

Candidate Statement

Please email this statement to SSSC_Election@armaninoLLP.com by midnight Pacific Time on Friday, August 26, 2022. Please include a recent photo of yourself to be displayed to voters.

Instructions

1. Please respond to each question individually in the boxes provided.
2. Please answer each individual question. A general narrative/essay/story/letter will not be accepted.
3. Armanino will review your statement. If your statement is found to contain incomplete and/or inappropriate content, you will be asked to remove, revise, or update the content. "Inappropriate content" includes, but is not limited to, derogatory and/or inflammatory statements.
4. Several of the questions are identical to those asked of Candidates in previous elections. If you also submitted a statement in a different election, it is permissible to reuse your previous answers to those particular questions.

Personal Information

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| Name: | Hari Charn Kaur Khalsa |
| City & State/Country: | Espanola, New Mexico USA |
| Email: | haricharn@gmail.com |
| Name of Spouse: | N/A |
| Occupation: | Executive at KRI – Professional Development and Outreach |
| Length of Participation in 3HO/Sikh Dharma: | 47 years |
| Length of time as an Ordained Minister of Sikh Dharma: | Approximately 40 years |
| Are you a KRI certified teacher or trainer? If so, what is your certification level and when did you acquire your certification? | Yes I am certified in Level One, Level Two and Level Three. I am a Level One and Level Two Lead Trainer |

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| Ashram Communities lived in: | Boston (Dorchester), Tucson, Espanola |
| 3HO/Sikh Dharma Community Positions: | <p>I was the Program Director for 3HO SuperHealth for 12 years; I served in the Community Development Office of the Dharma for one year; I worked for Akal Security for 2 plus years in Human Resources and Compliance review; I worked for 3HO Events establishing the Events office and serving Solstice, Women's Camp, and the Master's Touch (first Level One Training by 3HO taught by Yogi Bhajan); I worked for IKYTA coordinating Teacher Training; I have worked for KRI for 22 years currently Director of Outreach and Trainer Professional Development; I serve on the Human Rights Commission; the KRI DEI committee; CRP Yogic Advisory Committee; liason for KRI to IKYTA and the National Associations</p> <p>My Sangat Seva has been lovingly extensive in all of the communities that I have lived in –</p> <p>Coordinator of KY Teacher local satellite in Espanola: Member of Sangat Administrative Council both in Tucson and in Espanola, Founder and Member of Hearts and Hands – service to sangat members, Previous Board member for Guru Ram Das Center for Medicine and Humanology and Miri Piri Academy</p> |

Questionnaire

1. Why do you feel called to serve on the SSSC Board?

I have worked to build and sustain community through my whole Dharmic experience and before. In fact I created my own major in college – Community Education at Boston University. I believe we are more conscious and stronger together and that we can be together with strong differences. I have trained myself in community development and in individual and group communication skills- with lots more to learn. Through over 12 years of traveling the globe to meet with our beautiful diverse Sangat, I have established relationships that I believe will support our process in moving forward. I believe in Kundalini Yoga and my devotion is to the Shabd Guru and can share this with love.

2. What relevant areas of experience and expertise qualify you for this position and will make you an asset to the board?

- I have non-profit board experience
- I have experience in Policy development and delivery
- I come with working and personal experience of multiple Dharmic profit and non profit organizations
- Having worked for both KRI and for 3HO I bring this experience to the SSSC Board

3. Please summarize your prior and current service to the Dharma. If you have served in leadership positions please note them.

I have prior experience both as a licensed counselor and educator that has served me well in my different positions in the Dharma.
I became a certified Kundalini Yoga Teacher in 1988 and have taught Kundalini Yoga since 1980.
I have served the Dharma both as an employee and as a Sangat sevadar since 1978.
I served on the Board of Directors of the Guru Ram Das Center of Medicine for over 10 years, of Hacienda de Guru Ram Das for approximately 8 years, and for Miri Piri Academy for 14 years.

I have worked for KRI for over 22 years in many different positions serving on the Executive of KRI. I currently work with the KRI Management team.

4. Please describe your experience of the Siri Singh Sahib as a teacher and your experience of his teachings.

The Siri Singh Sahib is my spiritual teacher. The teachings of Kundalini Yoga and Sikh Dharma and bringing them to the world have been and are the focus of my life. I have dedicated my life to supporting community and the development of quality Teachers and Trainers around the Globe. As I have traveled I have also worked with Ministers

5. Please describe what the Siri Singh Sahib's saying means to you: "If you cannot see God in all, you cannot see God at all." In practical terms:

- a) How would you apply this saying in your day to day service on the board?
- b) How would apply this perspective to help our community and organizations

move forward together?

