

# Inaugural Edition!

*WASILC publishes first newsletter*

**By Rob Honan**

Executive Director

Welcome to the very first Washington State Independent Living Council (WASILC) newsletter. It has been a long time coming.

The purpose of the newsletter is basic: to keep you updated on issues relating to the WASILC, Centers for Independent Living, and Independent Living in general in this state and nationally. We want you to know more about the things that affect the lives of people with disabilities in this state

We hope that you take time each quarter to read this newsletter- and to share it with your friends and colleagues. Glad to have you on board!

As a note, this is the first edition and, to be sure, there will be changes as we keep improving! We want to hear from you and from time to time, we will put you on the spot and request that you write an article for us.

## SILC members

Romel Mackelprang, Chair  
*Cheney*

Linda McClain, Vice Chair  
*Spokane*

Devin Beach, *Ellensburg*

Sandra Carr, *Spokane*

Debbie Cook, Ex-Officio (Department of Services for the Blind), *Seattle*

Jana Finkbonner, *Bellingham*

Gilbert Garza, *Toppenish*

Diane Hansen, *Elk*

Al Neely, *Yakima*

Lynnae Ruttledge, Ex-Officio (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation), *Olympia*

Rob Honan, Executive Director

Barbara Hathaway, Executive Assistant

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Sep 10, 2008: State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL) Committee meeting.**

**Location: Hawthorn Suites, 6329 S. 212<sup>th</sup> Street, Kent, WA 98032**

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**SEPTEMBER 19, 2008: IL (INDEPENDENT LIVING) GROUP FOR DEAF, DEAF-BLIND, AND  
HARD OF HEARING CONCERNS:**

**LOCATION: [HEARING SPEECH AND DEAFNESS CENTER. \(HSDC\)](#), 1625 19<sup>TH</sup> AVE, SEATTLE,  
WA 98122**

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**OCTOBER 23-24, 2008: SILC QUARTERLY MEETING, YAKIMA.**

**LOCATION: [SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY CENTER](#), 1211 S. 7<sup>TH</sup> ST, YAKIMA, WA 98901**

**CALL 360-725-3695 (V) OR 360-725-3693 (TTY) FOR MORE INFORMATION  
OR EMAIL STAFF MEMBERS:**

**[ROB HONAN](#) OR [BARBARA HATHAWAY](#) (EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT)**

## **SILC Position Papers**

The SILC recently authored and approved [eight position papers](#) concerning issues important to the disability community. We hope that you take the time to read them and make comments. The topics are:

- Housing
- Transportation
- 24-Month Waiting period for SSDI recipients receiving Medicare
- Elections and Voting
- Position on Veteran's Returning from the Middle East
- Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers
- Long-Term Care
- Transition for Students with disabilities