

Subject: Online Form Submittal: Advisory Group Application
Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026 8:47:25 AM

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 Mr.

First Name Gurdeep

Last Name Bains

Today's Date 2/5/2026

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Do you live in Whatcom County? Yes

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

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Step 2

1. Name of Advisory Planning Commission

Group

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 5

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

Attached

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

I am a CPA (Certified Public Accountant) and work as a CFO and over my career have been in many industries including Banking & Finance, Real Estate, Mining. I currently work primarily in the Mining industry.

8. Please describe why

I am community focused, I coach youth basketball and rugby in

you're interested in serving on this Advisory Group.

the blaine / ferndale are as well as have a small business with my wife. I have experience with infill housing and an interest in figuring out how to get more housing in cities so my school aged children can hopefully afford to live in Whatcom County when they get out of school. I was born and raised in New Zealand and moved to Canada for College and see what effect the housing crisis has had on those two countries, housing ownership is now pretty much unattainable.

References (please include daytime telephone number):

Field not completed.

Appointment Requirements

I understand and agree

Signature of applicant:

Gurdeep Bains

Place Signed / Submitted



(Section Break)

GURDEEP BAINS, CPA

Overview: I am a CPA with 20+ years experience working in the US, Canada and the UK. I started my career at KPMG and then moved into Banking where I was in various roles such as Head of Internal Audit, Corporate M&A. I then became CFO of Canada's largest independent Automotive Service Repair organisation where my role was to streamline operations and ensure the company was appropriately financed for structural changes that were occurring in the industry. I have worked for a variety of companies, including well established private & publicly traded companies as well as start ups. I have experience in the following industries: Banking, Distribution, Retail, Real Estate, Manufacturing. I am used to working in a fast paced environment, I learn quickly and can work with people of all backgrounds.

EXPERIENCE:

CFO Consulting Services

Blaine, WA
March 2018 to present

Purpose: The purpose of this role is to consult to various private and junior public companies in Mining, Real Estate, Technology, Snack Food Manufacturing for initiatives such as Equity Financing strategy (involved in \$200M+ equity financings), Strategic Planning, Budgeting, Risk Management, Organizational structure, Business Development, Financial Operations & Estate Planning

O.K. Tire Stores Inc. *Chief Financial Officer*

Surrey, BC
June 2014 to February 2018

Purpose: The purpose of this role is to oversee financial reporting, treasury, credit, budgeting, IT, create and manage a Real Estate Trust for the company's owned distribution centers, vendor management and assist the CEO in strategy and business development to grow the company's franchised store count across Canada to 400 + stores. Key Accomplishments included:

- Raised \$34,000,000 initially from the company's franchisees and employees to create a Industrial Real Estate Investment Trust to hold the company owned distribution centers. Total sq footage was 750,000 after 3 years.
- Oversaw acquisition of land and construction of an 86,500 sq ft Distribution Facility in Acheson, AB
- Changed the company's banking relationship to a big 5 bank in Canada. Increased financing (operating lines and mortgage financing), from \$50,000,000 to \$80,000,000 to assist in future expansion
- Improved Finance Function Operations that resulted in the Monthly Financial Close process reduced from 30 to 7 days to allow Management quicker access to info to allow better and informed decision making
- Created and enforced new Credit Collection Practices resulting in bringing down past due balances from 10% to under 2% in 2 years which freed up an additional \$5M in working capital
- Improved Board of Directors Management Information Packages helping decrease questions and therefore the time of Board Meetings from 1 and a half to 1 full day

GURDEEP BAINS

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Canaccord Genuity. (May 2005 to June 2014)
Vice President, Internal Audit and Financial Analysis
(Reporting to Head of Audit Committee & CFO)

Vancouver, BC & Toronto, ON
February 2009 to June 2014

Purpose: The purpose of this role was to create and implement an Internal Audit and Financial Analysis Department as well as continue to perform various ad-hoc projects for Executive Management such as Corporate M&A and integration.

Work performed included the following:

- Worked on various Executive Management projects such as:
 - Performed Financial Due Diligence and integration for a number of acquisitions. Total of \$800M of Acquisitions in Toronto, Canada, London, England, Beijing China, and Melbourne, Australia
 - Worked on large share and debt issuance financings to raise over \$600M to finance the above noted acquisitions.

Manager, Finance Projects (Reporting to COO & CFO)
Financial Analyst

July 2007 to February 2009
May 2005 to July 2007

KPMG LLP
Senior Auditor, Assurance Services

Burnaby, BC & Atlanta, GA
Sep 1, 2000 to Apr 2005

EDUCATION:

Institute of Chartered Accountants of BC
Chartered Accountant Designation / Certified Public Accountant

Vancouver, BC, Canada
May 2003

Simon Fraser University
Bachelor of Business Administration

Burnaby, BC, Canada
May 2000

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS:

Vancouver Police Foundation Trustee:

May 2014 to May 2020

Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee for the Foundation. Foundation fundraises for innovative policing equipment and community programs that cannot be funded within the regular operating budget of VPD.

College of Dental Surgeons of BC (Board Member)

January 2018 to December 2020

Chair of the Audit Committee. The College of Dental Surgeons of BC is the regulatory body for dentists, its function is to protect the public by overseeing the conduct and competence of its registrants.

OTHER DIRECTORSHIPS:

Blue Lagoon Resources Inc. (BLLG.CN)
Director (CSE Venture Company)

June 2019 to present

Troy Minerals. (TROY.CN)
Director (CSE Venture Company)

Oct 2022 to present