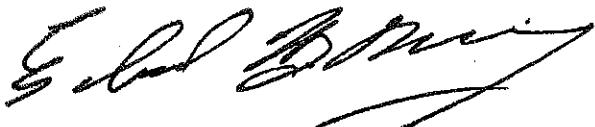




# City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

<b>Appointee Name:</b> Tara Cookson		
<b>Board/Commission Name:</b> Seattle Women's Commission		<b>Position Title:</b> Member
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appointment OR <input type="checkbox"/> Reappointment		<b>Council Confirmation required?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Appointing Authority:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor <input type="checkbox"/> Other: Fill in appointing authority	<b>Date Appointed:</b> 12/14/2016	<b>Term of Position: *</b> 7/2/2015 to 7/1/2017
<b>Residential Neighborhood:</b> Capitol Hill	<b>Zip Code:</b> 98122	<b>Contact Phone No.:</b> N/A
<b>Background:</b> <p>Tara is the founder of Ladysmith Ventures, a consulting firm that conducts research and strategically advises organizations working globally in gender equality, public policy, innovation, and good governance. She is currently a Leadership Tomorrow Fellow, and won the "Woman to Watch" award for influential women leaders from the Okanagan Valley in 2015. In 2013 Tara founded a leadership training program to support multi-disciplinary, aspiring leaders with practical skills. Called Learning for Purpose, the program is now a foundational element of the Gates Cambridge Scholarship.</p> <p>Tara has deep experience in social policy and gender equity. Her approach to advocating for women's wellbeing is both analytical and constructive. Most recently, she has conducted original research on how low-income women in rural Peru are impacted by conditional cash transfer programs.</p> <p>She has previously worked as a project developer for community-based human rights organizations in both Canada and Latin America, planning and executing campaigns and projects to promote the interests and wellbeing of low-income and otherwise marginalized communities in five countries.</p>		
<b>Authorizing Signature (original signature):</b> 		<b>Appointing Signatory:</b> Edward B. Murray Mayor of Seattle

FILED  
 CITY OF SEATTLE  
 2017 JAN -3 PM 3:31  
 CITY CLERK

\*Term begin and end date is fixed and tied to the position and not appointment date.

# Tara Cookson

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## Awards and Recognition

**Leadership Tomorrow Fellow**, Washington State (Class of 2017)

**Emerging Scholar Award**, Gender, Place and Culture (2016)

**Woman to Watch**, award for influential women leaders from the Okanagan Valley (2015)

**Bill Gates Sr. Prize**, peer-nominated award for building Learning for Purpose, a leadership program (2014)

**Gates Cambridge Scholarship**, for graduate study. Recognizes research excellence, leadership and commitment to improving others' lives. 1/90 awarded of 3,000 applicants. Value: \$152,000 (2011)

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## Policy and Project Development

**Consultant and Founder**, Ladysmith Ventures, Seattle WA (November 2015 – current)

- Conduct research, synthesize qualitative and quantitative data, prepare reports and strategically advise organizations working globally in gender equality, public policy, innovation, and good governance.
- Clients include: Linksbridge, Days for Girls, GlobalWA, Medic Mobile (USAID), Gates Cambridge Trust.
- Publication: Holeman, I., Cookson, T.P., Pagliari, C. (2016) Digital Technology for Health Sector Governance in Lower Income Countries: A Scoping Review. Journal of Global Health.
- Organized leadership workshops for the 2016 Biennial Gates Cambridge Alumni meeting, July 2016.

**Founding Director**, Learning for Purpose: Gates Cambridge Leadership Program, Cambridge UK (2013-15)

- Envisioned and built consensus around need for leadership, personal and professional development programming for multi-disciplinary graduate students working on global issues.
- Managed eight volunteers to research, design, implement programming for 225 Scholars and global network of Alumni. Led bi-weekly team meetings, reported to Gates Cambridge executive office.
- Oversaw rigorous multi-method evaluation of all programming.
- Presented annual report to Board of Trustees and secured five-fold annual budget increase to \$40,000.

