



## Anchorage Assembly Endorsement Cover Letter

Dear Candidate,

On behalf of The Alaska Center board and staff, I'd like to invite you to submit a questionnaire in order to be considered for endorsement by The Alaska Center.

All questionnaire and code of conduct responses need to be emailed to [jennymarie@akcenter.org](mailto:jennymarie@akcenter.org) in PDF, Word, or GoogleDoc form **by 5pm on February 2nd**. Please ask for a receipt of confirmation. The Alaska Center reserves the right to make the first question of your responses public to use for promotion.

Our future is dependent upon the health of and equitable access to the renewable resources that sustain our diverse cultures, livelihoods, and local economies.

Thank you in advance for your time to complete this questionnaire. We appreciate your thoughtful responses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenny Marie Stryker". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jenny-Marie Stryker  
Political and Campaigns Director  
The Alaska Center



## Endorsement Process

- The purpose of The Alaska Center's endorsement process is to identify candidates who promote clean air and water, healthy salmon, and a strong democracy. As part of the endorsement process, The Alaska Center will seek to identify the candidate who most aligns with the organization's mission and values in each race.
- In some circumstances, The Alaska Center may decide to make no endorsement, or may endorse multiple candidates in a race. The Alaska Center may also choose to make ranking recommendations in ranked-choice elections.
- The Alaska Center prioritizes equity and inclusion in its endorsement process. Candidates who have been convicted of or reprimanded for mental, physical or sexual harassment or abuse of any kind may not receive an endorsement from The Alaska Center.
- The Alaska Center's endorsements and rankings are based on the candidate's voting record, public positions on the organization's issue areas, and views expressed in candidate questionnaire and/or interview. The Alaska Center may also take candidate likeliness to win into account.
- All candidates in a given race will be mailed and/or emailed a candidate questionnaire. Candidates *must* submit a questionnaire to be considered for an endorsement, but are not required to submit a questionnaire to be considered for a second or third ranking recommendation.. If additional follow-up needs to be completed, candidate interviews will be conducted by The Alaska Center staff, led by the Political Director.
- Early endorsement is an endorsement prior to the candidate filing deadline. At the discretion of the Board, the Executive Director, and the Political Director, our early endorsement process may differ from our regular endorsement process, including an optional abridged process for previously endorsed incumbents who align with our values and have no violations against our code of conduct.
- Staff will make endorsement and ranking recommendations to be considered by The Alaska Center's Political Committee. All endorsements and rankings are then finalized and made by The Alaska Center's full Board of Directors.
- The Alaska Center's endorsement process is conducted confidentially.
- The Alaska Center endorsement or ranking recommendation is not a guarantee of financial contributions or additional resources being allocated to a candidate or campaign. The Alaska Center does not regularly make direct financial contributions to



campaigns. Separate from the endorsement process, The Alaska Center IE makes independent expenditures, not coordinated with any candidate or campaign, in many election cycles. The Alaska Center IE's decision as to whether to make independent expenditures in support of a candidate in a particular race is governed by a separate process that is not directly connected to The Alaska Center's endorsement process. Endorsement by The Alaska Center should not be understood as implying that The Alaska Center IE will make expenditures or take action in support of a candidate.

- Once The Alaska Center chooses to make an endorsement or ranking recommendation, the organization may utilize the candidate's name and public positions to inform its membership and the general public about the endorsement or ranking decision. This includes posting Endorsements and rankings on The Alaska Center's website, social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and other media outlets.
- Once a candidate receives The Alaska Center's endorsement or ranking recommendation they will be notified by email and/or phone, at which point the candidate is free to publicly promote The Alaska Center's endorsement on their own campaign materials.
- The Alaska Center's endorsement or ranking is valid for only the current election cycle and shall not be used by the candidate to imply organizational support during future elections.



## Questionnaire

**Candidate Name:**

**Candidate Phone:**

**Candidate Email:**

**Campaign Manager Name:**

**Campaign Manager Phone:**

**Campaign Manager Email:**

***Suggested length for each answer: 250 words***

### **Questions (PUBLIC, to be used for an endorsement blurb):**

**1. We support a just transition from our current extractive economy to an equitable, locally-sustainable, regenerative and renewable energy economy in which investment in Alaska is made with and for those Alaskans most directly impacted. How does your vision for Anchorage support a new narrative for Anchorage, one of a diversified economy that moves towards a Just Transition?**

