

## Chinook Enterprises welcomes Nicollette Wegner as new Chief Executive Officer

As 2020 draws to a close, Chinook Enterprises opens the door to its new CEO

MOUNT VERNON, WASHINGTON, USA, December 22, 2020 / EINPresswire.com/ -- Chinook **Enterprises** is pleased to announce that effective December 21st, 2020, Nicolette Wegner will lead the company as Chief Executive Officer. Wegner brings a wealth of experience to the position, having served most recently as Associate Director at Trillium Employment Services based in Tacoma and Board Chair of Community Employment Alliance (CEA), a statewide consortium that advocates for employment opportunities on behalf of people with disabilities.

Chinook Enterprises is a forty-year-old social enterprise located in Mount Vernon, Washington. Its mission is to assist people with disabilities in finding



Nicolette Wegner, CEO poses with Chinook Enterprises Winter Grounds Maintenance Crew



and retaining gainful employment. What makes Chinook unique is its ability to self-fund its mission by using profits from its manufacturing and grounds maintenance divisions to help pay for employment services and administrative support. Over the years, Chinook's mission-based efforts have influenced thousands of local families' lives through job creation and community connection.



Nikki's leadership could not be more perfectly timed." Barbara Leander But the past 48 months have been challenging. In 2019, Chinook experienced a sharp decline in aerospace manufacturing projects due to the grounding of <u>Boeing</u>'s 737 Max. Significant Covid-related job losses immediately followed in 2020. Despite the impacts of what feels like the second wave of an economic tsunami, employees and management alike report that sprits remain amazingly bright.

"Nikki's leadership could not be more perfectly timed," said Board Chair Barbara Leander. "We have full confidence that Nikki is the right person to lead Chinook through 2021 and beyond."

Wegner plans to use her statewide and national connections to bolster service offerings in the form of employment readiness training and to continue the diversification of Chinook's manufacturing partnerships. "I'm inspired by the mission-focused energy here," said Wegner. "We will continue to build on Chinook's strong foundation to lead us into a bountiful new year."

## **About Chinook Enterprises:**

Chinook Enterprises is a diverse and inclusive 501c3 nonprofit organization located in Mount Vernon, Washington. It specializes in employment services for people with disabilities and other barriers, as well as grounds maintenance and manufacturing.

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