Tuesday February 18 at 6pm
Orcas Island Library Graves Reading Area

Orcas Island: Building a More Inclusive Paradise

Presented by Kevin Carter, President, Inclusion Innovates & Principal Strategist, The Winters Group

Orcas Island is this perfect backdrop for creating and living your best life, but for some, there is an undercurrent of intolerance and, in some cases, blatant racism. What will you do to nurture your oasis?

Most of the articles about Orcas Island glow as they entice us with titles like: “Why Washington’s Orcas Island Should Be Your Next Family Getaway,” and “This Island in Washington State Will Make You Feel Like a Multimillionaire.” These articles outline the charms and the beauty of Orcas Island—“magical scenery, community, and cuisine that make you feel like Oprah.” The New York Times travel editors identified Orcas Island as one of its top 52 places to visit in 2019 “for its impressive tide-to-table culinary scene and experimental wines.”

This presentation takes a different perspective. Our concern is the culture of inclusion and care of our full-time community. We reflect on Orcas Island considering its African American, Latino, and Bi-Racial residents and request your comments and suggestions for positive next steps. Our purpose is to elevate our community’s values—and its joy—by initiating a conversation about empathy, relationship, and kinship. This presentation is a preview of a future Orcas Island Diversity, Equity & Inclusion workshop. We will cover cultural competence, what it is, why it is essential, and how it can foster a diverse and inclusive community on Orcas Island.

This presentation is suitable for all ages.