**Affiliate Researcher**, Instituto de Estudios Peruanos (2012)

- Reviewed and synthesized qualitative and quantitative data on regional public policy and social programs.
- Conducted desk-based research and stakeholder interviews in Spanish.

**Project Developer**, ACORN International, Buenos Aires, Argentina (2008-2009)

- Planned service delivery programs and advocacy campaigns around access to housing, education, health and sanitation in low-income communities in Argentina, Peru, Mexico, Honduras and the Dominican Republic.
- Developed an adult English program to promote community building in two low-income neighborhoods.
- Organized annual fundraiser that brought together NGOs, local government and community members.

**Project Developer and Board Member**, Kelowna Women's Resource Centre, Canada (2007-2009)

- Planned advocacy campaigns around women's access to justice, housing, reproductive health services.
- Organized high-level events with corporate sponsors, academics, public donors and municipal government.
- Developed a sustainable revenue project in collaboration with Guatemalan women coffee producers.

**Research Assistant**, University of British Columbia (2009)

- Conducted scoping review and developed stakeholder database for men's labour migration in Kerala, India.

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## Education

**PhD and Gates Cambridge Scholar**, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom (2011-15)

- Conducted independent research and analysis on women's empowerment in Peru's conditional cash transfer program, a globalized maternal and child health program benefiting 1.5 million women and children.
- Wrote 6 successful grant proposals and efficiently managed all expenditures.
- First-author publication: Cookson, T.P. (2016) Working for Inclusion: Rural Women and Uneven Development in Peru's Conditional Cash Transfer Program, *Antipode* 48(5).

- **Invited guest speaker:** World Bank, UN Women, Canadian Evaluation Society BC & Yukon Chapter, Kelowna Chamber of Commerce 'Inspire Series', Institute of Advanced Studies of Latin America (IHEAL).
- **12 opinion editorials** including in *Devesx*, *The Huffington Post*, *University World News*, and *Women's eNews*.
- Presented papers at **seven conferences**, including: Latin American Studies Association (2016), American Association of Geographers (2016), International Political Science Association 23<sup>rd</sup> World Congress (2014), Society for Latin American Studies 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference (2014).

**MA Women and Gender Studies**, University of Toronto, Canada (2010)

- Analyzed public policy that provided a pension to low-income women for domestic work.
- Invited to present findings at international conference *Globalization and the Changes in Cultures of Care and Survival: Local and Global Dimensions*. Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana. Feb 21-22, 2012.

**BA International Relations and Spanish**, University of British Columbia, Canada (2009)

- Awarded Hugh Brockman Education Abroad Scholarship for study abroad in Mexico and Argentina

**English as a Second Language Instructor**, Global TESOL College, Kelowna, Canada (2003)

- Instructor at Planet English, Salvador Brazil (2003-04), International Gateway, Kelowna Canada (2004-07)

## Committees

**Professional Development Lead**, Gates Cambridge 2016 Biennial Alumni Event (2015-2016)

- Responsible for leadership programming for the international reunion of 200 Gates Cambridge Alumni.
- Negotiated and managed contracts with UK and US-based training facilitators.

**Co-chair**, Wolfson Research Event, University of Cambridge (2013-2014)

- Co-ordinated logistics, presenters, and media and communications committees for flagship event.
- Managed the annual budget of \$15,000 and reported directly to the College governing board.

**Media and Communications**, 2014 Global Scholars Symposium (GSS) at Oxford University (2013-2014)

- Annual symposium generates dialogue between prominent world leaders and 300 UK-based scholars.
- Managed website design, liaised with national media, blogged about invited speakers, and advertised event.

**Female Welfare Officer**, Wolfson College, University of Cambridge (2013-2014)

- Responsible for representing women's interests to College board in policy, academic and social arenas.
- Implemented sexual health scheme for 400 students, hosted mental health socials during exam period.

## Public Engagement Training

Summer Institute in Economic Geography 2016. University of Kentucky, Lexington.

Storytelling for Change: Inspiring action on poverty with data-driven stories. Acumen & Ariel Group.

