

Erin Black, Museum Director for the Kittitas County Historical Museum, has announced her resignation from the Museum. She has been named as the new Executive Director of the Yakima YWCA and will assume that position on June 1st. Erin's eight years as Museum Director have shown her to be a gift to Ellensburg, Kittitas County and Washington State as an advocate and champion for collecting and preserving the history of our county and region. The Museum's Board of Directors sadly accepted Erin's resignation, but are thrilled for her and know she will do an outstanding job in her new position.

When Erin began at KCHM, she was a one-woman show. She was the curator, programming coordinator, education leader, and receptionist. No matter the task at hand, Erin always welcomed people into the Museum and has helped countless people with archiving family artifacts, coordinating the Regional National History Day competition, leading school groups through the Museum and fostering collaboration with other local nonprofits.

"It's a sad day for us, but we are proud of Erin and her many accomplishments," stated Curtis Bull, President of the Board of Directors. The Board has established a Search Committee and will be gathering applications until early May and work to find a dynamic individual to lead the Museum as it moves forward. Board member Jeanette Williams told Erin at Monday's special board meeting, "You are irreplaceable and it will be a challenge for the board to find someone to fill your shoes." Ellensburg's loss will be Yakima's gain, but since KCHM is so near and dear to Erin's heart, it won't surprise anyone to see her at events and volunteering her time in what has been her home away from home.