

NEWS RELEASE

Workforce Development Council elects new CEO

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(Everett: March 20, 2007) Workforce Development Council Snohomish County (WDC) announced today that it has elected Sue Ambler to be Chief Executive Officer. Ms. Ambler has served the Council as the Interim CEO since June 2006.

Sue Ambler has 27 years experience in public and private industry throughout the greater Puget Sound area, including 16 years in public K-12 and higher education as both faculty and as a provider of career and academic advising, disability services coordination, outreach, recruitment, crisis management, youth advocacy, and curriculum and accreditation standards development. Ms. Ambler has an extensive background in project research and development as well as grant management. Ms. Ambler holds a bachelor's degree from Washington State University and a master's degree in education from University of Washington Bothell, for which her Practicum Project focused on "Comprehensive, Full-Service and One-Stop" systems for education and training.

This election comes as the result of a three month presidential search, led by WDC Board Personnel Committee Chair, Patrick Keaty of Goodrich Corporation. Initiated in December 2006, the search began by surveying the Board Members in order to identify core competencies and experiences required of the position. These competencies were then used as the basis for the CEO job description, which was posted in a nationwide search.

Seventeen applicants from across the United States applied for the position, and a team of five WDC Board Members was formed to screen applicant resumes. This team then selected six candidates to be interviewed by a second five-Member committee. The goal, as Patrick Keaty explains, was to ensure that the presidential search was a "disciplined process that was clearly defined, open, and transparent, and which provided the most solid foundation for a new CEO to begin his/her position." Keaty goes on to explain that Sue Ambler stood out as the best candidate based on the core competencies outlined by Board Members as well as the recommendations of both the screening and the interview committees. That both committees selected Ms. Ambler as their top pick "points to overwhelming Board endorsement of Sue as our next CEO," explains Keaty.

In an email to WDC Board Members this morning, Chairman Board, Dale Peinecke from Giddens Industries wrote, "This marks a pivotal time in WDC history, and I look forward to the strong leadership and direction I know Sue will provide this organization."

About Workforce Development Council Snohomish County

The Snohomish County Workforce Development Council invests government and private funding to continuously increase the global competitiveness and prosperity of our workforce and businesses, fill current and emerging jobs, and provide full employment. Investments are made through effective business, labor, community-based, educational, and service-provider organizations for the opportunity, economic well-being, and benefit of our entire community. #####