

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Board and Commission Application
Date: Monday, March 09, 2020 8:48:20 PM

Board and Commission Application

Step 1

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	Joel
Last Name	Kennedy
Today's Date	3/9/2020
Street Address	1708 Harris Ave
City	Bellingham
Zip	98225
Do you live in & are you registered to vote in Whatcom County?	Yes
Do you have a different mailing address?	YES
Mailing Address	PO Box 2114, Ferndale WA 98248
Primary Telephone	(360) 685-3280
Secondary Telephone	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Email Address	joel@kennedy.productions

Step 2

1. Name of Board or Committee	Homeless Strategies Workgroup
Homeless Strategies Workgroup Positions:	Homeless children and families
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. 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, &	<i>Field not completed.</i>

interest in response to the following questions

9. Please describe your occupation (or former occupation if retired), qualifications, professional and/or community activities, and education	Self-employed Technology Consultant and Video Producer BA - General Studies / Business / Drama - Trinity Bible College - 1996 BTC Residential Home Inspection Certification Class - 2019
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10. Please describe why you're interested in serving on this board or commission	As a father of 8 who has dealt with homelessness on-and-off for the past 10+ years, across three NW WA counties, I believe I am uniquely qualified to help shed perspective and insight on the current housing crisis in Whatcom County, especially as it affects families.
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My wife and I are college-educated, industrious people, who never shy away from a challenge and try to make the best of a bad situation while seeking to get the most out of life. We built a successful tech-support business on Sound Whidbey, in an economy that never quite recovered from the last recession, but had to shut down that business when we couldn't find affordable housing for our family in the area.

After moving up to Whatcom County, our rent was quickly raised from barely affordable to unaffordable in just a few months, and we were forced to move again. With no other options for a family our size, we bounced around from friends' houses to hotels, tents and vehicles for several months until emergency family housing became available last November.

We know first-hand what it's like taking care of a family in survival mode while trying to keep spirits up and work toward a better future. I would like the opportunity to help this workgroup accomplish its goals and pave the way to a better future for families and individuals in Whatcom County who are struggling to keep food on the table and a roof over their heads.

References (please include daytime telephone number):	Barry Buchanan (360.778.5010) Kevin Allen-Schmid (406.858.0142) Heather Lindsay (360.312.3882)
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Signature of applicant:	Joel D. Kennedy
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Place Signed / Submitted	Bellingham, WA
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