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From: Port of Seattle <PortofSeattle@public.govdelivery.com>
Subject: Advancing Equity at the Port of Seattle



February 14, 2020

Our New Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Bookda Gheisar, Senior Director, Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion



Dear Friends,

I am thrilled to be writing you today during Black History Month as we officially launch the [Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion](#) at the Port of Seattle (OEDI).

For too long, many in our region, including the Port of Seattle, have benefitted from white-dominant culture and comfortably operated in an unjust, racist society. For too long, we have failed to recognize and address systemic oppression in our nation and in our region. We can and must do better.

We are acting now to ensure equity and justice at the Port. I have the support of the Executive Leadership and the Port Commission to charge full speed ahead in identifying and addressing the root causes of inequity in our organization. This is a concerted effort to bring about lasting, transformative change.

OEDI cannot make change of this scale on our own. We need everyone, Port leadership and staff, community partners, and Port of Seattle contractors to work together to improve our policies, processes, and practices. We will continue to be in touch for opportunities to get involved.

Thank you for welcoming me into the Port community and I look forward to changing our society with you.

All the best,



Bookda Gheisar
Senior Director, Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Celebrating MLK and Black History Month

Beginning on Martin Luther King Jr. Day and all through Black History Month, OEDI is honoring members of our diverse community. We are highlighting members of the Port team who are inspired by Dr. King's legacy and are working to transform the Port into a socially just organization. Please take a moment to read these profiles below.

Tina Boyd



First Impressions Count

Kayla Huddleston



A Matter of Belonging

Delmas Whittaker



Visions of Unity on MLK Day

[Learn More >](#)

[Learn More >](#)

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Honoring Council Member and Seattle Civil Rights Hero, Larry Gossett



L to R: Port of Seattle Commissioner Fred Felleman, Executive Director Stephen Metruck; Commissioner Sam Cho; Rhonda Christine Oden; Former King County Council Member Larry Gossett; Commission President Peter Steinbrueck; Sr. Manager Fishing Vessel Services Delmas Whittaker; Commissioner Ryan Calkins.

On January 28, we hosted a Martin Luther King Jr. Day event in collaboration with Blacks in Government at the Port of Seattle. It was an opportunity to celebrate the vision of Martin Luther King Jr., hear from black leaders, and honor former King County Council member Larry Gossett for his decades of service and commitment to civil rights in Seattle.

[Learn More >](#)

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Port of Seattle Commission

Stephanie Bowman | Ryan Calkins | Sam Cho | Fred Felleman | Peter Steinbrueck

Executive Director: Stephen P. Metruck

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From: Port of Seattle <PortofSeattle@public.govdelivery.com>

Subject: Advancing Equity at the Port of Seattle

Equity in Action! Newsletter header

February 14, 2020

Our New Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

"Bookda Gheisar, Senior Director, Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion"

Bookda Gheisar headshot portrait, 2019

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Bookda's Signature

Bookda Gheisar
Senior Director, Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

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Delmas Whittaker
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Visions of Unity on MLK Day
Learn More [<https://www.portseattle.org/blog/visions-unity-mlk-day-and-beyond>]

Honoring Council Member and Seattle Civil Rights Hero, Larry Gossett
MLK day event held at the Port of Seattle, Feb. 5, 2020

"*L to R:* Port of Seattle Commissioner Fred Felleman, Executive Director Stephen Metruck; Commissioner Sam Cho; Rhonda Christine Oden; Former King County Council Member Larry Gossett; Commission President Peter Steinbrueck; Sr. Manager Fishing Vessel Services Delmas Whittaker; Commissioner Ryan Calkins."

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Learn More [<https://www.portseattle.org/blog/honoring-our-civil-rights-legacy>]

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Port of Seattle Commission

Stephanie Bowman | Ryan Calkins | Sam Cho | Fred Felleman | Peter Steinbrueck

Executive Director: Stephen P. Metruck

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