

I have been asked, by numerous people, if I would consider fulfilling the remainder of Senator Ericksen's senate term. When I reflect on the current state of Whatcom County, and the unprecedented scale of natural disaster our citizens are facing, it is inarguable that the people of the 42nd district should not be left without a strong voice in Olympia. My family has lived and farmed in the Nooksack River Valley since 1902. As a 4th generation farmer I have personally experienced the abundance and devastation our river system provides us. Now, more than ever, the people of the 42nd district need an experienced voice to advocate for recovery and long term solutions for our river. With Agriculture and the Cherry Point Industrial Area being the 2 largest economic drivers in the 42nd district my 20 years of experience in the energy sector will serve Whatcom well as Olympia wrestles with regulatory changes as we move towards a clean energy future. This task, if properly executed will both protect the environment and provide jobs into the future. However, if poorly done will have the potential to drive out jobs and harm the less fortunate among us most with astronomical energy prices. The people of the 42nd as well as the entire State can not afford to blunder on such an important task. So it is out of respect for Senator Ericksen, respect for the individuals who have asked me to serve, and most importantly, respect for the citizens of the 42nd district - I humbly accept the nomination to be considered by the Whatcom County Council. I believe my unique experience and skill-set provide me with the tools needed to represent the citizens of the 42nd at such short notice.

Below please find a brief summary of my relevant experiences;

ELECTED AND APPOINTED POSITIONS

-Planning Commissioner for Whatcom County Council District #2

Appointed by Whatcom County Council, June 2012-Sept. 2015.

-Whatcom County Charter Review Commissioner Council District #2

Elected by the citizens of Council District #2, 1 year term expired Dec. 31st 2015

- With the highest vote total of all 15 of the elected candidates, per the Charter, I chaired the first meeting until such a time as we could elect a new Chair. I was unanimously elected Chairman by the Commission members 9 conservatives and 6 liberals. We had 8 amendments proposed with 7 of them passing the ballot and becoming incorporated into the charter. A true bipartisan success.

-Whatcom County Councilmember Council District #5

Elected by the citizens of Council District #5, 4 year term expiring Jan. 2024

- Chair of the Planning and Development Committee, member of the Natural Resources Committee. Member of the Bellingham International Airport Advisory Committee. Member of the Drayton Harbor/Portage Bay Shellfish Advisory Committee, Flood Control Zone Committee, and the Lummi Island Ferry Advisory Committee.

LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL ADVOCACY

American/Washington State Farm Bureau Member Since 2001

President Whatcom County Farm Bureau Board. Term 2018-2020

- Member of the Legislative Committee, Policy Development Committee. Comp plan/CAO Review Committee.

Washington State Cattlemen's Association Member Since 1999

Vice President Whatcom County Executive Board 2016-2021

- Chair of the Public Relations Committee.
- I have spent many days in Olympia building relationships with State legislators with Cattlemen.
- Spent many years as a Director Member for the Whatcom County Chapter.

Education

Western Washington University & Huxley College of the Environment

Bellingham, Washington 1997-2014

- BA in General Studies (designed major) with an emphasis on Natural Sciences.
- Environmental Studies Minor and Geography Minor

Graduate Lynden High School Class of '97