

My name is Simon Sefzik and I am interested in representing Whatcom County by filling Senator Doug Ericksen's seat. It is an incredible honor to be considered for this position, and I know you do not take this responsibility lightly.

Whatcom County has lost a Senator and a friend while his family has lost a husband, father, and son. Our thoughts and prayers are with them, as we know the days ahead will involve many tears for a grieving family. As you embark upon this difficult choice, we hope to honor the service of a man who believed in the promise of Whatcom County. It is in moments like this that we can see the best in people, as we gather to support them in their grief. Events like this transcend politics as they remind us of the gift of life and the joys of living in this beautiful place called Whatcom County.

On the surface, it may seem that you and I could not be more different. We are of different generation and have had different experiences growing up in Whatcom County. We went to different schools and may have varying political views. But for all our apparent differences, for all of our suspected separations, I believe we have much more in common than it may seem.

We drive on the same roads, shop at the same stores, eat at the same restaurants, stare at the same mountains, swim in the same waters, and hike the same trails. But more than that, we both believe in the promise of this place – its beauty, its potential, and its magic. I want to serve Whatcom County because it has served me, grown me, and shaped me.

I have been involved in local politics since I was 12, knocking doors all over Whatcom County. From the backyards of Bellingham to the front yards of Ferndale, I have been welcomed in by Democrats and Republicans that have told me young people need to be involved in politics, since it will be my generation that must address many of our nation's decisions. I remember going to the Northwest Washington Fair, where I would sit and talk for hours with the volunteers in both the Democrat and Republican Party booths. It was in those conversations that I learned (and am still learning) how to disagree without being disagreeable. I took the wise words of these people to heart, believing in the value of service to a cause larger than myself.

In high school and college I was a national speech and debate champion. I graduated early with highest honors studying American Politics and Policy. As I completed my degree, I lived in Washington D.C. where I served on Capitol Hill. Later, I was selected among thousands of other applicants to intern at the White House. Based on my work as an intern, I was hired full-time and became one of the youngest White House employees during my service. Just like millions of military members that served during the previous administration, my goal was to honor my country in the best way that I could, regardless of who was president. These experiences taught me that while so much of our political dialogue can seem so petty and disheartening, we are bigger and better than that.

Whatcom County is my home, and I want to serve it well. I bring youthful enthusiasm and a level of legislative and political experience unique to my age. As your youngest choice, I believe I represent the future and a more age diverse senate. I want to work with members of both parties to protect Whatcom County and improve our quality of life. Given the opportunity, I will represent you well in Olympia.

I look forward to speaking with you. You can email me at this address or call at [360-510-4017](tel:360-510-4017).

Thanks,
Simon A. Sefzik