



Application for Appointment to Boards, Committees, and Commissions  
City and Borough of Sitka

Board/Commission/Committee: Health Needs and Human Services Commission

Name: Lakota Harden Preferred Phone: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Alternate Phone: [REDACTED]

Email Address: [REDACTED] Fax Number: [REDACTED]

Length of Residence in Sitka: 7 years this time, 12 yrs 64-76 Registered to vote in Sitka? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Employer: Sitka Counseling and Prevention Services

Organizations you belong to or participate in:

Hope Coalition, Youth Advocates, Sitka Conservation Society, Sitka Whalefest/Sitka Science Center, American Legion, Herring Protectors, Alaska Wellness Coalition, Wocheen

Explain your main reason for applying:

I'm invested in the projects we started in the past year on the HNHS com. I feel the need to have representation of our Indigenous Healing and acknowledge Historical wrongs.

What background, experience or credentials will you bring to the board, commission, or committee membership?

I have served on this commission with a strong commitment to our goals. Experiencing my youth in Sitka schools, I'm familiar with our strengths & limitations of island living.

Please disclose any potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your appointment. These may include but are not limited to:

- A substantial financial interest of \$1000 annually that could be influenced by your appointment.
- An immediate family member employed within the scope of this appointment.

Please attach a letter of interest, outline, or resume which includes your education, work, and volunteer experience that will enhance your membership.

→ (To be considered, your application must be complete AND be accompanied by one of the above supporting documents.)

Date: 10/19/22 Signature: Lakota Harden

Your complete application and resume should be returned to the Municipal Clerk's Office by noon on the Wednesday prior to an advertised Assembly meeting.

Please note: all information submitted will be made public and published online. Appointments are normally made during open session of an Assembly meeting, however, Assembly members may vote to discuss applicant(s) in closed executive session. In this case, do you wish to be present when your application is discussed? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Return to:

Jess Earnshaw, Deputy Clerk/Records Specialist, 100 Lincoln Street

Fax: 907-747-7403 Email: [clerk@cityofsitka.org](mailto:clerk@cityofsitka.org)



## **Lakota Harden**

Objective: To create and implement alternative empowerment programs of holistic community change and positive growth.

### **Skills:**

- Effective interpersonal communication and counseling skills.
- Effective manager. Able to recognize and foster the unique talents of each team member.
- Extremely personable and honest. Adept in organizing people of diverse economic and ethnic backgrounds around community owned projects.
- Effective ally to young people of all ages • Clear and powerful motivational public speaker
- Ability to plan and develop workshops to meet specific needs for diverse populations.
- Knowledgeable of Indigenous lifeways - Decolonization process.

### **Experience:**

**Sitka Counseling and Prevention Service** 2021- present Community Outreach & Cultural Programs Coordinator

#### **Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium**

Diabetes Prevention Coordinator 2018-2020 Outreach and Education to the local community and clients for Diabetes Prevention through activities, and information dissemination. Collaborate with local organizations to be effective with a more expansive scope.

Raven's Way Adolescent Residential 2016 -2018 from remote communities in 45 day wilderness experiential treatment program activities. Remote site living with culturally relevant process group orientation, program design, individual treatment plan, and primary counseling. ([www.searhc.org](http://www.searhc.org))

**Mt. Edgecumbe High School** 2016 Spring session Residential Advisor To monitor and meet the needs of students in the residential setting. Provide protection and support to youth during the overnight hours.

**Center for Democratic Education and Culture** 1996 – Present A speaker and workshop facilitator.

Speak Out - The Institute for Democratic Education and Culture is a national non-profit organization that educates, inspires and empowers young people to become activists for social justice.

Committed to social, political, cultural, environmental, and economic justice, Speak Out encourages critical and imaginative thinking about domestic and international issues through artistic and educational forums nationwide.

**Sitkans Against Family Violence**, Sitka, AK Contract trainer/workshop facilitator April 2012 Planning and conducting Trainings for Violence Prevention, Cultural Pride and Decolonization. Groups include youth, adults who work with youth, community leaders and members.

**Center for Training and Careers**, San Jose, Ca Program Coordinator and Counselor  
February 2007- August 2011 GED student support program. Coordinated student activities, speakers, special events. Maintained assessment and progress data for individual students. Liason advocate for court appointed, juvenile offenders. Crisis and personal counselor focusing on problem solving for students dealing with daily obstacles in obtaining their GED.

