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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Linda Pawson joins the staff of Poulsbo Historical Society as its first Executive Director. With an MBA from the University of Washington’s Foster School of Business, Pawson brings professional experience from Microsoft, area museum leadership, and as a consultant for both businesses and nonprofits. Originally from Keyport, and graduating from North Kitsap High School in 1980, Pawson is certainly not new to the area. She brings an important local perspective to the Poulsbo Historical Society leadership role.

The position is made possible with funding from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust, which seeks to strengthen the region’s educational, social, spiritual, and cultural base in creative and sustainable ways.

In her role, Pawson will deepen outreach to the community, expand the size and professional development of the museums’ staffs, and establish paths forward for sound economic growth. “I am delighted to join the Poulsbo Historical Society at this important time. As our community grows and expands, so our historical perspectives continue to evolve. History isn’t just yesterday; it’s happening right now. I’m excited to join this organization that will lead new community conversations in collaboration with our long-time partners, and with those new to the Poulsbo and North Kitsap area.

Poulsbo Historical Society provides educational programming, exhibits, and research opportunities in three museums. Two of them, the Maritime Museum and the Heritage Museum, operate on Front Street and are open daily.

“This new position is a sea change for PHS,” noted Board president, Patty Henderson. We have operated for many years with a wonderful volunteer base. We are grateful for these volunteers and hope they continue for many years. With the arrival of our Executive Director, we gain the ability to enhance the scope of our outreach and programming to the community we serve.”

Poulsbo Historical Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, #91-1550524  
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