

2017 Candidate Questionnaire

**SECTION I**

**BASIC CANDIDATE INFORMATION**

1. Name as it will appear on the ballot

| First Name     | Middle Initial or Nickname | Last Name       |
|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Claudia</b> |                            | <b>Kauffman</b> |
|                |                            |                 |

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

**Port of Seattle Commission – Position 1**

3. Are you the incumbent?                     Yes  No

4. How long have you resided in this district/city? 17 years

5. How long have you resided in King County? 17 years

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

7. If partisan, please indicate party:

**CAMPAIGN CONTACTS**

Campaign Name:                    Kauffman for Port

Address:                                P.O. Box 9100

City/State/Zip:                      Seattle, WA 98109

Campaign Phone:                    253-335-1851

Campaign E-mail:                    claudiagailkauffman@gmail.com

Campaign Website:                   Claudiaforport.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)       |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>State Senate – 47<sup>th</sup> Legislative District</b> | <b>Elected</b>          | <b>2007-2011</b>      | <b>Assistant Majority Whip</b> |
| <b>Green River College Board of Trustees</b>               | <b>Appointed</b>        | <b>2011 - Present</b> | <b>Chair of the Board</b>      |
| <b>Seattle Indian Service Commission</b>                   | <b>Appointed</b>        | <b>2014 - Present</b> | <b>Chair of the Board</b>      |

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

| Office Title | Year of Run |
|--------------|-------------|
|              |             |
|              |             |
|              |             |

## 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.)

Like other governments, the Port of Seattle belongs to the citizens. I am running for the Port of Seattle Commission to bring much needed transparency and accountability, thoughtful leadership and integrity to that most important local government. I am deeply concerned about recent reports detailing unlawful bonuses authorized by the Port of Seattle Commission, and all of the costly lawsuits that could have been avoided, and decisions made behind closed doors. Let's give the Port of Seattle back to the people.

King County taxpayers deserve the kind of thoughtful leadership that I intend to bring to the Port. It is time to move past the bad decisions, get the Port's house in order, and focus on growing family wage jobs, protecting, preserving, and enhancing our environment, and serving the taxpayers with integrity, and make decisions that are in the best interest of taxpayers.

It's time for a new direction and a fresh perspective on Port of Seattle Commission. I served in the State Senate and worked with both parties on the Transportation, Trade & Economic Development Committees and worked to enhance small business loan programs promoted export businesses.

My priorities include creating family wage jobs. We must protect and grow jobs in maritime, aviation, tourism, fishing and international trade. One third of our jobs are trade related - our Port is an engine for economic growth for our state! Our environment is an economic asset. The Port must be a national leader in reducing emissions, limiting noise and other pollution.

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

**As an elected official and I understand the importance of representing the public and seeking to do the work of the people. This is a government structure utilizing taxpayers money to perform and enhance our Ports of Seattle. I have experience working with elected officials of local, state and federal level in collaborative approaches to finding real solutions to problems.**

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.

**Becoming elected to the State Senate of the 47<sup>th</sup> LD is one of my greatest accomplishments. It was a true grassroots effort and I was able to provide the leadership and message that resonated with constituents of the 47<sup>th</sup>. In that effort I was able to work on three priorities, education, economic development, and workforce development.**

**Co-founder of Native Action Network is another wonderful accomplishment. We are a group of dedicated volunteers that were formed to provide community organizing, leadership development, and civic involvement. We have held dozens of community meetings, produced reports and strategic plans, and leadership development**

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.

My work in the State Senate provided me with extensive working relationships with my colleagues in the legislature, executive branch, and the community.

My work as the Intergovernmental Affairs Liaison for the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe provides for local issue, state issues, and federal issues and connections.

Community involvement has been constant and successful.

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

**Port of Seattle Commission is an office that deals directly with policy development, budgetary authority, and the hiring and overseeing of the Executive to the Port of Seattle. This is a position responsible to the public taxpayers, transportation and growth.**