



CLERK OF THE BOARD DIVISION  
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' OFFICE

# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 FIFTH STREET  
EUREKA, CALIF. 95501-1153

PHONE (707) 476-2384; 445-7299 (FAX)

## APPLICATION TO SERVE ON THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

APPLICANT NAME: Melanie McCavour\_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ Humboldt County, California, 95503

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: [hcpcmccavour@gmail.com](mailto:hcpcmccavour@gmail.com)

OCCUPATION: Tribal Historic Preservation, Planning, Natural Resource Management

PERSONAL REFERENCES:

(1) Beth Burks\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Flora Brain\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

PRIOR ADVISORY BOARD OR BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXPERIENCE?     X YES

PLEASE WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT DESCRIBING WHY YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

I have enjoyed contributing to community permitting and planning in our County and look forward to continuing to serve as planning commissioner. As an active resident of our County community I value opportunities to contribute to sustainable growth in our built environment that simultaneously further the resilience of our natural environment. A strong commitment to objectivity and fairness, and an educational and professional background in environmental impact assessment, natural resource sciences, cultural resource management, and education helps me to meet the expectations and requirements of the role, and our County community. This commitment is also demonstrated by my attendance record; I have missed very few meetings, including over the COVID year (s) and during months where we had a meeting every week. I enjoy great working relationships with the current commissioners, as with all the commissioners who have served over the last four years. I am respected for my integrity, introducing compromise solutions and motions for projects with decisions locked in ties, and in depth understanding. As a woman, parent, immigrant, scientist, planner, educator, and person raised in a small fishing and logging community who also lived in a very large multicultural city for 25 years (living in Mexico for two of those years), I contribute to the diversity of perspective that our County seeks to maintain across its commissions and committees. Additionally, I have been active in the California County Planning Commissioners Association: I co-organized a conference held here in Humboldt County in 2021, delivered the CEQA update presentation at the 2022 conference, represent the Northern District of California in meetings, and in October 2022 I received the Planning Commissioner of the Year award.

Thank you,  
Melanie

DATE: 2/25/2023     SIGNATURE: Melanie McCavour\_\_\_\_\_

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct

SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION TO:  
HUMBOLDT COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, Clerk of the Board, 825 Fifth Street, Suite 111, Eureka, CA 95501-1153.

DATE TO SUPERVISOR \_\_\_\_\_ DATE APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ NOT APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

*Cultivating positive relationships with diverse groups to achieve organizational goals*

### Qualifications Summary

Versatile professional with broad specialization in environmental impact assessment, tribal community outreach, natural and cultural resource management in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, natural resource planning, conservation, program management, and academic teaching. Passion for culture, sustainability, and diversity. Ability in overseeing programs, operations, and teams to advance organizational objectives and goals. Talent for researching and advancing new ideas, framing concepts and plans in unique and fitting ways, and identifying and opening up new opportunities for research. Highly adaptable and detail-oriented with strong communication, analytical thinking, collaboration, and decision-making skills.

### Core Competencies

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Impact Assessment</li> <li>• Program and Budget Management</li> <li>• Culture and Diversity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural Resource Planning</li> <li>• Research Project Management</li> <li>• Regulatory Compliance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural Resource Management and Historic Preservation</li> <li>• Academic Teaching and Instruction</li> </ul>
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### Education & Qualifications

**Doctor of Philosophy in Biology (Ph.D.).** Plantation forest biodiversity and soils | University of Quebec at Montreal, Montreal, Quebec

**Certificate:** Integrative Short Course in Spatial Analysis: Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Spatial Statistics in Pollination Biology, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario

**Master of Environment in Environmental Impact Assessment (M.Env.).** EIA in the transportation, energy, and agricultural sectors (GE trees) | Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec

**Bachelor of Science in Biology (B.Sc.)** | Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec

### Career Experience

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Tribal Historic Preservation Office, Bear River Band, Loleta, CA 2021 – Present  
**Director | Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation**

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Oversee a team of 4-5 staff members in daily program operations. Manage the departmental budget, program scheduling, grant writing, operational reporting, and regulatory compliance. Three programs: Cultural Resource Management and Tribal Historic Preservation, including under the NAGPRA, Section 106 and AB52; Cultural Program, including curation and scheduling of display items, planning and coordination of design and delivery of cultural classes and demonstrations; and the Traditional Burning and Tribal Garden Program.

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Humboldt County, CA Jan. 2018 – Jan. 2023  
**Planning Commissioner**

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College of Natural Resources, Cal Poly Humboldt  
**Research Associate, Department of Forestry, Fire, and Rangeland Management** 2018-present

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City of Arcata, Arcata, CA 2016 – 2018  
**Planning Commissioner**

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Environmental Impact Assessment Consulting 2016-2021  
**Principal Consultant**

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Provide environmental assessment services across housing, forestry, and transportation

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Cal Poly Humboldt/Humboldt State University, Arcata, CA 2015 – 2019  
**Lecturer – Departments of Biology, Environmental Sciences, Management, and Planning**

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- Courses: Environmental Impact Assessment, Plant Ecology, Biodiversity. Laboratories and experiential learning in CEQA, NEPA, biodiversity, and landuse.

## Previous Experience

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**Faculty – Loyola College for Sustainability and Diversity, and Department of Geography, Planning and Environment (2010 – 2014) • Concordia University, Montreal, Quebec**

**Biology and Chemistry Laboratory Technician, Lab Instructor, Departmental Lab Manager and Budget Administrator | Sustainability Coordinator (1999 – 2011) • Marianopolis College, Montreal, Quebec**

**Intern – Forest Service, Research and Development, Global Change: Forest Bioenergy Sciences, Conservation Education, and Invasive Species (2009 – 2010) • U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rosslyn, VA and Washington, D.C.**

**Team Member, Research Projects 1998-2008**

**Mangrove regeneration research and restoration project (Hurricane Dean) • Mahahual, Quintana Roo, Mexico; Environmental impact assessments, analyses, and tribal outreach for the Chalillo Dam and proposed Bahía de Chamela Marina projects • Macal River, Belize and Chamela-Cuixmala Biosphere Reserve, Jalisco, Mexico; Pipeline project assessments and vegetation regeneration • Inuvik; Various research projects: forest, transportation, hydro-electric, dendrochronology, and aviation engineering research (ice) (Quebec)**

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## Conferences, Papers & Presentations

35 conference papers, research articles and presentations – *full details available upon request*



## Certificate of Completion

This certifies that

Melanie J McCavour

successfully completed

Gender Equity and Title IX

on 2/17/2023



**HUMBOLDT  
STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Certificate of Completion**

This certifies that

**Melanie J McCavour**

successfully completed

**CSU's Discrimination Harassment Prevention Program  
for Non-Supervisors**

on **2/17/2023**

SumTotal

[https://csu.sumtotal.host/learning/app/management/LMS\\_ActReports.aspx?ActId=26965&U...](https://csu.sumtotal.host/learning/app/management/LMS_ActReports.aspx?ActId=26965&U...)

