



TO REQUEST CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THIS INDIVIDUAL, PLEASE  
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Connie R. Collingsworth

Experienced board member and C-Suite executive with expertise in governance, risk management, and complex investments. Strategic business advisor recognized for excellent judgment and exceptional communication and interpersonal skills. Role at Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation includes developing and implementing “global access” intellectual property strategy, forming strategic alliances with pharmaceutical and bio-tech companies, bi-laterals and multi-laterals, crisis management, and serving as Executive Sponsor for technology implementation to stream-line foundation operations and leverage data. Extensive international experience gained from establishing and managing operations of regional offices around the world. Unique insights regarding ESG and corporate social responsibility.

#### CORPORATE BOARD EXPERIENCE

##### PLANET FIRST PARTNERS

2021-present

European Venture Capital Fund, with two primary investment themes, Better for People and Better for the Planet working alongside each other to deliver a vision of a healthier life on a healthier planet.

##### **Advisory Board Member**

##### BANNER CORPORATION (NASDAQ: BANR)

2013-present

Publicly traded bank holding company with \$14B in assets

##### **Board Member; Chair, Governance & Nominating Committee; Member, Compensation and Executive Committees**

- Initiated process for director and board self-evaluation as well as board training and developed pipeline of diverse board members

##### PREMERA BLUE CROSS

Preeminent Pacific Northwest health care insurance company with over 2.4M members

2013-present

##### **Board Member; Chair, Compensation Committee; Member, Governance and Investment Committees**

- Gained firsthand knowledge of directors' role in dealing with cybersecurity issues

##### ATTENEX CORPORATION

Privately held technology company in eDiscovery marketplace

2000-2008

##### **Board Member**

- Served on Board from start-up through successful acquisition by FTI Consulting, Inc.

## CURRENT EMPLOYMENT/MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

### BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION

2002-present

World's largest private foundation with over \$45.5B in assets, focused on improving healthcare and reducing poverty in the developing world and expanding educational opportunities in the U.S.

#### **Executive Leadership Team Member, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Legal Officer**

- Lead foundation governance, including meetings for Trustees, Bill Gates, Warren Buffett and Melinda Gates and Trustees' Compensation Committee
- Manage business operations, encompassing, Information Technology, Human Resources, Legal, Global Security, and Grants and Contracts Services administering annual charitable distributions of over \$6.7B
- Co-Chair of foundation's DEI Leadership Council
- Incident Commander responsible for managing all COVID-related issues from an operational perspective
- Development of foundation's intellectual property strategy and approach to enterprise risk management
- Member of Investment and Innovative Finance Committees, with collective portfolio of over \$2.5B
- First in-house lawyer hired responsible for building diverse, award winning legal team of 41 members

## NONPROFIT BOARD SERVICE

### WOMEN'S WORLD BANKING, NYC

2011-2020

Membership organization of 49 member banks located in 31 countries with mission to provide financial inclusion for low-income women in developing world

#### **Board Co-Chair; Member, Compensation and Audit/Finance Committees**

- Member of Strategy Steering Committee for 2017-22 Strategic Plan
- Led analysis of corporate structure/compensation arrangements with affiliated equity fund

### GATES PHILANTHROPY PARTNERS

2015-present

Nonprofit facilitating philanthropy by high net worth individuals in partnership with Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

#### **Board Chair and Board Member**

### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CORPORATE DIRECTORS (NACD)—NORTHWEST CHAPTER

2013-2015

National organization advancing exemplary leadership and education for directors

#### **Board Member**

- Organized and moderated program on thinking strategically about disruptive technologies
- Organized and moderated program on applicability of Sustainable Development Goals to private sector

### SOCIAL VENTURE PARTNERS

1999-2005

Network of individual donors who leverage their expertise and resources to promote engaged philanthropy

#### **Board Chair and Board Member; Member, Governance and International Committees**

- Led development of board succession plan and creation of SVP International

### FRENCH AMERICAN SCHOOL OF PUGET SOUND

1995-1999

Full-immersion French language school with over 380 students, pre-school-grade 8

#### **Co-Founder; Board Chair; Board Member and President**

- Vision to create school, organized entity and recruited initial board and management

## PREVIOUS WORK/MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

### K&L GATES (FORMERLY PRESTON GATES & ELLIS)

1987-2002

Prominent, full service international law firm

**Partner**

- Lead attorney for M&A transactions, private equity financings, and VC and hedge fund formation
- Executive Committee Member—Responsible for management of firm
- Compensation Committee Member—Responsible for setting partner compensation
- Chair of Business Department—Responsible for managing budget and work of lawyers, plus support staff

**RECENT AWARDS AND RELEVANT ACTIVITIES**

- 2019—Women’s Inc. Influential Board Member Honoree
- 2019—DirectWomen Board Institute—Distinguished Alumni Award
- 2017—Distinguished Alumna Award—University of Nebraska College of Law Alumni Council
- 2015—Recipient of Legal Momentum Annual Women of Achievement Award
- 2015—Recognized as one of Top 10 Most Innovative U.S. Legal Departments by *Inside Counsel*
- 2015—Selected by *General Counsel Powerlist* as one of top 100 in-house Legal Departments in U.S.
- 2014—Harvard Business School Leadership Forum

**EDUCATION**

LL.M., International Business Legal Studies, University of Exeter, England

J.D., University of Nebraska

B.A., Andrews University, Michigan