



whatcom county
library system

December 19, 2023

Mr. Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive
311 Grand Avenue, Suite 108
Bellingham, WA 98225

Dear Executive Sidhu:

After 10 years serving on the WCLS Board of Trustees, Lori Jump will be completing her second term at the end of January. The WCLS Board Personnel Committee met this Fall with several candidates to replace Lori in Position #4. Our top choice for this position is Danielle Gaughen of Birch Bay.

Danielle is the Executive Director of the Birch Bay Chamber of Commerce and has been instrumental in helping the Friends of the Birch Bay Library generate support for their building project. She has experience planning large-scale community events and managing a budget. She previously worked as the Marketing Coordinator for Worldmark by Wyndham and would be a great fit for our WCLS Marketing Committee. She's currently participating in Leadership Whatcom in addition to raising two children ages 6 and 12. Danielle would bring the board the perspective of a parent of school-aged children, a business leader and community organizer. Her family members are active users of the Birch Bay bookmobile and the Blaine Library.

If approved, Danielle Gaughen's first term on the WCLS Board of Trustees would run through January 31, 2029. If you have any questions about this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at rodney.lofdahl@wcls.org or WCLS Executive Director Christine Perkins at christine.perkins@wcls.org. Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing the news of your appointment.

Sincerely,

Rodney Lofdahl
Chair, Board of Trustees

The Power of Sharing

5205 Northwest Drive Bellingham, Washington 98226 | (360) 305-3600 | wcls.org



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Mr. Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive
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Dear Executive Sidhu:

As you may recall, Erika Lautenbach has been serving on the WCLS Board of Trustees since 2017. She was re-appointed to the Board in Position #1 in 2022 and has three years remaining in her second term, which ends January 31, 2027. Erika has been a strong member of the Board of Trustees, participating while she was a fellow at the Brookings Institute and throughout the pandemic. She said it was a nice break from the stresses of her position as Director of the Whatcom County Health Department during those turbulent years! Recently Erika indicated that if we were able to identify another highly qualified trustee to fill Position #1, she would be willing to step down from this role. She often has work responsibilities and meetings that conflict with her ability to attend WCLS meetings and participate fully in library-related discussions and events. Fortunately for us, Erika let us know she will remain an active library supporter AND we have found a worthy replacement.

At the December 19 Whatcom County Library System Board of Trustees meeting, the Board voted unanimously to recommend John H. Miller to complete Erika Lautenbach's term in Position #1. John lives in the unincorporated part of the county, within 10 miles of WCLS's Administrative Services building. Prior to retirement, he worked as the executive director for several tribes in Clallam County and was elected as Director of Community Development there from 2007 to 2010. He also served on the Peninsula College Board of Trustees from 2008 to 2011. He is an avid reader and interested in library services to rural communities.

If approved, John H. Miller's first term on the WCLS Board of Trustees would run through January 31, 2027. If you have any questions about this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me at rodney.lofdahl@wcls.org, or Executive Director Christine Perkins at christine.perkins@wcls.org. Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to hearing the news of your appointment.

Sincerely,

Rodney Lofdahl
Chair, Board of Trustees

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