

2016 Candidate Questionnaire

**SECTION I**

**BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION**

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

First Name	Middle Initial or Nickname	Last Name
Mia	Su-Ling	Gregerson

2. Office sought (include office, jurisdiction, position/district number)

3. 33<sup>rd</sup> LD House of Representatives #2

3. Are you the incumbent?                     Yes    No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city? Over 35 years

5. How long have you resided in King County? Over 40 Years

6. Is the office sought partisan or nonpartisan?     Partisan     Nonpartisan

7. If partisan, please indicate party: Democrat

**CAMPAIGN CONTACTS**

Campaign Name:                    People for Mia

Address:                                PO Box 297

City/State/Zip:                    Seahurst, WA 98062

Campaign Phone:                    206-795-1950

Campaign E-mail:                    [PEOPLEFORMIA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PEOPLEFORMIA@GMAIL.COM)

Campaign Website:                    WWW.MIAGREGERSON.COM

**POLITICAL BACKGROUND**

1. Beginning with the most recent position, please list public offices you have held. Include positions on appointive boards or commissions.

Public Office	Elective or Appointive?	Dates Held	Leadership Role (if any)
City of SeaTac	Elected	2009-2015	Deputy Mayor, Mayor
OLEO – Office of Law Enforcement Oversight	Appointed	2014 – Current	
Women’s Advisory Board	Appointed	2008	

2. If you ran for public office but were not elected, please list those races below:

Office Title	Year of Run
SeaTac City Council	2015

## SECTION II

In this section, we are seeking responses that reflect the four ratings criteria: involvement, effectiveness, character, and knowledge. These are defined as follows:

- **Involvement:** What has the candidate done previously in family, neighborhood, community, volunteer work, employment or public life to suggest readiness to accomplish challenging objectives? How do these activities demonstrate readiness for the challenges unique to the office sought?
  - **Effectiveness:** Has the candidate demonstrated promise of being productive in the office sought? Has the candidate shown the ability to work with other people?
  - **Character:** Do the candidate's personal traits show the ability to take on the responsibilities of campaigning for and holding the public office she or he is seeking? Is the candidate a leader, participant or observer? Is the candidate trustworthy, reliable and candid?
  - **Knowledge:** Has the candidate demonstrated the willingness and ability to learn and adapt? Does the candidate understand the duties and challenges of the office sought? Does the candidate have a firm grasp of the issues important to his or her constituency and their potential effects?
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1. In one page or less, why are you running for this office? (Note: the interview committee will be given a copy of this statement before your interview; at the beginning of your interview you will have the opportunity to expand on this statement in any way you wish.)

**I am running for re-election for many reasons. I will list three of them below.**

1. **Because there is a lot more work to do to fully fund education. I want to be part of this discussion and solution because I want to make sure that funding education truly helps all of our students in Washington. I want to make sure our plan for a complete education system includes early learning and higher education. All this requires more revenue and that revenue should not be a regressive form of taxation.**
2. **As the vice chair of Labor and Workplace Standards we have some projects that I would like to continue to oversee. One is making sure that we do better in protecting workers and the environment from possible future refinery accidents like the one with Tesoro. There are several other policy bills such as Pay Equity for Women, Pregnancy Standards, Non-Compete Agreements, Dairy farm and Janitor Safety rules and Wage theft protection.**
3. **I want to continue to work with advocates, colleagues and staff towards a complete food system in Washington State. A system that produces local food and maximizes our strengths through agriculture, science, job creation and food production to provide access to healthy affordable nutritious foods for all Washingtonians.**

2. Describe your most important personal characteristics or traits as they relate to the office you seek.

I believe that one of my best personal traits that helps me to be a good public servant is my ability to listen. I use that time to find ways to connect and relate to those from all different backgrounds. I strive to find connections with other people and how I do that is by understanding what is important to them and what brought them in to the office. Another personal characteristic trait I have is a strong instinct to protect the most vulnerable. I won't hesitate to take a strong stand when I think it's the right thing to do for the most amount of people.

3. Please describe, in sufficient detail, one to three accomplishments or contributions of which you are most proud. These examples should illustrate skills and capabilities you think apply to the office you are seeking.

These accomplishments may have occurred at any time in your personal, professional, or public life.

An accomplishment that I feel very proud of is putting such a strong campaign together around HB1941/HJR4210. This idea happened when two freshmen got together over a reception and we found out that we had a common interest. My colleague from the Republican Caucus and I cosponsored this bill and even though there is only one Republican on the bill. We have continued to work very hard to keep the interest high about the needs of new school construction. How buildings and infrastructure is also an important part of a child and teachers education and work place. Simple majority for School bonds was signed by 45 cosponsors and made it as the top legislative priority for Washington State School Directors and a top priority for many others. I has been a huge accomplishment to meet with so many different groups and to explain the importance and how so many campaigns are losing. I feel that the 200Mill \$ in school construction funding this year is partly from our work on school construction bonds.

A second accomplishment worth mentioning is that I managed to pass four bills my first year (short session.) I have many others to thank in getting them all the way to the governor's desk but I do think that is a testament to my abilities as a legislator.

4. Please list or describe current and past activities in the community in which you have acquired skills that relate to the office you seek. Include your role in the activity and the year(s) in which you were involved. Involvement consists of many areas such as family, neighborhood, community, employment, or public life.

The skills that help me be successful in office comes from attending many different events. These events range from ones that are community based and centered around a celebration. Those events are comfortable and a great space to meet people from all different parts of the community. These are opportunities for people to get to know me and most importantly, I get to hear about what is important to them. It is these stories that I take back to Olympia with me to help advocate on why such policies like; livable wages or sound transit is important to them. There are other types of events that I attend and they are based around an issue that is challenging a set of people. A recent example is the strife between the Board of Trustees, Staff and students at Green River College in Auburn and Kent. Because I represent the institution and policies that are either working or not – it is my role to listen to the parties affected and to find out how I can be helpful but also how I can help heal this community without losing what is the most important to all of us. I think it's easy to come in to a community that is suffering and to try and fix the easy problems. What I try to do is to identify the source of the problem and fix that along with bringing the parties together towards a shared cause. This work comes more naturally to me from working with Sound Cities Association as a councilmember and mayor for the city of SeaTac. This was a place where 39 cities came together to discuss policy and weigh in on issues. That is a huge beast to move forward without leaving anyone behind. A great learning experience that I use daily. Lastly I want to talk about my involvement in communities that don't have a particular agenda. I live in the most disenfranchised area of the county. We speak many languages and face many obstacles. One of those obstacles is the lack of trust. Lack of trust for the system (government, schools, business, ect.) I spend a lot of time meeting with community members to figure out how to break those barriers down. I spend that time fostering a relationship based on trust. I believe that I am a better public servant when the day comes that most of my people are empowered through education and when they have strong relationships with many people who can help them when something is unknown.

5. Please describe the duties of the office you seek. Which are the most important duties and why?

**I believe that one of the most important duties of this position is to continue to reach out to constituents back in district. The district I serve is majority minority. We speak over 100 languages in some of our schools. We have high rates of homelessness and poverty. The needs are great but at the same time my district is full of great stories! Part of my role is to learn and then tell those great stories. I take my role in this office very seriously and work hard to help provide funding for more infrastructure, for more good jobs, great schools, and healthy housing. I think this is so important because often times members of the public feel disenfranchised and they think that government is too complicated. It seems that most community members think that we are inaccessible. I think one of the most important duties I have is to break that stigma down. To be in places that make me more accessible! I also want to make it easier for them to belong to the process!**