**American Indian Child Resource Center**, Oakland, Ca Health Education Project Coordinator  
January- June 2006 Tobacco Cessation Program Coordinated peer educators to lead public education activities about tobacco abuse & cessation, and the Sacred Traditional Use of Tobacco. Ongoing traditional consultant

**Yees Wat G'aniex**, Sitka, Ak. Project Coordinator April – May 2005  
Organized Youth Led Totem Pole Project, Fundraising, Publicity, Elders and Youth liaison, Traditional Cultural Values, & protocol. Raising Totem Community wide event in Island culture

**International Indian Treaty Council** San Francisco, Ca. Health Program Coordinator Feb. 2003-October 2004 Research, Media Outreach, Community Organizing and Information Dissemination, for Health Hazard and Toxins affecting local and regional communities.

**Indigenous Women's Network**, Rapid City, South Dakota Program Coordinator February-July 2002 Planned, implemented and supervised grassroots program for two reservation communities of Native Women. Project involved birth education, traditional midwifery and cultural re-education. Forming advisory board of Traditional Elders on Rosebud and Pine Ridge.

**U. S. Census Bureau** Rapid City, South Dakota Crew Leader April 2000 to May 2000  
Trained, Implemented, Supervised a crew of 20 census enumerators. Daily supervision involved delegation of region, motivation, quality assurance, problem solving and evaluation of each enumerator.

**Institute for Democratic Education and Culture** Emeryville, California October 97-May 99  
Co-Director of progressive speakers, artists, exhibits, and film agency. Promoting multi-cultural and democratic education on campuses while inspiring a creative and critical approach to progressive activism. ([www.speakersandartists.org](http://www.speakersandartists.org))

**Institute for Democratic Education and Culture** Motivational Speaker presently  
Conducts workshops, key note speaker to Colleges and Universities on issues concerning violence prevention, multi-culturalism, Native women's empowerment issues, Decolonization and diversity.

**Urban Indian Health Board Inc.** Oakland, California Youth Empowerment Program Coordinator May 1994 to June 1997 Design and implement culturally relevant drug and alcohol education programs targeting American Indian Urban Youth. ([www.uihbi.com](http://www.uihbi.com))

**New Millennia Films, Inc.** San Francisco, CA Community Coordinator/Organizer October 1996 to March 1998; Coordinate community organizations, public schools and agencies to attend the independently produced film "Follow Me Home". Recruit and train volunteers for post screening educational discussions with audience.

**Raven's Way Residential Adolescent Treatment Program** Sitka, Alaska Youth Counselor February 1993 to February 1994  
Counseled court-appointed native youth from remote communities in 45 day wilderness experiential treatment program activities. Remote site living with culturally relevant process group orientation, program design, individual treatment plan, and primary counseling. ([www.searhc.org](http://www.searhc.org))

**Battered Women's Alternatives** Concord, Ca Teen Program Coordinator January 1991 to July 1992 Organized state-wide training on violence prevention for adults in social service agencies, juvenile offenders and in the educational system. Recruited and trained teens and volunteers to co-facilitate workshops and support groups in violence and substance abuse prevention.

**New College of California** San Francisco, Ca Instructor of Humanities Courses August 1990 to May 1992; Designed curriculum and instructed incoming freshman and students in a Humanities !

course entitled "Society and Self".

### **Education:**

University of California - Berkeley Native American Studies Berkeley California 1988-1990  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Lincoln, Nebraska 1986-1988  
Career Learning Center Rapid City, South Dakota Business Administration Certificate 2000  
Office Administration training in all areas of typing, IO key adding machine, computer programs, proof reading, and book keeping, office organizing.

Diversity Trainings / Alliance Building Workshops

## **With: Tasina Ska Win / Lakota Harden**

### **Minnecoujou/Yankton Lakota & HoChunk, adopted Deisheetaan Tlingit**

Since 1987, Lakota Harden has been doing motivational lectures, speeches, and diversity trainings, both locally and nationwide. "Unlearning Racism" workshops, training staff of the "New Bridges" camp, and working with youth at the Battered Women's Alternatives has brought forth an effective extensive format for working with adults and teens from diverse backgrounds. These workshops focus on learning to eliminate racism, sexism, and other oppression divisions. Lakota works with small groups, ie. Small business employee relations, to large forums such as the "Reaching Out" project in Oakland with 1200 people in an audience format. Her experience also includes working with Native groups addressing issues of tradition, spirituality, internalized genocide, and "tiospaye". These workshops are interactive and focus on raising consciousness about social issues, and increasing skills to meet multicultural challenges. Workshops can range from 2 hours to 2 days, depending on the size, structure and availability of a group.

