**Amii Barnard-Bahn, Coaching and Consulting**

Amii Barnard-Bahn, JD is an executive coach and advisor who specializes in accelerating the success of corporate legal and compliance executives and their teams. A former Chief Compliance & Ethics Officer of $90B McKesson USPharmaceutical, Amii is a Fellow at the Harvard Institute of Coaching and now advises leadership at Adobe, Bank of the West, Lyft, and The Gap.

A lifelong diversity advocate, Amii recently testified in multiple legislative committees on the successful passage of CA SB826, the first law in the U.S. requiring corporate boards to include women. Amii earned her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center and her Bachelor of Arts from Tufts University.

Barnard-Bahn is an expert in leadership, organizational culture, board governance, and business ethics; she publishes and speaks on these topics nationally. For helpful insights and actionable tips on accelerating your career, sign up for Amii's bi-monthly newsletter at bit.ly/amiibbnews

**Representative Debra Lekanoff**

Representative Lekanoff has served her entire 21 years of employment as a government servant to citizens. She served as the Swinomish Governmental Affairs Director for the past 16 years and for six years she served as Chair of an Alaska Native Village Corporation. In the WA state legislature Representative Lekanoff now serve as Vice-chair of the energy and environment committee, a member of the capital budget and rural development, agricultural and natural resources committees.

Representative Lekanoff’s career has provided the opportunity to engage on vast issues and layers of government at international, federal, state, and tribal levels and to work towards a shared vision of clean water for families, fish, and wildlife. As a state representative, she works to protect natural resources, provide a high-quality education for children, and to strengthen financial support and stability for communities.

**Craig Bill, Governor’s Office of Indian Affairs Director**

Craig A. Bill was appointed Director of the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs (GOIA) by Governor Gregoire in July 2005 and was re-appointed by Governor Jay Inslee in March 2013. As the Director of the GOIA, he serves as an advisor on tribal issues and liaison between the State of Washington and Indian Tribes and tribal organizations for the Governor’s Office. The GOIA is also responsible for promoting the government to government principles outlined with the 1989 Centennial Accord signed between the State and Tribes.

Prior to his appointment at the GOIA, Craig was the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs and Advisor to the Tribal Chairman for the Lummi Nation tribal government located in Bellingham, WA. He is a graduate of Central Washington University with a B.A. degree and double major in Political Science and Social Science. While at Central, Craig was a 4-year letter winner in football and member of the 1995 NAIA National Championship team. Craig is an enrolled member of the Swinomish Tribe and descendent of the Colville Confederated Tribes and Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma.

**Kela Hall, KD Hall Communications LLC**

Kela co-founded KD Hall Communications in 2013 and has since been extremely impactful across corporate and government sectors. As a result, Kela and the KD Hall team have been invited to the White House, received 10 proclamations, and successfully guided 24 students through an internship for the Inauguration of Women on the Rise: Season 1 and Women on the Rise Season 2 as well as 2 Women’s History Month conferences.

Women on the Rise addresses equity for women, which is a very important cause to Kela and KD Hall Communications. She has a raging futuristic old school vibe that distinguishes her from the rest. As Kela continues to grow with KD Hall, she also hopes to increase the reach of the company. Goals of global growth, college partnerships, and educational facilities are only the beginning for this old school ambitious millennial leader.

**Panel Moderator - LUC Jasmine, Owner of Parkview Early Learning Center**

Luc Jasmin III is the owner of Parkview Early Learning Center in Spokane County. Luc first began his career working in the public school system and transitioned to early childhood education: working his way up from a teacher to assistant director and then, in 2014, an owner when Luc purchased Parkview in North Spokane. Growing up a first generation Haitian-American has really propelled Luc to understand and focus on, among other factors: equity, racial bias, and cultural differences. Luc’s fundamental goal is to help create a solid foundation in which all children can be successful; regardless of their parents, racial background, religious affiliation, economic standing or any other unnecessary obstacle. Luc Jasmine also believes in protecting small businesses by mitigating the economic strain we face on a regular basis.

**Panelist - EMILY RUCHERT, Owner of The LEEP Center**

Emily Ruchert is the owner of a licensed childcare center in rural Washington. Her journey to becoming a provider began with the frustrations faced by many families in the state. As a fulltime employee of the United States Department of Agriculture, Emily struggled to find reliable affordable childcare in her town. By the time her oldest son turned five, he had been to five different care providers. Emily realized that though they meant well, licensed providers couldn’t figure out how to be successful financially, and the unlicensed providers were in legal battles with the state. Through extensive research and innovative and creative entrepreneurship, Emily and her partner Danyle (dan-yell) Thomas opened The LEEP Center in Pomeroy, Washington in May 2008. Currently 40 children are enrolled.

