

HOWARD L. SHARFSTEIN

Summary

Four decades of environmental sustainability experience in policy, technical, and legal roles, including 30 years as an attorney managing environmental compliance and energy strategy.

Education

BA *Environmental Studies -- State University of New York at Albany*

MS *Science & Technology Studies -- Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*

JD *-- Georgia State University -- Atlanta, GA*

Experience

Western Washington University – Bellingham, WA

Adjunct (non-tenure track) Professor – Huxley College & Institute of Energy Studies 2019--

- Environmental Law & Policy (ENVS 355) taught legal processes and policy tools to prevent and address environmental harm, including student-led mock public hearings for the final class project.
- Energy Policy & Politics (ENRG 350) taught the history, economics, and politics of U.S. energy policy and its implications on climate and other environmental values, including student presentations on energy technology options.

Kimberly-Clark Corporation - Roswell, GA

Senior Counsel – Environment, Energy, Safety & Sustainability

1994-2017

- Established processes/systems and managed all legal aspects of environmental/safety compliance, energy transactions and sustainability reporting for an \$18+ billion global consumer packaged goods company.
- Advised internal clients on laws/regulations governing air/water pollution, environmental remediation and natural resource protection in the U.S. and the E.U.
- Led environmental due diligence on acquisitions/divestitures and devised/executed strategies to minimize/avoid potential liability from historic environmental conditions.
- Conducted numerous renewable energy transactions by coordinating staff and outside advisors while preparing/negotiating financing and commercial agreements.
- Served as counsel to Sustainability Advisory Board and developed responses to NGO concerns about K-C's carbon footprint and impact of fiber use on natural forests.

Troutman Sanders - Atlanta, GA

Senior Associate: Environmental Practice Group

1989—1994

- Provided advice/drafted documents for buyers, sellers, and lenders to manage environmental liability for real property, corporate and project finance transactions.
- Counseled a major electric utility client on strategies to implement the 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments and served as legal advisor to this client in developing/enhancing its internal environmental policies, guidelines and audit materials.

Nixon Hargrave (now Nixon Peabody) - Washington, DC

Associate: Environmental and Project Finance Groups

1986—1989

- Worked with independent power developers and financial institutions to identify/assess environmental/energy regulatory issues.
- Advised municipal and manufacturing clients on compliance with Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and 1986 Superfund Amendments.

Clark-Kenith Inc. - Atlanta, GA

Manager of Preconstruction Services

1982—1985

- Helped start-up a design/build contractor in waste-to-energy industry and managed its environmental compliance, including obtaining complex air permits.
- Researched and helped prepare multi-volume business/technical proposal documents for development, engineering, construction, and operation of solid waste combustors.

New York State Assembly - Albany, NY

Legislative Aid to Committee on Environmental Conservation

1975—1980

- Prepared memoranda, arranged hearings, engaged stakeholders and briefed committee members on wide-ranging environmental legislative proposals.
- Developed legislative strategies to gain support in state Senate, executive branch, interest groups and NGOs to enact innovative laws concerning environmental impact statements, clean air, solid waste recycling, urban forests and community gardens.

Civic Involvement

Kulshan Carbon Trust - Bellingham, WA

Co-founder and President

2021 ---

Autrey Mill Nature Preserve & Heritage Center - Johns Creek, GA

Director and Officer, including President

2005—2017

Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Section hiked (>2,000+ miles) from Springer Mountain GA to Mt. Katahdin ME

1994--2019

Brief Biography of Howard Sharfstein

December 2023

Howard Sharfstein is a co-founder and serves as President of the Kulshan Carbon Trust. He is a retired environmental attorney, having worked as legal counsel to Kimberly-Clark's environmental, energy, safety, and sustainability teams for nearly 25 years. He is also a former corporate sustainability leader. Howard was a charter member of the Atlanta Sustainability Leadership Forum.

After his retirement in 2017, Howard taught Environmental Law and Energy Policy at Western Washington University. He is also an informal climate planning advisor to the Peak Sustainability Group in his hometown of Bellingham, WA. He now spends most of his time volunteering for the [Kulshan Carbon Trust](#) (KCT), an innovative non-profit that fosters regenerative natural climate solutions in NW Washington. Our team collaborates with land stewards and other stakeholders to draw down carbon in ways that regenerate the land and build climate resilience. Learn more about KCT's purpose by reading our initial white paper, [Creating a Carbon Conservation Trust Movement](#), co-authored by former College of the Environment Dean Steve Hollenhorst and retired Institute for Energy Studies instructor Howard Sharfstein. You can also gain insights from our feature in the [Whatcom Watch](#) and our current implementation strategy in a second paper, [Building Carbon Trusts to Deliver Natural Climate Solutions](#). These papers and the following summary explain why KCT has heightened my interest in the Climate Impact Advisory Committee.

- The Kulshan Carbon Trust (**KCT**) is a new type of legal entity that engages communities and stakeholders to foster regenerative natural climate solutions (**NCS**).
- CCTs strive to remove greenhouse gases (**GHG**) from the atmosphere, improve soil vitality, and build climate resilience.
- A carbon trust brings together land stewards, local businesses, and long-term investors to create a circular local economy.
- We use collaboration tools to identify mutual interests and promote the following goals:
 - Reduce GHG emissions and abate local air pollution.
 - Use place-based NCS to remove atmospheric CO₂ and sequester soil carbon.
 - Restore damaged ecosystems and grow biodiversity to withstand climate disruption.
 - Revitalize rural economies and create healthier communities with regenerative NCS.