

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

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| Candidate Name | Chad Lupkes |
| Position sought | Washington State House of Representatives, 46 th LD |
| Residence Legislative, County Council and Congressional district | 46 th LD 1 st CCD 7 th CD |
| Are you a Democrat? Are you known as a Democrat? | Yes Yes |
| Campaign Information | |
| Campaign Name | Chad Lupkes for House (not formalized) |
| Web page | http://chadlupkes.blogspot.com (personal blog) |
| Campaign Email address | chadlupkes@gmail.com |
| Manager | None |
| Campaign mailing address | 11401 Roosevelt Way NE #12 Seattle, WA 98125 |
| Campaign phone number | 206-792-5440 |
| Campaign FAX | (413) 674-5629 (efax) |

Candidate Background: Community service, education, employment and other relevant experience.

Describe your qualifications, education, employment, community and civic activity, Union affiliation and other relevant experience.

I am a registered voter within the 46th District.

I attended Kentridge High School in Kent, Washington, graduating in 1987. I attended the University of Phoenix between 2001 and 2003, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Business/E-Business with a 3.85 GPA.

I joined the US Navy in 1988, serving until 1994. I owned and operated a bookstore in Everett, Washington between 1995 and 1997, worked for Nordstrom between 1998 and 1999, then moved to Florida for 6 months. Returned to Washington in 2000, and was employed by Nordstrom again. I currently work in their corporate offices.

My first experience in politics was as a teenager. I walked the neighborhoods around where I lived to gather signatures requesting that King County move up the timeframe of installing a stoplight at the intersection of 132nd and 240th St. I gathered several thousand signatures, and the stoplight has worked ever since. I was active in the Gay advocacy and support community in Snohomish County in the mid-1990's, and helped start the PFLAG chapter in Everett/Snohomish County in 1996. I attended my first 46th District meeting in May, 2003, and helped put together the website of the

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

46th, which I still manage as Chair. I was also part of the initial core of Democracy for Washington, a spin-off of Gov. Howard Dean's Democracy for America. I was elected as chairman of DFW in 2006, and dissolved the organization in 2007 when we realized that we had accomplished our goal of bringing progressives into the Democratic Party. I worked with supporters of Gov. Dean and Rep. Kucinich at the state and local level to launch the Progressive Democratic Caucuses of Washington and the Washington State Progressive Caucus. I was elected Chair of the Washington State Progressive Caucus in 2008, and I work to support the current chair at every opportunity. Within the King County Democrats I was appointed by the KCDCC Chair Suzie Sheary as the Rapid Response coordinator in 2006 after helping to organize doorbelling during a GOP attempted challenging of voter signatures in 2005. I was elected as the KCDCC First Vice Chair during 2009-2010, and I currently hold the position of 3rd Vice Chair for Membership and PCO Recruitment. Within the 46th I was elected as an At-Large member in 2005, KCDCC Male Rep in 2007 and Chairman in 2009. I currently hold the position of Chair.

I have never been employed by a company which had labor representation. I support the labor movement, and the right of employees to collectively bargain.

I strongly support the Occupy Wall Street movement. I am in the 99%.

| What ratings and endorsements have you received? | |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Legislative District Democrats | None asked |
| Union Endorsement | None asked |
| Municipal League | None asked |
| SEAMEC | None asked |
| Other Endorsements | None asked |

Which groups do you plan to ask for an endorsement?

If I am appointed by the PCOs in the 46th District, I will ask other organizations for endorsements during the 2012 election cycle. I have no plans to ask for any endorsements for the upcoming Senate appointment or the House appointment.

| Please answer the following questions* | | Yes | No | Qualified |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|-----------|
| 1 | Do you support the King County Democratic Platform? | X | | |
| 2 | Do you support the right of workers (excluding military) to bargain and strike? | X | | |
| 3 | Do you support government funding of Planned Parenthood and other family planning services, including abortion and contraception? | X | | |
| 4 | Do you support majority votes by state and local governments to enact taxes for revenue and to repeal tax exemptions? | X | | |
| 5 | Do you support the Affordable Health Care Act? | | | X |

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

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| 6 | Do you support school vouchers? Do you support charter schools? | | X | |
| 7 | Do you support the Davis-Bacon Act? | | | X |
| 8 | Do you support equal rights for women? | X | | |
| 9 | Do you support Federal and State regulation of greenhouse gases that are contributing to climate change? | X | | |
| 10 | Do you support a constitutional amendment to limit free speech rights to persons, not corporations? | X | | |
| 11 | Do you support public financing of campaigns? | X | | |

*Qualification of question 5: I believe that Single Payer or a Public Option is the best way to improve Health Care in the United States. I was disappointed that every effort made to have a discussion about Single Payer or a Public Option was ignored or actively fought against by elected officials from my own political party.

