

May 6, 2016

Dear Members,

Never is there a good or perfect time to announce news of change especially when I desire for this information to be given personally to each of you individually to honor your trust and investment in the Chamber. I find myself at one of those forks in the road of life where a decision must be made, the issue is weighed and measured with care, and a path is chosen. In such a process I have tendered my notice of resignation to the Board of the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce effective in the next couple months and my last day will be determined by the Board of Directors.

I'm excited for the future and how it will support my family, but we are equally sad to say goodbye to McMinnville and the many friends we've made here. While I was not looking for another opportunity one came and sought me out which, in my mind, is always the best scenario to have. I find that the decision was very difficult because of the great community we are in and the support of our Chamber members which has made this such a welcoming place.

The Chamber, under the leadership of your elected Board, has made some great and impressive changes for the better. Currently the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce has a strong and engaged membership with community support and a bright future. I am positive that the Board will continue to lead and direct this organization well and that the next leader chosen as President/CEO guide the Chamber forward successfully.

Please remember that a Chamber of Commerce is not the head of the organization, not one person specifically at any given time, but instead it is the cumulative support of the whole that give the Chamber its authority and power in the community. The programs, information, and growth that you have found valuable and useful will not stop because of my transition. Those efforts were cumulative in nature ensure that they would maintain at any given time of unexpected change. I believe that there is a strong sense of purpose in the McMinnville Area Chamber of Commerce.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to make a mark in such a wonderful organization, for trusting my leadership, and your encouragement every step of the way. As I move from employee to supporter and fan I am excited for what is next in this amazing community.

All my best,

Nathan Knottingham

503.949.7517 cell

[nknottingham@mcminnville.org](mailto:nknottingham@mcminnville.org)

P.S. A letter such as this doesn't really answer many of the questions that it creates. For phone calls please call my cell (listed above) and I will return the call as soon as possible. I have also written more background about this journey on my personal site at [www.nathanknottingham.org](http://www.nathanknottingham.org) and am available for phone calls and emails. I will be leaving on a pre-scheduled trip from May 11 – 19, but will be quick to respond on my return. Also, if you should want to contact me any time in the future my personal cell is 503.949.7517 and email [nate.knottingham@gmail.com](mailto:nate.knottingham@gmail.com). I have the opportunity in this transition to continue pursuing my public speaking, passion for leadership development, and strategic facilitation. If I can ever help you in the future, please feel free to reach out.