



CITY OF

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**PORTLAND, OREGON**

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OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

**AMANDA FRITZ, COMMISSIONER**

Amalia Alarcón de Morris, Bureau Director  
Community & Neighborhood Involvement Center

1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 110  
Portland, Oregon 97204

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*Promoting a culture of civic engagement*

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## **New Portlanders Policy Commission**

**Commissioner in Charge, Amanda Fritz**  
**Office of Neighborhood Involvement, Director Amalia Alarcon de Morris**

### **Requesting your service on: City of Portland Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Integration Policy**

**The United States is built** and continues benefiting from a unique confluence of native, settled, and new American cultures.

Today, New American families, civil society associations, and businesses are making Portland their new home. New Portlanders contribute substantially to the economic and social life of our city, and are eager to participate in public processes that ensure newcomer community interests are equitably planned into City of Portland services, in City bureau hiring and contracting.

Because Portland's City Council understands the urgency of integrating the optimism, the skills, and the needs of New Americans into the life of our vigorous city: Portland's City Council has passed an ordinance establishing an immigrant and refugee integration policy advisory commission to address our newcomer communities' strengths and needs.

This new advisory body is called the New Portlanders Policy Commission.

### **Mission of the New Portlanders Policy Commission**

To advise the City on policies and practices to integrate immigrant and refugee communities' voices and needs into the provision of City services, City decision-making and civic engagement in Portland, and to seek constructive relationships with each member of Council and the City Auditor.

### **Background**

The New Portlanders Policy Commission is the result of recommendations produced by the Immigrant & Refugee Task Force in a report titled *New Portlanders Speak* (adopted by City Council 2008).

Several ethnic minority and newcomer community studies have guided creation of the new Commission, and have directed the work of current New Portlander Programs. Among these: *Newcomer Strengths and Needs* (IRCO-City of Portland Diversity in Civic Leadership Academies 2008-2010); IRCO Community Needs Assessments (2009, 2012, 2015) *Communities of Color in Multnomah County: An Unsettling Profile*, plus successive community-specific research products (Coalition of Communities of Color/PSU Center for Advanced Racial Equity Studies 2010-2016).

A number of City of Portland policy statements provide equity and inclusivity frameworks for the new Commission, among them: The Portland Plan, Framework for Equity (2012); Citywide Racial Equity Goals (2013); City of Portland Public Involvement Principles (2010); individual bureau policy commitments to public participation, inclusion, and equity.

## **New Portlanders Policy Commission recruitment**

The City of Portland is recruiting up to 25 individuals representing a broad spectrum of our newcomer and ethnic minority communities; immigrant & refugee service providers; including expertise in resettlement and integration expertise, community organizing and advocacy, civic engagement, education, public safety and health; representing Portlanders of all races, ethnicities, faiths, generations, genders, gender identities, sexual orientation, abilities and disabilities, and economic statuses.

## **Policy Commission member expectations**

Commissioners are expected to:

- Receive training on ethical and effective official service to the residents and to the City of Portland, and then maintain these standards of conduct
- Advocate for the positive integration of all immigrant and refugee Portlanders in addition to their own communities of nurture
- Prepare and actively participate in quarterly Commission meetings (once every 3 months)
- Contribute their expertise to at least one working committee. Committees generally meet once a month
- Represent the New Portlanders Policy Commission before City Council. Represent New Portlander communities' policy interests upon request of the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, the State of Oregon Legislative Assembly, and Oregon delegates of the United States Congress, before elected officials of those bodies.

## **Terms of Service on the Commission**

Initial populating of the New Portlanders Policy Commission will be by appointments of 2-year and 3-year terms. Thereafter, re-appointments and new appointments will be made for 3-year terms, renewable to a maximum of two consecutive 3-year terms.

# Application for membership New Portlanders Policy Commission

## Language or Disability Accommodations

IF ENGLISH IS NOT YOUR FIRST LANGUAGE, and you need help with the questions below, please use the help of family, community, or co-workers in best expressing the experience and skills you will bring to the Commission.

If you would rather have help from the City government, we will provide you an interpreter, at no cost to you.

IF A DISABILITY MAKES IT DIFFICULT for you to read or complete this application, City government will assist you in completing it.

## For more information

Ronault LS (Polo) Catalani  
Telephone: 503.823.6224  
Email: [ronault.catalani@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:ronault.catalani@portlandoregon.gov)

TTY 503-823-6868  
Oregon Relay Service at 711 with requests

## DEADLINE

Completed applications must be submitted by 5pm, Monday, November 28, 2016

## Application requirements

The following New Portlander Policy Commission application form, requires:

- Your contact information
- Responses to questions 1 through 3
- Names and contact information for two references familiar with your work in Portland's newcomer communities;
- Your signature.

