


What is your name?	Patricia Miller
Photo	
For what district are you a candidate?	District 5
Are you currently employed and, if so, please describe.	Finance Manager – Ray' Pharmacy
Do you have a website for your campaign? If so, what is it?	No, I do not have a website
What experience do you have that is relevant to this position?	<p>It is the combination of my experiences that I believe are relevant to this position. Examples include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Extensive financial experience which will assist me in evaluating the economics of the practices</li> <li>2) Customer service and quality control experience will assist me in developing performance metrics to measure the clinics success in meeting the needs of our community.</li> <li>3) Public office experience will help me ensure the PHD is operated with transparency</li> <li>4) Contract negotiations with large international corporations has prepared me for future negotiations with service providers,</li> <li>5) An almost lifetime connection with the island will be at the forefront of my mind as we make decisions on how to best support the healthcare needs of the community.</li> </ol>
Which, if either of the existing clinics, do you primarily use for your health care?	Historically I have used Orcas Medical Center. My partner is a patient of OFHC. I do not currently have a primary care clinic on island.
Are you a member of the Coalition for Orcas Health Care?	Yes
What motivates you to want to be a commissioner?	I feel so strongly that we need to have sustainable primary health care services available on island. I also realize that the existing funding model is not sustainable. A PHD funded via a property tax, is the most feasible funding model available, given the limitations on other types of taxes. I appreciate the impact these realities will have on our island's families. I would like to do my part to ensure we implement a cost-effective system that meets our community's needs.

Are you inclined to support ... 1) Both existing medical clinics as they are; 2) Both clinics for now, but use money as an incentive for them to combine services; 3) UW Medicine Orcas Island Clinic rather than Orcas Family Health Center; 4) Orcas Family Health Center rather than UW Medicine Orcas Island Clinic; 5) Other	Initially I believe we need to support both clinics as they exist today however I would expect the commissioners to work collaboratively with the practitioners to identify every possible opportunity to eliminate duplications. That could be in the form of shared facilities, systems, equipment and/or staff.
Will you consider working with a primary/urgent care provider other than UW Medicine?	Yes
If \$0.55/\$1,000 supported both existing clinics and you were able to levy another \$0.20/\$1,000 would you be more likely to ...	My philosophy is to start with \$0.00 levied and only add what we need to retain our existing practices. Currently that looks to be in the neighborhood of \$.55/\$1,000. We must work with intelligence and purpose to identify ways to make existing practices as efficient as possible. Any savings identified should first be allocated to urgent and after-hours care. If additional funds are needed to fund urgent and after-hours care, and there is sufficient public support, I would levy the funds necessary to deliver an island appropriate urgent/after-hours care system.
If funds are available for supporting services beyond primary care, what services would you be most willing to support?	First and foremost, urgent and after-hours care. The commissioners need to conduct a community needs assessment. This needs assessment should guide any expansion of services supported by the PHD.
What is your opinion regarding the buildings that currently house the clinics?	I am open to either option.
How will you decide the amount of subsidy legitimately needed by those asking for support? How do you plan to verify they are not inflating their cost?	There are performance metrics used within the healthcare industry which will aid in assessing the "value" of the services provided. While I have a great deal more to learn about how to appropriately implement metrics for our clinics, I believe my prior professional experience will aid the PHD in this process. I would expect that any contract for services would include audit and review provisions which would allow the PHD to monitor the appropriateness of the contract charges.
Are there any services you would require to be provided in order to receive support? If so, what?	Initially it would just be primary care.
The hospital district, if it passes, is required by	Not at this time.

law to hire a superintendent. That person may play a very important role in implementing the policies you help set. Do you have someone you would like to see in that role?

Should complaints a person might have about one of the subsidized providers go

I believe complaints should first be directed to the clinic managers to ensure they have the opportunity to resolve and that they are kept abreast of the community's concerns. Contracts for services should include performance metrics that measure patients access to services and satisfaction with those services. The PHD Superintendent should be working directly with the contracted service providers to monitor their performance compared to these metrics. The commissioners need to put in place a strong communication plan for the PHD that ensure that the community's voice is heard and that there is clear transparency as to the performance of the clinics.