### **Questions (CONFIDENTIAL):**

**1. Please describe what has motivated you to run for and serve in public office. What is your vision for Anchorage and how will you use your position if elected to ensure a just transition? How do your goals intersect with issues of clean air and water, climate change, and a strong democracy?**

**2. Transitioning to a 100 percent clean energy economy is necessary to avert the worst impacts of climate change while creating good jobs, boosting our economy, saving consumers money, and protecting our health. Clean energy has grown rapidly as technology prices have plummeted. However, Alaska's economy and government services are heavily dependent on oil extraction, the emissions of which are a major contributor to climate change.**

**Do you support transitioning to 100 percent clean energy no later than 2050 to help build pollution-free communities?**

**(mark one) YES / NO**

**Optional: Why or why not? (100 words or less)**

**3. Do you support [Anchorage's Climate Action Plan](#), including recommendations like improving transportation with electric bus fleets and investing in energy efficiency upgrades? With solutions in mind, what specific policies at the city level do you support to reduce our state's carbon emissions and slow the harm of climate change?**

**4. Issues of racial equity and social justice have a direct relationship with issues of environmental protection. Low income and BiPOC communities are at the frontline of**



**climate change and are most impacted by the climate crisis. How would you work with these frontline communities to mitigate the damages of climate change and protect them moving forward?**

**5. We believe Anchorage has potential to lead Alaska in becoming the most engaged electorate in the country. What efforts will you make as a candidate and as an elected official to reduce barriers for systematically excluded residents to engage in our local democratic process and increase accessibility for Anchorage voters?**

**6. The Lower Eklutna River Dam has blocked the Eklutna River for 88 years, but in 2018 that dam was removed. While the removal of the dam is a big step forward, it is only the first stage in restoring the Eklutna to a fully functioning river. Do you support returning water to the Eklutna River and updating infrastructure to allow fish passage to upstream habitat before the current mitigation agreement of 2032 in order to see a return of healthy salmon populations? Will you include the Native Village of Eklutna as an equal partner in related decisions?**

**7. Please read and sign our code of conduct below:**



## **Code of Conduct**

### **Purpose**

The Alaska Center is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination and harassment, regardless of an individual's race, ethnicity, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, gender identity or expression, ancestry, pregnancy, or any other characteristic prohibited by law. As such, The Alaska Center will not tolerate discriminatory, harassing or otherwise unacceptable behavior in the workplace or at any of its activities, events or meetings. It adopts the following code of conduct, and expects everyone in the workplace and those who participate in any of its activities, events or meetings to abide by it.

### **Discriminatory Harassment**

Discriminatory harassment is verbal or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of his/her race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, or disability, or that of her/his relatives, friends, or associates, and that: (1) has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment; (2) has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance; or (3) otherwise adversely affect an individual's employment opportunities.

Discriminatory harassment conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following: (1) epithets, slurs, negative stereotyping, or threatening, intimidating or hostile acts and/or (2) written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward an individual or group, because of race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, age, physical or mental disability, marital status, sexual orientation or pregnancy, and that is placed on walls, bulletin boards, or elsewhere on the employer's premises, or circulated in the workplace.

### **Harassment**

Harassment consists of unwelcome verbal, visual or physical conduct that is based on another person's race, ethnicity, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, gender identity or expression, ancestry, pregnancy, or any other characteristic protected by law. It may include, but is not limited to, actions such as the use of epithets, slurs, negative stereotyping, jokes, or threatening, intimidating or hostile acts that relate to sex, race, age, disability or other protected categories. Harassment also may include written or graphic material that denigrates or shows hostility toward an individual or group based on protected characteristics, whether that material is sent by email, or placed on walls, bulletin boards, computer screens or other devices, or elsewhere on the premises of an activity, event or meeting.



## **Sexual Harassment**

Sexual harassment can involve unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature. It can involve conduct by a person of either gender toward a person of the same or opposite gender.

Sexual harassment includes but is not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, use of sexual remarks, display of indecent pictures, crude and offensive language, uninvited and unwelcome sexual advances, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment, (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual, or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating hostile, or offensive working environment.

## **Expected Behavior**

The Alaska Center expects everyone in the workplace and all participants in Alaska Center activities, events or meetings to conform to the following code of conduct:

- Respect others and their views
- Recognize and value individual differences
- Be sure you do not engage in aggressive, bullying or intimidating behavior
- Do not engage in discriminatory or harassing behavior

**I acknowledge that I have read The Alaska Center Code of Conduct and will adhere to these expectations**

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Signature and date