There is an optional demographic sheet to help us ensure that advisory commission appointments represent a broad cross-section of all our communities. You are not required to submit this sheet.

## How to submit completed applications

Please bring or send or email these application materials and anything else you believe will aid our selection process to:

Mail or drop off:      New Portlander Programs, Office of Neighborhood Involvement  
City Hall, 1221 SW Fourth Avenue, Room 110  
Portland, OR 97204

Email:                    [ronault.catalani@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:ronault.catalani@portlandoregon.gov)

Fax:                        503-823-3050

Note: Completed applications must be submitted by 5pm, Monday, November 28, 2016

## Contact Information

Name			
	<i>Personal name</i>	<i>Middle names</i>	<i>Family names</i>
Address:			
Phone:		Email:	

## Questions

1. **My experience, skills, and contributions have been in** (Please check one or both boxes):

- Portland ethnic minority or newcomer community association. (Unpaid community elders and civic activists.) *For example: Iraqi Society of Oregon; Togo Community of Oregon; Oregon Bhutanese Community Organization*
- Local organization serving ethnic minority or newcomer communities. (Paid positions.) *For example: Asian Health and Social Services Center; Catholic Charities of Oregon, Oromo Evangelical Church of Portland*

2. **I am from this community and/or have worked with:** (Please check as many as apply)

- African Portlanders
- Portlanders from the Middle East
- Asian Portlanders
- Latino Portlanders
- Pacific island Portlanders
- Russian-speaking or Slavic Portlanders
- Portlanders from Eastern Europe
- Portlanders from the Indian subcontinent
- Portlanders from the Caribbean islands
- Indigenous communities from the Americas
- Mainstream American experienced or possessing expertise with above populations
- Other. Please describe yourself: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Do you have a preference for length of your original term on the commission?**

In starting up this new Commission, appointments will be for either a 2-year or 3-year term, so that an entirely new Commission need not be appointed at the end of a single term. After these initial appointments, every new Commission appointment will be for 3 years. If you are selected by Portland City Council, you may renew membership for an additional term of 3 years.

Newly appointed New Portlander Policy Commission members will have either a 2- or 3-year term. If you are selected, you may choose to renew for a second term of three years in length.

If selected, would prefer a 2-year or a 3-year term:

2-year term                       3-year term

**4. Please explain why serving on the Commission is important to you and important to our city. (No more than 200 words.)**

**5. Please describe your unpaid or paid work in Portland's newcomer communities. (No more than 200 words.)**

6. **Tell us about your knowledge and skills in integrating newcomers into the life of our city.** (No more than 200 words.)

7. **Please provide us with phone numbers or email addresses of two people who know well your work in Portland’s newcomer communities**

**Reference 1**

Name:

Phone:

Email:

**Reference 2**

Name:

Phone:

Email:

**Signature**

*If an interpreter or helper was used, include the person’s name.*

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
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***My signature affirms*** that information above is to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any misstatement of fact may result in disqualification from the New Portlanders Policy Commission.

If you would like the City of Portland to keep this advisory committee application on file, so that other City bureaus know about your skills and experience, as other advisory positions open, please check this box:

Yes, please keep my application on file.

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## OPTIONAL INFORMATION SHEET

Please note this optional information is on a page separate from application, and it will be separated from your application after you submit it.

- *You do not need to provide this information. City government requests it so we can ensure City of Portland advisory commissions and boards represent Portlanders of all genders, ages, and sexual identities, races and ethnicities, mental and physical abilities and disabilities.*
- *Providing this information, will not help or hinder the success of your application.*

*If you do provide information requested below, Oregon and US law prohibits using it to discriminate against you. The City of Portland will protect your privacy.*

- Please check all boxes that apply, you can check as many as describe you:

Your Age:     Under 18-25     26-39     40-55  
                   56-70             Over 70

Gender identity:     Female     Male     Trans     Gender Non-conforming

Sexual orientation:     Straight     Lesbian     Gay     Bisexual  
                               Two spirit     Queer     LGBT     Other

Born outside USA? Where: \_\_\_\_\_

Race:

African American             Asian or Pacific Islander             Caucasian  
 Latino/a/x                     Native American or Alaskan Native  
 Multiracial                     None of above. I am: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical or mental disability:     No     Yes    My disability is: \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how can City government help you participate in an advisory commission: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ .