



Candidate Name: Shonda Colleen Kelley
Campaign Manager's Name:
Phone Number(s):

2012 Candidate Questionnaire: Mayoral, Primary

ABOUT US:

What is The Mother PAC?

We are mothers. Oregon mothers. Who came together in 2010 because we envision a better Oregon with strong, pro-family public policies. And we're fighting for it. Because we know from experience how dated and inadequate our current system is for families – especially for mothers.

What does The Mother PAC do?

Our goal is to build an Oregon where today's families can thrive. To do this, we need more pro-family elected officials. So we're pooling our resources to elect key pro-family candidates who will champion the strong, family-friendly public policies Oregon families need.

ABOUT YOU:

1) Child Care:

Parents across the city are experiencing a shortage of child care, with 2-year long waiting lists in some cases. What exists, often, doesn't adequately meet the needs of working parents. Parents tell us they pay too large a percentage of their wages on child care and that they can't find child care that is conveniently located to their workplace. This also impacts employers, who benefit when employees are focused on work, rather than juggling child care issues.

Parents across the city need accessible, strategically-located, affordable, and high-quality child care. What can you do to make sure Portland makes child care a priority? (unlimited response allowed)

I know this has always been an issue. I was raised by a single mother in the 1980's, and she had us in childcare half days and head start the other half.

They are really expensive, the child care costs, I know some people work five days a week and pay two days salary to childcare. I know parents could better benefit from working half days with welfare benefits, especially with time for their school children.

I can look into developing self-sustaining child care facilities. Ones that work at a low-profit margin, but afford the facility, up keep, employees, and a small fund for emergencies. I know some working families will need income inspired rates, and others will function at a flat fee. I am interested in this. I will do what I can to locate lands, and businesses that are city owned or ran down. I want to clean up the city and all old lots and abandoned buildings, and at least make small sitting parks or apple orchards for school apple machines. I will consider child care facilities, as well. Let us see if we can



make city owned child care, it may distress the private sector, but we must first think of the overall community.

I will:

- A. See how many employed/unemployed child care workers are in the city and where they are located close to home, so working parents can find childcare close to home or work*
- B. Look into the numbers of how many people graduate and need work every year*
- C. Cross reference the above with child care sites and possible child care sites in and around the city*
- D. See about making child care sites around the city, city owned and reasonable rated or encouraging private sector with these demographic statistics if the city cannot find the startup monies. I think it would be generationally profitable to find the money, though.*

Many people go into the early education skills trade, and I know it used to be a demanded job. I don't know why it is difficult other than costs and location. If I do win the election I will look into city owned child care systems. They will not come for free, but I can probably lessen costs if I work on it. I will look you up for help, and make sure to look me up, too; if I win this election, look me up.

2) Earned Sick Time:

40% of all private-sector workers in Oregon and 80% of low-income workers lack access to a single paid sick day from their job. These workers don't have PTO, vacation or another source of time off. They literally lack a single paid day to recover from illness, seek medical care, or stay home with a sick child.

Employees who lack earned sick time are concentrated in restaurants, retail, child care and home health care – also people who also have regular and ongoing contact with the general public, which means their lack of access to sick time should be a public health concern.

Our neighbors to the north and south (Seattle and San Francisco) have both recently passed ordinances that require employers to let employees accrue earned sick time so ALL workers can recover from illness or take care of sick kids without losing critical income – or their jobs.

Do you support this? Yes No (check one)

And what would you do to make Portland next? (unlimited response allowed)

I thought paid time off was a part of minimum wage and benefits regulations unless there are less than a dozen employees, maybe this is just for family wage ~ as I heard it called this month. I have always needed the personal day a month, at least eight months a year, I don't know that my mother ever missed work for herself, but seemed to always need three-half days a month off. The last time I



took a day off, I was in school and had just finished a test, the month and a half were horrible, and I was crying when I came home. Every day I was crying, from pressure and pain, I didn't understand the airs around me or of the people. I stayed home and slept in, then baked a double layer chocolate cake and danced around in my underwear. This experience let me continue the rest of the quarter. When I was feeling lag, just the memory kept me up.