Quantitative Methods: Methods and Statistics in Social Sciences Specialization. University of Amsterdam.

How to Deliver an Impactful Presentation. TEDGlobal and Gates Cambridge Learning for Purpose.

Thought Leadership: How to Write and Opinion Editorials. The Op-Ed Project.

Women's Human Rights Education Institute "CEDAW for Change". Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), University of Toronto.

Bridging Academic and Policy Work. Royal Geographical Society Developing Areas Research Group.

Using Social Media to Communicate your Research. University of Cambridge.

Leadership for Early Career Researchers. Gates Cambridge Learning for Purpose and University of Cambridge Professional Development.

## Languages and IT

Languages                      **English/Native**    **Spanish/Fluent**    **Portuguese/Conversational**    **French/Basic**

IT                                      Regular use of MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Keynote, referencing software  
 Website construction and maintenance of strong online presence for public engagement

# Seattle Women's Commission

## DECEMBER 2016

21 Members: Pursuant to SMC 3.14.920, all members subject to City Council confirmation, 2-year terms:

- 9 City Council-appointed
- 10 Mayor-appointed
- 2 Other Appointing Authority-appointed: Commission-appointed

**Roster:**

*D	**G	RD	Position No.	Position Title	Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	Term #	Appointed By
2	F		1.	Member	Alyson L. Palmer	7/02/15	7/01/17	1	Mayor
2	F		2.	Member	Teresa Springer	7/02/16	7/01/18	2	Mayor
6	F		3.	Member	Jaron E. Reed Goddard	7/02/15	7/01/17	2	Mayor
9	F	7	4.	Member	Loida C. Erhard	7/02/16	7/01/18	2	Mayor
2	F		5.	Member	Tracey Whitten	7/02/15	7/01/17	2	Mayor
6	F		6.	Member	Erica J. Soelling	7/02/15	7/01/17	1	Mayor
			7.	Member	<b>Tara Cookson</b>	<b>7/02/15</b>	<b>7/01/17</b>	1	Mayor
6	F		8.	Member	Morgan R. Beach	7/02/15	7/01/17	2	Mayor
3	F		9.	Member	Lylianna Marie Allala	7/02/15	7/01/17	2	Mayor
9	F		10.	Member	Idabelle Fosse	7/02/15	7/01/17	1	City Council
6	F		11.	Member	Honey Jo Herman	6/08/15	7/01/15	1	City Council
6	F		12.	Member	Alison Mondri	7/02/15	7/01/17	2	City Council
			13.	Member	Xochitl Makovich	7/02/16	7/01/18	1	City Council
2	F		14.	Member	Mergitu Argo	7/02/16	7/01/18	3	City Council
3	F		15.	Member	Elsa Batres-Boni	7/02/15	7/01/17	2	City Council
2	F		16.	Member	Rokea Jones	7/02/15	7/01/17	1	City Council
5	F		17.	Member	Ruchika Tulshyan	7/02/16	7/01/18	1	City Council
2	F		18.	Member	Lakeisha Jackson	7/02/16	7/01/18	2	City Council
6	F		19.	Member	Michele Maureen Frix	7/02/16	7/01/18	3	Commission
6	F		20.	Member	Nicki E. Olivier Hellenkamp	7/02/15	7/01/17	1	Commission
			21.	Get Engaged	Jacquelyn Kurdas	9/01/16	8/31/17	1	Mayor

SELF-IDENTIFIED DIVERSITY CHART					(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	Men	Women	Transgender	Unknown	Asian	Black/ African American	Hispanic/ Latino	American Indian/ Alaska Native	Other	Caucasian/ Non- Hispanic	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial
Mayor	0	8			0	3	1	0	0	3	0	0	1
Council	0	8			0	3	1	0	1	2	0	0	1
Comm	0	2			0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

**Key:**

- \*D List the corresponding Diversity Chart number (1 through 9)
- \*\*G List gender, M = Male, F= Female, T= Transgender, U= Unknown
- RD Residential Council District number 1 through 7 or N/A