

From: [T. Wayne Furr](#)
To: [Buto, Arthur J](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CoGNA needs your vote
Date: Monday, November 8, 2021 3:37:56 AM
Attachments: [Christine Johnson is the Executive Secretary of the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names.docx](#)

Dear Mr. Buto:

The covid pandemic forced the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (CoGNA) to cancel the 2020 and 2021 conferences where we traditionally hold elections during the annual business meeting. Nonetheless, as your State's Geographic Names Authority, you are a member of CoGNA and a voting member at our business meeting or for emergency elections.

In February 2021, we held an informal meeting of the Executive Committee to discuss CoGNA's future. At that meeting, I announced that after 25-years of service to CoGNA, I would like to retire June 30, 2021. At the time we did not have a candidate to take over the Executive Secretary duties. We now have a candidate; Dr. Christine Johnson, of the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names has self-nominated for the position. With approval of the Executive Committee, I am calling for an emergency election to do the following:

Acknowledge my retirement, to become effective after the 2021 IRS 990-N tax report is filed;

Elect Christine Johnson as the new Executive Secretary; the transfer of some duties and documents will follow an affirmative vote, with the remainder to happen at the time of my official retirement.

According to CoGNA's Constitution and Bylaws (available on the website under "Founding Documents"), these actions can occur via an emergency business meeting, conducted by email, with at least 20% of the states casting votes. Therefore, **we need your vote to make this official**. Please send your yes or no vote to items 1 and 2 above to twfurr@cogna50usa.org by November 19, 2021.

Christine Johnson's Bio is attached. If you need more information you can e-mail me

Wayne

T. Wayne Furr, Executive Secretary, Emeritus
Council of Geographic Names Authorities
twfurr@cogna50usa.org
Web site: cogna50usa.org
Cellular Phone: 405-830-9848

Christine Johnson is the Executive Secretary of the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names, and has served in this position for eight years and on the board as a voting member for two additional years. She is passionate about toponyms, and works to engage the public in the process of naming places. She attended her first CoGNA conference in Anchorage, AK, 2015 and hosted the conference in Reno, NV the following year. Since her first conference, she has been a staunch supporter of the organization.

She holds a PhD in Geography, supported by a Masters in Cultural Anthropology and teaches at the University of Nevada Reno in both the departments of anthropology and geography. Her most recent publication is in *Explorations in Place Attachment* (2018).

Christine has also worked in the Museum field for more than a decade, and is presently the Executive Director at the Sparks Heritage Museum in Sparks, Nevada. She serves on the Nevada Museums Association, loves her State and hopes to help other people love it as much as she does.