I agree with the laws in Seattle and San Francisco. I don't know why this is not a part of the law that we as students and workers be allowed respective/paid sick days and they accumulate during the year to be added to the vacation days or roll over for the following year. I can work on legislation and law (city/state/federal) in this area.

3) Air Quality:

We want Portland's economy to get back to work, but believe that dumping 1.7 million pounds of air toxics into the air our children breathe shouldn't be the price we pay to do it.

Here is the problem: Without meaningful efforts to limit toxic emissions from industrial sources, even in one of the greenest cities in America, the air pollution rises when the economy does. That meant almost 10% more pollution in 2010 than 2009. And there is no foreseeable limit, since many of the biggest polluters are playing by rules established almost 50 years ago - rules that don't fully consider the health impacts of pollution such as asthma and cancer. These legal, but toxic emissions, mean the air at 35 Portland schools is ranked among the worst 5% in the nation due to exposure to industrial air pollution - and that **does not** include vehicle pollution. Not one single Portland school ranks better than the bottom 30% of schools in the nation.

We know that the state plays an important role in air quality regulation, but the city can't just blame the state or hope it'll do something.

What will you do to help reduce industrial air emissions in the city? (unlimited response allowed)

Last I read Portland, Oregon ranked number three in the Nation for green cities. I want to keep or improve that spot. I am not thinking about the budget, but I am thinking of the itinerary when I am considering what we need for a rich and green environment. I want to include more green energy and improve the green energy standards on all new buildings, and even old businesses. I want to see more windmills, and solar paneling. I would also like to see off shore electric generators under bridges on the Willamette and Columbia Rivers. I want to begin enforcing compost at all homes and apartment complexes, I currently cannot get compost at my apartment. I know ninety percent of my waste in the trash is compostable and ten percent is plastic bags. I would like to see plastic bags recycled. I want to begin city owned recycled goods production. I believe we could use the jobs and the capital gain to care for the city. I also want to see about all new school busses being solar



supported and possibly seeing if we could get solar support systems for the school busses around the Nation. I know the federal government owns GMC, so I will look into obtaining support from them, they should no longer make vehicles that are not up to date green (they are the better looking vehicles).

AUDIENCE QUESTIONS:

4) School Funding and Equity:

We know the Mayor doesn't have direct control over the city's schools, yet the educational outcomes of our students and the quality of our public schools have a direct impact on livability, city services, crime rates, property values and a host of other very relevant city concerns -- that affect *all* residents. What will you do to work with the 6 Portland school boards to ensure that our kids are receiving an equitable, top-notch education from safe, stably-funded schools?

I have a few ideas for schools. I want for all schools around the world to be safe and healthy, up to date but still grounded in the most important of foundations and fundamentals. I need this to live a long and healthy life in a community that consists of other people, so they need to be well educated and well treating.

For the city I want to begin recycled materials production. The production includes recycling old clothes into new cloth and school uniforms that will be sold on a scale for low-income homes; similar standards as school lunches. I hope this will help the students as well as build jobs for the community and help the environment by reducing waste and shipping waste and pollutions associated with not recycling old clothes. I also hope to begin a vegan meats production plant for school lunches; I want to encourage healthy and safe lifestyles. Another thing I want to do is build coffee house book club bookstores that sell at or near cost paper-back book club books that I will read to support literacy on the television for half an hour at around 4:30pm/7pm. There will be an airing for Saturday and Sunday matinee with meal at a local old theater to catch up with the week to last 2.5 hours of good child care for those with a filled out form of emergency contact information at the theater. I also want to use the theater to encourage movies for humanities. I will try to support and commission movie and shorts projects from all over the City. Sometimes in competition form, but always open to all.

I don't know how much money will be made or everything of what it will support, but I know it will offer: life and education, support jobs and parks and the businesses they are themselves (self-sufficiency), and the City which is said to be short on money ~ always. I hope to bring a portion of the profits, if there are enough, to support wind/solar/hydro electricity production around the city or this can be supported with other recycled goods production (plastics, metals, and wood).



