**Russ Lehman**

1501 Thomas Street NW

Olympia, WA. 98502

 (***H)*** 360 956 1564 (**C**) 360 556 1564

 (***E)*** russelllehman@gmail.com

***Summary of Qualifications***

**Public Policy Research, Development and Implementation**

Natural resource and habitat policy development and implementation, program management, research analysis and commentary on local, state, federal and tribal issues, with publication in myriad forums. Specific areas of expertise; sustainability, education, natural resources and labor.

**Public Affairs/Government Relations**

 Build strategic business and community relationships, develop and utilize media contacts, identify and implement political

 strategies and communicate effectively in all forums; thorough knowledge and experience of high level public policy-making and regulatory affairs.

## *Positions Held*

**Consultant; Public, Tribal and Non Profit Clients**

Public policy analysis and representation in myriad forums. 2009-

**Visiting Faculty Member; The Evergreen State College**

Faculty member in the Masters of Public Admisistration program.

•Classes taught include: “Inter-Governmental Relations”,“Foundations of Public Administration”, “Ethics and Leadership”,

and “Creating and Managing the Successful Non-Profit”.

•Responsibilities include admissions, curriculum, advising, planning.

•From my most recent evaluation by Dean:*"You presented an excellent role model for the students. You demonstrated the integrity and intelligence that we want to see in all public administration practitioners."*

Full Dean and student evaluations available upon request. 2007- 2009

**Founder/Managing Director; First American Education Project:**

Created and directed first-of-it’s-kind nationwide public affairs org to educate policy makers, the media and public on

issues of importance to Native Americans.

•Responsibilities included: issue advocacy, public education, media relations, development, and implementation of

strategic media planning, public policy development, and political strategy. Represented organization in wide array of public

forums.

•Developed and managed successful independent campaign resulting in defeat of heavily favored incumbent.

•Directed and managed multi million dollar development campaign.

•Lead research, co-created media, developed field and managed entire campaign. 1999-2007

**Director of Enforcement; Wash. State Insurance Commissioner**

Director for all regulatory enforcement programs, policy adviser to Commissioner, legal advocate for consumers. 1998

**Co-Founder; Northwest Center for Progressive Research**

Co-Founder and Managing Director of public policy and communications center.

•Responsibilities included: management of staff and outside consultants, determine projects, createing and coordinating

oard of directors and advisors, representing NWCPR in various public forums, and leading development of major givers.

•Managed and lead development throughout region.

•Was subject of major op-ed endorsement and numerous national media stories. 1994-1998.

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***Other Public Affairs/Public Policy Positions Held***

**Executive Policy Adviser; Governor Mike Lowry**

Natural resource policy lead for Governor and the Administration. Duties included: policy analysis and development, program management advocacy, negotiations with federal, Tribal and local governments, a representation in various venues. .

**Counsel/Director; Joint Select Committee on**

**Water Resource Policy, Washington State Legislature; Of Counsel House Labor Cmte.**

Staff director and counsel for Joint Select Committee which included, total responsibility for policy development, bill drafting, testifying, advocacy and representation on behalf of the committee and water policy generally. Support for Chair of House Labor Cmte including resaerch, advocacy and drafting of farm worker legislation.

**Lobbyist; Betty Gallo, Inc., Hartford Connecticut**

Advocacy and representation of various clients including primarilyenvironmental, civil rights, and labor organizations.

**Counsel/Staff Director; Planning and Development Committee,**

**Connecticut Legislature**

Total staff responsibility for committee with economic development, housing and municipal issue jurisdiction for two legislative sessions.

***Legal Positions***

**Assistant City Attorney; Middletown, Connecticut**

General municipal representation in all courts with specific focus on land use and labor matters. Lead negotiator for City with various

unions for employee benefits, personnel and all contract matters.

**Associate; McEleney and McGrail, Hartford, Connecticut**

Associate attorney in general practice firm. Specific areas of focus included labor and personal injury.

**Education**

Antioch School of Law (now U.D.C.) *Juris Docto*r

University of Colorado *BA*.. *Environmental Studies*

***Other Professional Positions Memberships***

Visiting Professor; *Wesleyan University (Employment Law)* State of Connecticut Bar, Federal District Court Bar

Adjunct Faculty; *Seattle University, The Evergreen State College*

*(Politics and Policy Making, Ethics, Advocacy)*

***Community/Elected Positions***

Member, Olympia School District Board of Directors (elected 2001) President 2006, Served 2001-2008

Board Member, Climate Solutions (Olympia, Seattle) Served 2004-2008 (Treasurer 2007, 2008)

Board Member, League of Education Voters (Seattle) 2001-2004