

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 23, 2021

Joseph R. Biden
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We are writing to recommend Ms. Diane Kaplan for a position on the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). We believe her lifelong commitment to public media and community service make her a highly qualified candidate for the Board of the CPB whose goals include promoting an educated, informed, and diverse society; strengthening the quality of public media's content and services; and deepening the engagement with audiences and users.

Throughout her career, Diane has always promoted, advocated, and earned support for public radio and television stations in Alaska. She served as chief executive officer of Alaska's 28-station public radio network known as the Alaska Public Radio Network (APRN) for 11 years. During that time, Diane expanded APRN from one to four daily newscasts and developed the statewide news network into a national program producer with the development of the daily programs, "National Native News" and "Native American Calling." She helped develop the first urban Native American radio station in the United States in Anchorage, Alaska, as well as rural stations in Ft. Yukon, Unalakleet, Chevak, St. Paul, and Valdez, Alaska, and on the Hopi reservation in Arizona. For her outstanding contributions, she received the Elaine B. Mitchell Award from her Alaska public broadcasting colleagues.

Diane is currently President & CEO of the Rasmuson Foundation which has, for over 65 years, promoted a better life for all Alaskans through its support of arts and culture, health, social services, housing and general philanthropy through charitable payments of over \$422 million. She was the first employee and administrator of the Rasmuson Foundation, serving for six years prior to assuming the presidency. During her tenure, Kaplan has presided over the growth of the Foundation from \$5.8 million to \$750 million in assets, increasing grantmaking from \$300,000 a year to \$30 million. Under her leadership, the Foundation has built a reputation as one of the country's leading regional foundations, winning numerous national awards from peers. She has also established a number of initiatives such as an Individual Artist Awards program, a sabbatical program for nonprofit executives, a statewide center for nonprofit excellence, and the Pick.Click.Give program, through which individuals can donate a portion of their annual state dividend to Alaska nonprofits.

Over the years, Diane's community contributions have been recognized by a range of organizations. In 2019, she was recognized by Grantmakers in Health, a nationwide industry organization that aims to improve the health of all, with its Terrance Keenan Leadership Award in Health Philanthropy. The honor goes to an individual whose work is innovative, creative, and bold. Other recent awards include the Anchorage ATHENA Society's 2019 Leadership Award, the group's highest honor. The society, a program of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, works to encourage women as leaders in the business world. She also received the President's Everyday Hero Award as a tribal ally from the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

In 2018, Diane was a recipient of a Lifetime Champion for Kids award from the Alaska Children's Trust. In 2013, she received the First Alaskans Institute Ted Stevens Award. She was recognized with the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (N.O.B.E.L. Women) Shining Star Award in

2010 and was named the Council on Foundations Distinguished Grantmaker of the Year in 2007. In 2006, she received the Alaska Federation of Natives' prestigious Denali Award, which recognizes a non-Native individual who has contributed to the growth and development of the Alaska Native community's culture, economy, and health.

Diane is a member of a number of non-profit boards, including: The International Foundation for Research in Experimental Economics, The Alaska Community Foundation, and United States Artists. She also serves on the community advisory council of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and is a member of the Anchorage Homelessness Leadership Council and Anchorage Rotary Club. In addition to her public radio and civic experience, Diane holds a degree in communications and women's studies from the University of Pennsylvania.

Consistent with applicable law, policy, and guidance, we respectfully ask that you give due consideration to Diane Kaplan as a candidate for the Board of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Please let us know if we can provide any additional information. We ask that you keep our offices apprised on the outcome.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski
United States Senator



Dan Sullivan
United States Senator