Specific work in Native American Populations as well as all communities, cover the topics:

Decolonization: Recalling the philosophies, connections and lifeways of our ancestors original teachings. Recognizing the learned behaviors based on the timeline of colonization and it's affects on each generation of ancestors. Understanding our 'survival methods' of behavior and what uses we may or may not have for them now.

Traditional Modern Native Women: Following the traditions, women's roles were for Survival of the family and culture. . .now in the 21st century, we lead our nations with these roles in bridging our traditional and modern self.

Native Women's Spirituality: Appreciating and empowering our strength and vision. Practical use of spiritual strengths on the "Red Road". Clarifying our path ways out of a male dominated, Christian influenced society.

Creating "Tiospaye" (extended family): Growing roots for a connection to a centuries-old community. Drawing on our ancestors teachings as well as modernization of traditional philosophies. How we can create a network of support and inspiration for our daily lives.

Organizing community activism across lines of gender, race and age differences. Thinking beyond our personal experience, and unlearning the "stereotypical" information about ourselves and each other. Experiential interactive exercises can be used in a workshop format to assist participants in understanding the roots of their own misinformation and how to reach beyond the barriers of our generalizations.

### **The model of workshops teaches:**

- effective intervention and communication skills
- the ability of recognizing our individual resistance to oppression

- learning agreements to create peaceful working groups
- encourages building relationships across difference
- develop inherent ability of individuals to lead systematic change efforts

### **Workshop approach:**

- establish blame free environment
- combine interactive exercises with storytelling, teaching, dialogue, and action
- Unlearn the stereotypes and misinformation individuals hold about ourselves and each other
- Create alliances among diverse individuals and groups
- Change our own actions in order to bring about institutional change toward a more equitable world.
- Discussion about what community means, what I can expect and what my community can expect from me.

### **The outcome can mean**

- that Individuals have an opportunity to form lasting connections with each other,
- learning how the “isms” have been catastrophic for everyone,
- One can become skilled at creating alliances, and think clearly about next steps in enhancing their capabilities concerning diversity issues
- Organizations develop a core of resident experts in alliance to bring about and sustain structural and institutional change.



## Health Needs and Human Services Commission

NAME	CONTACT NUMBERS	TERM STARTS	EXPIRES	CATEGORY
TRISTAN GUEVIN 200 Seward Street	907-738-5415 tristan.guevin@gmail.com	3/23/21 2/9/22	1/8/22 2/9/25	Vice Chair
DOUG OSBORNE 222 Tongass Drive	907-966-8674 douglaso@searhc.org	1/27/15 10/24/17 11/10/20	10/14/17 10/24/20 11/10/23	
LAKOTA HARDEN 113 Metlakatla Street	907-747-3636 ext. 224 51-827- 7689 lharden@scpsak.org	3/23/21	11/26/22	
CECILIA DUMOUCHEL PO Box 6573	617-871-9842 ckdumouchel@gmail.com	12/8/20	12/8/23	Resigned 7/26/22
ELLIE LO RE 700 Etolin Street	301-518-0097 elore@scpsak.org	1/26/22	8/24/24	Resigned 8/1/22
ALBERT (ALEC) DUNCAN 2716 Halibut Point Road Space #21	907-738-0975 albert.duncan@sitkatriben-sn.gov	4/13/22	11/9/24	Resigned 8/31/22
LEXI FISH HACKETT 228 Lakeview Drive	907-738-5684 fish.lexi@gmail.com	4/13/21	4/13/24	Resigned 2/18/22
Jess Earnshaw Deputy Clerk	907-747-1826 jessica.earnshaw@cityofsitka.org			Secretary
Crystal Duncan PO Box 174	907-738-1910 assemblyduncan@cityofsitka.org			Assembly Liaison
Kevin Mosher 100 Lincoln Street	907-752-0467 assemblymosher@cityofsitka.org			Alternate Assembly Liaison

Established by Ordinance 2013-23

7 members, 3-year terms. A vacancy on the commission shall be filled by appointment by the Assembly for any remainder of an unexpired term.

Meeting schedule: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month; Noon at Harrigan Centennial Hall, 330 Harbor Drive  
– Meetings are to be held no less than four times per year.

Revised: October 12, 2022