

May 7, 2021

Oregon Tourism Commission

319 SW Washington St., Suite 700

Portland, OR 97204

Commission Chair Youngblood:

I hope the commission finds itself well. As you gather today to contemplate the future, please take a few moments to remember the immediate past. It was just a little over one year ago that Travel Oregon notified a large group of staff members that their positions were being eliminated. This move was difficult, yet understandable, given the unknown future the COVID virus presented. This note is not intended to relitigate the decision. This note is intended to acknowledge and remember the great work those dismissed folks undertook with passion on behalf of the citizens of Oregon, the state's tourism industry and Travel Oregon. It is important to remember their names and what they did and to not let their nearly 100 years of combined experience working for Travel Oregon go unsung. I reviewed all the commission minutes since spring of 2020 and can find no mention of any of them by name.

For your consideration and for your appreciation, they remain:

- Carole Astley, Global Strategic Partnerships
- Kayla Brock, Global Marketing
- Kayla Dunn, Destination Development
- Lorna Davis, Global Sales
- Linea Gagliano, Global Communications
- Beth Gehret, Global Marketing
- Stephen Hatfield, Destination Development
- Jenny Hill, Executive Office
- Nick Hindman, Operations
- Bri Matthews Esposito, Destination Development
- Jessica Otjen, Global Strategic Partnerships
- Heather Platanius, Global Sales
- Holly VanDeWage, Global Marketing
- Elena Vizzini, Global Sales
- Jenna Wheatley, Global Sales
- Meredith Williams, Strategy & Operations

Thanks for the opportunity to comment today. It was certainly a great honor of mine to have worked alongside these talented folks.

Take care.

Scott

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