*Qualification of question 7: I believe that "prevailing wage" is no longer sufficient. I support requiring that public contracts should pay a "living wage".

| Please answer the following questions * | | Yes* | No |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----|
| 1 | Have you ever failed to pay any taxes or court ordered judgments? | X | |
| 2 | Have you ever been found in violation of a Public Disclosure Commission, Federal Election Commission or Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission regulation? | | X |
| 3 | Have you ever been convicted of a felony? | | X |

*I filed for bankruptcy in 1998 after closing my bookstore. My 1997 taxes were not filed. My income in 1997 was negligible. The IRS ignored it, and I have paid taxes every year since.

Are you a member of another political party? If so, which ones? Have you ever supported or given money to a candidate from another party in a partisan race? If so, whom and when?

No.
N/A
No.
N/A

Are you a member of your local Democratic District Party? Have you contributed financially to any Democratic Organization? Have you been a Precinct Committee Officer? When/Where?

Yes

I send \$5 per month to both the 46th District Democrats and the King County Democrats. I have done so since 2007.

I was appointed as PCO in 2004, and ran my precinct caucus that year. I was challenged by a LaRouche supporter in 2005 and lost by 1 vote. She moved out of the district, ignoring her duties. I picked up the baton. I was elected as PCO in 2006, 2008 and 2010.

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

What are the main messages of your campaign? What is your campaign plan? How many doors have you knocked on to date, pieces of mail planned, budgeting, staffing? What is the fundraising goal for your campaign? How much have you raised to date? Why will you win?

My main message is that our representative in Olympia should reflect the values of the people of the 46th. I believe those values are progressive values, and I have spent the last 8 years defining for myself, and anyone who would listen, what it means to be progressive in the 21st century:

Grassroots, People-Powered Democracy

If a decision is being made on any level of government that affects you, your voice should be heard on that issue. "The Tao of Democracy" is a description of how the evolution of our democratic processes is occurring all around the world. What we need in this country and around the world is a way for people to get directly involved in the way our government operates. Many opportunities exist now, but they are too often perceived to be hidden behind a wall of secrecy and only the hard-core activists seem to be able to break through. We have to make the process of electoral and issue based politics transparent and open so everyone can get involved.

The Concept of WE

The Earth is a single environment. Everything that affects individuals affects groups, and the larger the subject, the larger the group that is affected. I'm tired of hearing people describe the world in terms of 'us versus them'. We're all on this planet together, and the more we understand that, the better we will be able to create a world that works for everyone. How can we get a better understanding of how everyone is linked together, and that something affecting one affects us all?

Understanding the Past

Where do our problems come from? How do they relate to each other? If we search for an understanding of our past mistakes, we gain a better understanding of how not to repeat them. Maybe we can even solve two problems with the same action.

Looking to the Future

It's not enough anymore to think and act for the moment. In the big picture, we are creating the world of the future by our actions today. I'm concerned about how my children are growing up, but I'm just as concerned about the kind of world their grandchildren will be living in. We should grant them the power to turn that world into whatever they wish it to be, with clean air and water, energy resources to explore their dreams, a peaceful world where people talk instead of fight with each other. What can we do now, either through big decisions or small actions, that can help to create that world of opportunity?

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

I have not knocked on any doors for this appointment process. I do not plan to ask anyone to nominate me for the Senate appointment, nor for the House appointment. If spontaneously appointed by the PCOs in the 46th, I plan to knock on every door possible between that appointment and the November 2012 election.

I would hire campaign staff from within the district, and ask for volunteers from within the district. I agree with Former Speaker Tom Foley when he said that all politics is local. I also believe that all activism is personal. I survived cancer in 2003, and when Gov. Howard Dean used the fact that 43 Million people (in 2003. That number is now 50+ million) do not have access to Health Insurance or to a doctor, I decided to work in politics until that was fixed. I have a lot of work to do.

I will be very surprised if appointed to represent the 46th in Olympia. I am not filling out this questionnaire due to any particular ambition on my part. I was asked by the Executive Board to fill the questionnaire out to ensure that we have enough names for the Senate appointment, and I consider it my duty to do so with honor and integrity.

What are the single most pressing issues facing your jurisdiction? What actions would you take if elected?

The biggest issues facing the 46th District are education funding, sustainability within an urban environment, energy production and income/wealth distribution.

Education funding: Our current system of funding for education is broken. It depends on sales tax revenue coming out of the state general fund, plus property tax revenue. Every time we run a shortfall, education funding gets cut. That is ignoring the Constitutional requirement in Article IX that the education of all children residing within our borders be the paramount duty of the State. I believe it should be a dedicated funding scheme, and I believe that our state government should take that responsibility seriously. If it is necessary to raise revenue in order to meet the requirements of the Constitution, we should do that. I also recognize that I have a great deal to learn about the current funding system.

Sustainability within an urban environment: I believe in the scientifically based position that human activity has affected our atmosphere, and that climate change is likely to have severe repercussions to our civilization and to our lives. I believe that our individual choices on a daily basis have an effect on our environment. I don't like excessive packaging. I am a strong supporter of transit options that let people travel in safety anywhere they wish to go quickly and efficiently. I supported the Seattle Monorail expansion, and I wish the "Green Line" identified for that expansion would be used by Sound Transit or the Seattle Department of Transportation to put together a streetcar line that would give a huge economic boost to both North West Seattle and West Seattle.