Emily is passionate about her community and loves the small-town life. After high school, she fell in love with Eastern WA and moved to Pullman where she attended WSU. Her studies of Animal Science, Agricultural Economics and English were chosen specifically to prepare her to find a job in rural Washington. After graduation, she moved to Pomeroy and started her family. Over the years, Emily has leaned on her own mother for inspiration. Says Emily: “My Mom never took a hand out. She accepted help when offered, but never worked the system or felt the world needed to take care of her because she was a single mom of two girls. She put herself through a master’s degree program in Social Work (UW) and worked full time. It is from her that I learned the power of people who are willing to make something out of nothing.”

**Panelist - KRISTINE REEVES, Representative 30th Legislative District**

Kristine Reeves is a working mom who understands the balance between working hard to succeed and raising a family. That’s why she is a strong advocate for working families, raising the middle class, and providing opportunities for those who sacrifice for their communities. Since she was elected to the Legislature in 2016, Kristine has fought tirelessly for affordable and accessible childcare for all families in Washington State.

A Moses Lake native, Kristine received her bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Washington State University and went on to pursue a master’s degree in Organizational Leadership at Gonzaga University. Currently, Kristine is the Director of Economic Development for the Military and Defense sector for the state of Washington. She lives with her husband and two children in Federal Way.

**Panelist - STEVE TAMMARO, President/CEO YMCA Northwest Inlet**

Steve Tammaro is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the YMCA of the Inland Northwest in Spokane WA. He has worked for the YMCA movement for forty-plus years having begun his career on the front lines of the YMCA as a summer day camp counselor and member service staff person. Over that time, he has held leadership positions in YMCA’s across the country including the YMCA of Greater Boston, YMCA of Greater Rochester (NY), YMCA of Middle Tennessee (Nashville) and the YMCA of Metropolitan Denver.

In addition, he chairs the Washington State Alliance of YMCA’s and recently served as the board liaison for the partner agencies of the Spokane County United Way. He and his wife Margaret live in Spokane and have three children, Emma, Bartlett and Sarah.

**Panelist - ANDY BILLIG, Senator 3rd Legislative District**

Andy Billig is a proud father, businessperson and member of the Spokane community. He was elected to the state Senate by from the 3rd Legislative District in 2012 and 2016. He was elected Majority Leader by Senate Democrats in 2018.

In addition to serving as the Senate Majority Leader, Andy is a member of the Ways & Means, Environment, Energy & Technology, and Rules committee. His work in the legislature spans from campaign finance reform and transportation to education. Throughout his career, he has been a tireless advocate for high-quality early learning, and has received the 2016 and 2014 Golden Crayon Award from the Early Learning Action Alliance as well as multiple “Champion for Children” awards from several children’s advocacy organizations.

In addition to his work in the Legislature, Andy is an award-winning business executive, part owner and former general manager/president of the Spokane Indians Baseball Club and committed community volunteer. He has previously served as a Big Brother, youth sports coach, and as a volunteer in several capacities with Greater Spokane Incorporated. He also served on the board of directors for the YMCA of the Inland Northwest and on the City of Spokane Human Services Advisory Board. Andy is currently a board member for SNAP (Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners).

**Lisa Brown, Ph.D., Department of Commerce Director**

Lisa J. Brown, Ph.D., was appointed Commerce director by Gov. Inslee and began serving the agency in February of 2019. Prior to serving as Commerce director, she served as chancellor of Washington State University, where she led the health science campus in Spokane.

Lisa served in the Washington State Legislature from 1996 – 2013 in the Senate where she was majority leader and chaired the Rules Committee, Ways and Means Committee, and Energy, Technology and Telecommunications Committee. She served in the state House of Representatives from 1993 – 1996, where she was minority whip and minority floor leader. She has worked extensively on economic development in Eastern Washington and on gender equity.

Prior to state office, she was an associate professor of economics at Eastern Washington University and an associate professor of leadership at Gonzaga University. Lisa earned her bachelor’s degree in economics at the University of Illinois and her master’s and doctoral degrees in economics from the University of Colorado in Boulder.