

Alaska Workforce Investment Board New Board Members Biographies

Linda G. Hulbert represents Business & Industry. She was a member of the Fairbanks Private Industry Council, beginning in 1983, and served as chair from 1993-1995. Ms. Hulbert is currently an agent for New York Life Insurance and a member of the Million Dollar Round Table of the National Association of Life Underwriters. She has served terms as president of Fairbanks Life Underwriters and as secretary/treasurer of the Alaska Association of Life Underwriters. Ms. Hulbert is currently President-elect, for the National Association of Insurance & financial Professionals (Alaska), Board Chair for Nine Star Enterprises and Vice-Chair/Member for the Interior Alaska Regional Workforce Board.

Before her career in life insurance, Ms. Hulbert worked from 1974-1988 in Adult Basic Education & Literacy Programs as both a teacher and administrator. She worked under two past governors in the field of job training and vocational education. Former Governor Steve Cowper appointed her to the Alaska State Job Council and she worked for Governor Bill Sheffield on the Governor's Council for Career and Vocational Education. During her previous seven year tenure on the Alaska Workforce Investment Board she served as both Vice-Chair and Chair of Policy and Planning.

Norm Phillips represents Business & Industry. He has 25 years of management experience in resource exploration, team building, contract negotiations, permitting, resource development and Alaska native regional and village corporation issues. He is currently the Natural Resource Manager for Doyon, Limited. Mr. Phillips has been a member of the Society of Mining Engineers from 1978 – present, Alaska Miners Association from 1978 – present and the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation from 1989 – Present. He is currently a member of the Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation from 2001 - Present and the Denali Commission – Transportation Advisory Committee from 2006 – Present.

He was a member of the School of Mineral Engineering (UAF) Advisory Board, member of the U.S. Geological Survey Alaska Resource Data Program Advisory Board, Baan O Yeel kon Corporation Board member from 1987 – 2001/ President from 1991 – 2000, DOT & PF Northwest Alaska Transportation Plan Advisory Board Member 1987 – 2001, Alaska Division of Geologic & Geophysical Surveys – mapping Advisory Board 1987 – 2001, United Way of the Tanana Valley Community partnership Advisory Board 1987 – 2001, Alaska Miners Association Board Member 1995 – 1996, UAF/Tanana Valley Campus Board member 1993 – 1995, FNSB Community Research Committee Board Member 1991 – 1993, FNSBSD Alaska Native Education Parent Advisory Committee 1999 – 2006, Samaritan Counseling Center Board Member 1999 – 2006/ Board President 2002-2004, Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce Board and Executive Committee 2001 – 2006, Board Chair 2004 – 2005. Mr. Phillips was named Outstanding Alumni in the School of Mineral Engineering, UAF in 1995.

Betty Jo Dibble represents organized labor. She has 16 years labor experience. Ms Dibble has worked as a foreman in the landscaping/grounds maintenance field, highway construction and is currently the Apprentice Training Coordinator for Alaska Operating Engineers Training Trust. Since 2003 she has been a member of the Alaska Apprenticeship and Training Coordinators Association and is the current Vice President.

David Rees represents business and industry. Mr. Rees has 23 years industry experience. He has been with BP in Alaska since 1998 with jobs focused on safety, training and workforce development within and external to the industry. He is currently a Senior Technical Resourcing Specialist currently leading the workforce development issues both inside and outside of the company. Mr. Rees also taught Chemistry and Physics in the Newberg School District, Newberg Oregon.

Mr. Rees has been an industry representative on the Alaska Business/Education Compact (ABEC) since 1998 and is currently serving as Chairman. Since 1999 he has been a board member, Education/Training Committee co-chair and currently Chair of the Board for the Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium. He is currently part of the planning and project team for Putting Alaska's Resources to Work (PARW) (Oil, Gas & Mining) from 2005 - present.

Prior service on committees and councils includes; Alaska Job Training Council 1992 - 1997, Alaska Human Resource Investment Council 1997 - 1999, Alaska's Youth: Ready for Work, Executive Board 1991 - 1998, Alaska Department of Education H.S. Qualifying Exam (Math) Review committee 2002, Alaska Department of Education Tech Prep Task Force 1995 - 1996, Alaska Department of Education Science Standards Committee 1992 - 1993, Alaska Governor's Council on Vocational Education 1983 - 1997, Statewide Advisory Council for Vocational/Technical Education 1989- 2001 and the International Technology Education Association Advisory Board 1992 - 1993.

Barbara Thompson was confirmed as Deputy Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development on January 26, 2007 and is currently Interim Commissioner.

She holds a master of arts degree in teaching adult and community education from Alaska Pacific University and a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from San Diego State University. She holds state certification as a teacher of secondary education in social science.

Thompson has served as Director and Deputy Director of the department's Division of Teaching and Learning Support, and as Acting Administrator and Adult Basic Education Supervisor for the department's former Office of Adult and Vocational Education. She serves on the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.