Seeing the soul of the other person and through Sadhana and daily practice being able to not just listen but hear the other person is critical for the future of our community and our organization.. All is God and God is all. This is easy to say but it takes practice and discipline to live day to day. It is such a human need to respond and react. I have worked to live this in my global community work for many years, to continually look at myself and remove the lens of judgements when I see someone as other.

To serve on the Sangat is a privilege and a duty bestowed by God and Guru Ram Das through the Sangat. It is a discipline and constant practice to quiet the mind, keep the heart open to fellow board members when opinions are so polarized. What is the best for the whole, not for my opinion.

6. What do you understand the Role of the SSSC to be? How do you see the SSSC carrying out that role on a:

- a) Practical level
- b) Spiritual level

On a practical level it is to serve the Organizations that serve the Sangat that serve humanity. To have an overview of all of the organizations and work for the prosperity and good of all of them and to trust the individual Organizations to do their work. To understand and stand under the works of the Non-profit and profit organizations. On a Spiritual Level it is to be conscious

7. As an SSSC Trustee you are accountable to the Sangat.

- a) How would you build and enhance the relationship between the Sangat and the SSSC?
- b) The SSSC is part of a close knit community. Given that board members are likely to have strong connections to that community, explain how you will be able to adhere to the SSSC confidentiality policies that apply to board members?

I am in a unique position of being very interwoven into the Global Community. I believe that transparency and Inclusion are critical. It is important for the SSSC to

come into understanding of how much members of the Global community care to be involved. Since I am not yet on the SSSC I need more information of how to include the voices and the needs of the global community. I have an interest of hearing what representation on the Board would look like

As a licensed counselor I understand confidentiality and have no issue with keeping confidence.

8. The SSSC strives to practice diversity, equity, and inclusion.

- a) What experience do you have incorporating these practices into your personal and professional life?
- b) How would you incorporate them into our Organizations?
- c) How will you advance the organizational goals of diversity, equity and inclusion?

In 2010 I worked to establish the original Diversity and Inclusion committee of KRI that quickly became a sovereign advisory committee. KRI now has a DEI committee that I serve on. KRI is continually working towards a goal that the make up on our staff, our Board, and our Trainer Academy are diverse- so that we represent the communities that we serve. For the teachings of Kundalini Yoga to serve the world it is important that our leadership and our teachers are trusted by those we serve and Diversity and Equity are critical to establish this trust. I will work with the other Board members to explore through discussion and action how the SSSC can build this trust.

9. How do you see the 3HO/Sikh Dharma family of Nonprofit and For-profit organizations serving humanity in these times?

- a) What do you see as the three (3) greatest challenges facing the Sikh Dharma/3HO Community and the family of For-profit and Nonprofit entities?
- b) What would you do as a Trustee to overcome these challenges?
- c) What skills, tools, and techniques will you bring to the SSSC Board of Trustees to help it move toward the vision you described above?

The fracture and polarity in local and global sangat is the greatest challenge that I see at this time. As a result of this polarization caused by the reports of harm there have been numerous secondary harms – Multiple Kundalini Yoga teachers and trainers

making the decision to stop teaching; long time Sangat members moving away and distancing themselves from the community; Second generation members feeling isolated and often distancing themselves from their families.

In moving forward I feel it is important that first the Trustees overcome the internal challenges of difference of opinion and experience. The perceived fracture in the SSSC is felt globally and needs to be addressed to allow us to build trust in our service. As a trustee I would be committed to working with everyone with respect and honoring.

As a trustee I will continue to deeply listen to all voices, all points of view, all experiences and to honor all. Our differences do not need to divide us. I believe by centering the teachings of Kundalini Yoga and Shabd Guru we can find an inclusive road forward. I do not expect for there to be agreement on Yogi Bajan and what he did and didn't do. I believe we can unite with our differences and that they will make us better.

10. Board service regularly requires 20 to 40 hours per month (or more) in evening and weekend board and committee meetings. These meetings are generally held at 8:00 pm Eastern time (20:00 hours). In addition, there may be multiple Face-to-Face meetings per year.

- a. Can you fulfill these requirements?
- b. If so, how will you balance these requirements with your other personal and professional responsibilities?
- c. What do you anticipate being the most difficult part of serving as a Trustee on the SSSC Board?

Yes I can fulfill these requirements.

My professional responsibilities with KRI allow flexibility in my working hours. Both my CEO and the KRI Board are in support of my desire to serve on the SSSC

11. Are you related by blood or marriage to an officer, director, employee, or paid contractor of any of the constituent organizations (nonprofit or for-profit) including all subsidiaries?

- a. If yes, to whom are you related, how are you related to them, and what is their position?

No

