



Snohomish Health District reclamation

WHEREAS, Dr. Christopher Spitters received his doctorate degree in public health and general preventative medicine from Stanford University School of Medicine and completed residency training in general preventive medicine and public health at Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene & Public Health; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spitters dedicated nearly 40 years of service to the medical field and the public health profession at organizations including Public Health Seattle King County, Washington State Department of Health, Yakima Health District, and the Snohomish Health; and

WHEREAS, in 1994 Dr. Spitters joined the Snohomish Health District as its Deputy Health Officer, and since that time has provided a steady hand and exceptional expertise through many difficult and emerging public health challenges, such as disease outbreaks, an opioid crisis, and the establishment of public health as an emergency responder to new and emerging threats such as pandemics and bioterrorism; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spitters has also served as the District's physician for tuberculosis control since 2001 and has served as the District's health officer since June 2019; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spitters has provided a steady and reassuring voice advocating for public health throughout his career, and has served as the County's lead public health official with grace, compassion, and a commitment to the health and safety of the community; and

WHEREAS, in January 2020, Snohomish County saw the first confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the nation, thrusting the county and Health District into the national spotlight; and

WHEREAS, since that time, Dr. Spitters' calm and steadfast leadership and many media engagements to inform the public has guided the residents of Snohomish County through the pandemic and has been critical to the success of the County's COVID response; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spitters was named the 2020 Person of Year by the Lynnwood Times for his integral role in keeping Snohomish County residents safe throughout the coronavirus pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Spitters' wisdom, deep public health experience locally and regionally, and extraordinary patience will be sorely missed; and

WHEREAS, after a long and distinguished career, Dr. Spitters is ready to move on to a new chapter in life and enjoy some well-deserved relaxation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Snohomish Health District Board of Health recognizes Christopher Spitters for his dedicated service to the Snohomish Health District and thanks him for his professionalism, commitment, integrity, and dedication to public health.

ADOPTED this 14th day of June 2022

Stephanie Wright, Chair, Board of Health

