



2/12/2021

Dear Chair Wagner, Vice Chair Girod, and members of the committee,

It is an honor and a privilege to express my enthusiastic support for Sophorn Cheang, as the Business Oregon Director. For the last several years, in my capacity as the Executive Director at PCUN, I have gotten to work directly with Sophorn in her role at the Governor's office, but have borne witness to her achievements, her values, and her care for our community – since she was at Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization, as the Director of the Asian Family Center.

Sophorn is decisive, resourceful, caring, and kind. She sees the humanity in everyone and looks at people as their whole selves. This means she can work with individuals from all walks of life, makes them feel heard, and makes decisions with a do no harm mentality. She leads with passion, and with facts – and likes to hear different perspectives to make the best decision possible.

In the broad Oregon community, Sophorn is respected, and sought out for her opinion, and thoughts on important matters. She is an expert at equity, racial and social justice, and culture changes. Which will be an asset at Business Oregon, as the agency moves forward with its strategic vision for the future, and how it wants to engage with black and indigenous people of color, small business owners from diverse communities, women, LGBTQIA+, and rural immigrant and refugee communities.

Sophorn is uniquely suited for the changes, and challenges we face as a state, especially when it comes to economic development during and post-pandemic. Thank you for your consideration, Sophorn will be an asset to Business Oregon, and PCUN looks forward to continuing fostering a strong relationship with the agency.

Sincerely,

Reyna Lopez

Racial Justice Councilor
Economic Development Committee
Executive Director
PCUN Oregon's Farmworker Union