

Robert W. Whitener Jr.
4921 Sunrise Beach Rd. NW
Olympia, WA 98502
360.789.7050

Employment History

- 2009-Present General Manager/Owner, The Whitener Group LLC. This company was created in 2009 as part of my desire to work with a number of tribes in different aspects when services are needed for them to succeed. I have experience in natural resource management, dispute resolution, facilitation, governance, and business management. The group consists of Ronald Whitener and myself. Ron is the Deputy Director of the University of Washington Indian Law Center and of counsel for Foster Pepper, PLC. The group has other associates with varied skills needed for specific projects.
- 2003-2012 CEO/President Island Enterprises Incorporated (IEI). Handled all aspects of this corporation from its inception to its growth to nearly 100 million in gross revenues and 10 million in net revenues. The corporation held tribal, international and state corporations as well as DBA companies. IEI also created and maintained a business center focused on helping individual entrepreneurs make their businesses a reality. As CEO, served as the Chairman of the Little Creek Casino Oversight Board.
- 2001-2003 Protected Species Policy Analyst, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission: Duties include providing strategic and comprehensive advice to member tribes for the protection of treaty reserved salmon resources. The specific project was the implementation of the Endangered Species Act for salmon.
- 1997-2001 Executive Director, Squaxin Island Tribe: Duties included management and oversight for the tribal governmental operations, management of over 100 employees, and policy guidance to the tribal council.
- 1985- 1993 Southern Panel Member, Pacific Salmon Commission, Chairman for the years 1987-1989 and 1991-1993. This is an appointed position for the US State Department by the Secretary of Interior.
- 1989-1997 Director of Finance and Administration, NWIFC: Duties included management of human resources, accounting, computer systems, and assistance to the Executive Director.

1980-1989 Director of Natural Resources, Squaxin Island Tribe: Duties included management and policy representation for fishing, shell fishing, timber, gathering, hunting, and environmental protection. The program also provided oversight for the judicial system.

Boards, Commissions, and Committees

2002-Present Board Member Salmon Defense

2009-Present Member Griffin Neighborhood Association

1998-2012 Member/Chairman of the Little Creek Casino Resort Board

1998-2010 Member of the Squaxin Island Fisheries/Aquatics Committees

2000-2002 President, Board of the Squaxin Island Museum.

1997-1999 Member of the board for Puget Sound Waterways

1990-1997 Member of the Squaxin Island Law and Order Committee

1982-1989 Tribal representative to the NWIFC
1997-2001

Education

1991 Masters of Public Administration, The Evergreen State College
1980 Bachelor's of Arts, emphasis on business management, The Evergreen State College.

Specialized Training

2010 Export and Import Training, WA Community Trade and Economic Development

2009 Mergers and Acquisitions Training, Training Institute

2003 Performance Measures, ASPA

1995 Alternatives in Dispute Resolution, including Traditional Peacemaking

- 1994 Dealing with an Angry Public, Harvard/MIT Public Disputes Program
- 1992 Mediation/Conflict Management in Organizations, The Evergreen State College

Awards

- 2010 Economic Developer of the Year, Mason County EDC
- 1993 Employee of the Year, NWIFC
- 1989 Distinguished Service Award, NWIFC
- 1988 Conservationist of the Year, Trout Unlimited
- 1983 Director's Commendation for State/ Tribal Agreement on Chinook Salmon, Washington Department of Fisheries.