5) School and Work Gap:

Our kids' school schedules and parents' work demands are clearly out of sync in today's economy: while our school-aged children have almost 18 weeks (4 ½ months) off a year, very few working parents have any where near that much vacation time. This creates added stress on already tight family budgets and also contributes to other problems when so many kids are unsupervised for long stretches of time. What can the city do to help fill this gap, which also has significant and well-known educational downsides for children - especially in low-income families?

Are there not enough after school programs, like boys and girls clubs? I was an unsupervised child from grade school until graduation, and I wished for help with my homework, but would find my mother tired, and not worth a bother. I wish my mother could have worked a nine-to-two schedule, and been around the house more. I know some families are single income, and I would encourage a half time schedule and welfare supplement if I could. Otherwise, for combined income families, I would encourage at least one parent take to a functional with school hours' schedule. Time is priceless, and children grow up quickly; a pay period takes forever, but years go by like nothing. I believe I could do more as the President, or the creator of our society/country. As of yet I cannot ask for a living family wages expected for parents who have children and choose part time work. I have to say it could be worked with in reason, if a young worker worked ¾ to full time and was expected to set up home and partner before child birth, but more than half of weddings since the twenties have been with the bride being pregnant. Some people suffer from an 'in a hurry to retire' lifestyle/ 'we better work overtime' drive, even with children.

I will support all reasonable in progress and new developments of after school programs that include but don't mandate homework help, book clubs, and sports programming; places that allow safe social behavior of children. I will write/co-write grants, and help access funds available for them. I will also write to the public for support, and I can try to offer help otherwise; as far as I have resources available.

6) Equity for Families

What do you think the city's role should be in addressing disparities in health, income, education, and access to services that families experience in Portland?

What does equity mean to you with regard to Portland families?

I heard somewhere, when there is an outbreak of crime or disease/illness somewhere of three similar/same conditions, a doctor or judge should take the state of the community into consideration. Three similar occasions could be the beginning of an outbreak of civil unrest, which



hurts health and law. These could contribute to the educational system or individual problems and service related issues. I always want to be open to discuss and address any and all issues that fall under this scenario; be they problem of mind, body, or spirit. I want to know, so a socially/legally unacceptable outbreak of behavior does not become socially expected. I know a lot of these legal & medical issues begin from psychological-spiritual behaviors and there is not yet well-defined law to govern such experiences or communication. I will be accessible through e-mail to schedule an appointment to meet and after time through the equity office, I will be made aware of concerns. During times of war we need equity of home, body, mind, spirit, community, and respect as ourselves. (problems can include but are not limited to : neighbors demanding too much airs and spiritual space, drug addicts ~ from even out of town hurting health [pain and bother are signs], television or pictures over-reacting and making unnecessary contact with people, most ailments and crime, and mental/psychological harassment/threats/trespassing)

When Portlanders have equity in their city, they take a healthy amount of pride in living here; pride combined with trust. There is a large amount of pride in 'The Great Northwest', a progressive/green city, where children can grow and are supported to do so. "Fresh air, fresh air a plenty." I am not yet a mother of children, and I have found that I don't know if it is safe enough for my standard of raising children. I am not even married, but for the last few years I have been wondering if I should wait until the War is over, before I have children. I am still receiving war pressure. Equity cannot be fully filled when people feel unsafe; I don't want to say "I own it, but I may have to leave it/shut in because it is dangerous."

7) Pesticides in Parks

If the parks in Portland are so important for children, why do we spray pesticides all over them?

I do not know why we use pesticides in parks. I know there are pesticide alternatives, and I will make it so we use only the alternatives. I know there are pesticides for roses being infested with aphids, but good soapy water works well in removing the infestations, too. I will not allow the use of pesticides anymore, we need healthier alternatives, especially if we are going to grow apples for school apple machines.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Please email your completed questionnaire – saved with your name in the document name – to andrea@motherpac.org.