Energy production: I don't like our dependence on foreign oil sources, or any petroleum or fossil fuels. I believe that renewable energy sources could become sufficient for our energy needs, if we would put the capital into developing and promoting them. Other countries are leading the way, both in terms of the production of renewable energy linked products like Solar Panels and Wind Turbines, and in the installation of such systems. Washington State could be a national leader by learning from those examples and implementing them.

Income and wealth distribution: I believe the old saying that power corrupts. It is a basic principle of the progressive movement for over 100 years that we fight abuse of power anywhere we find it. I

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

believe our elections are too frequently up to the highest bidder, with the media only paying attention to those that promise not to rock the boat. I believe that the debates we should be having are too often prevented or interrupted due to distractions. I believe in the public financing of campaigns, following the examples of states like Maine and New Mexico. I believe that it is the perceived abuses of power on Wall Street and by Ultra-large corporations that have generated the outcry of the people in the form of the Occupy Wall Street movement. We have seen the inequalities grow in our country since the Reagan Revolution, where wages have stagnated while productivity soars. That gap between wages and corporate profits is unsustainable, and must be repaired by the power and authority of a government of, by and for the people. All of the people.

If you are a candidate in a contested primary race, what record of performance, ability, experience, personal qualities, and positions on issues distinguish you from your opponent(s)? If you do not receive the nomination, is there any reason you could not support your Democratic opponent in the general election? Please explain.

I honor any individual who is called to public service. I rely on the wisdom of my friends and fellow activists at every opportunity, and would continue to do that if appointed to office. I believe it is possible to work with anyone if we listen and present our positions. I will work as hard for any other candidate as I would work for my own reelection.

Do you believe the current structure of taxes and/or fees that generate funds in your area are fair? If not, how would you change it?

I do not believe that our current tax structure is fair. It is the most regressive and hurtful tax structure in the country. Nobody at any income level is receiving the services they need, and everyone would be better off if the system were fixed. I supported Initiative 1098 in 2010, and I support the position of our State Treasurer Jim McIntire that any income tax should be put into the Constitution so that only a supermajority can change the rates. I don't believe that partisan bickering should be able to play a role in the basic functioning of our state government, the role of which is to serve the needs of the people of Washington.

King County has a ten year plan to end homelessness. What ideas do you have to increase low income and affordable housing/?

The best method of ensuring that people have homes is to provide them with jobs. The next best option is to provide them with the security they need to build their own life. I believe it would be a benefit to our city to have organizations fully funded that can provide food and shelter to people who need help to secure their own foundation. I believe that our tax dollars can appropriately go to helping people find a home, find employment and achieve a level of security that prevents them from becoming a danger to themselves or to our community. I believe that no child should go without meals, either at school or at home. I have a great deal more to learn on this issue, both in terms of what has been done and what ideas are out there. I worry that we will not meet our goal of ending homelessness in King County. I think we should.

King County Democrats 2011 General Candidate Questionnaire

What role should government play in the healthcare system?

The Federal Government should provide basic health insurance for every American citizen. This should be a basic right, and the funding for it should be part of our FICA taxes.

Until this is implemented, the Washington State Government should implement a basic health plan that could be purchased by anyone from individuals, small business employers, large employers and municipalities. Private Health Insurance companies should be encouraged to provide insurance products that are affordable, with the State providing competition and an incentive in order to make sure that we have 100% coverage within Washington State.

I believe our health care system should be based on “fee for outcome”, giving an incentive to doctors to find cures instead of unnecessary and expensive tests that lead to dead ends. But at the same time, as a cancer survivor, I understand that medical science is constantly changing and evolving. I strongly support government funding for innovation and development of new techniques and practices.

What is your position on civil rights for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people? What is your position on equal rights for same-sex couples when it comes to benefits, civil unions, marriage and parental rights?

People are people. I have no bias whatsoever against what I term as the “LesBiGayTr” community. I support Gay Marriage as equal to any other Marriage. I believe children need the love of parents, and I don’t believe that same gender parents have any disadvantage when raising children.

What creative solutions can you offer to address the problems of the economically disadvantaged?

I support the idea of government contracts that mirror what was done during the Great Depression, with the Works Progress Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps. I believe the best solution to economic trouble is to give a person a job, any job, so that they may gain a feeling of self-worth and self-confidence. Every dollar given to an unemployed person goes immediately back into the community economy. I believe in job training, education, trade schools, higher education opportunities being targeted towards future potential job opportunities, as well as building our state parks, repaving our roads, reconstructing our water and sewer systems, and a dedication to the development of renewable energy within our state. I believe in supporting jobs that cannot be outsourced.

I have read this questionnaire and understand and approve the content and all provided information.

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| Printed Name | Chad Lupkes | Date |
| Signature | | 10/29/2011 |