2022 Annual Election

Ketchikan Indian Community
For All Indigenous Peoples. For Kíchxáan.
VOTER INFORMATION

Ted Ferry Civic Center
888 Venetia Ave.

Monday
January 17th, 2022

8:00am - 8:00pm

We will be practicing social distancing and a mask must be worn.
2021 ELECTED OFFICES

KIC TRIBAL COUNCIL
(3) Three Year Seats

KIC ADVISORY HEALTH BOARD
(2) Two Year Seats

VOTER ELIGIBILITY

Must be a duly enrolled Member.
Must be age of 18 years by 01/17/2022.
Must have current mailing address on file with the Enrollment Office.
Please bring government issued I.D.

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS

Deadline to submit Absentee/Early voting ballot request 01/14/2022 at 12:00PM
To avoid the spread of COVID-19 we recommend early voting. A flyer will be sent out with instructions on how to vote early when the ballots are ready.

ELDERS & DISABLED

Transportation has been made available for Elders and for people who have disabilities.
Please Contact: (907) 247-RIDE (247-7433)

PRIZES

(2) $500 Gift Card to A&P
(2) $500 Gift Card to Tongass Trading Company
(6) $75 Gift Cards from Local Businesses

For Questions or Comments Please Contact
Tribal Council Executive Assistants | 907.228.4900
OFFICIAL BALLOT
KETCHIKAN INDIAN COMMUNITY
POLLING PLACE: TED FERRY CIVIC CENTER, 888 VENETIA AVENUE,
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA
JANUARY 17, 2022 ANNUAL ELECTION
8:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Under the 2017 KIC Amended and Restated Constitution, Section 5.2 Spoiled Ballots:
An Eligible Voter may cast one vote per open Tribal Council seat. If an Eligible Voter
votes for more Candidates than there are seats open, or casts more than one vote for
the same Candidate, the Eligible Voter’s entire ballot shall be considered spoiled and
shall not be counted.

Instructions:
One vote casted for each candidate must be clearly marked in the box in front of the
candidate’s name.
· If a voter casts votes for more than three candidates or has extraneous
markings, the Election Official will declare that voter’s ballot “invalid” and it
will not be counted.
· If a voter mistakenly marks a ballot, the voter may return the ballot to the
Election Official who will destroy it in the presence of the voter and give the
voter another ballot.

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBER CANDIDATES FOR THREE OPEN SEATS
One vote per candidate is allowed and no more than three candidates, by clearly filling
the oval. The three candidates receiving the most votes will be seated on the Tribal
Council for three (3) year terms.

☐ Melissa Johnson
☐ Charles (Chas) Edwardson
☐ Deborah (Debi) A. White
☐ Rushchelle (Pebbles) Hull
☐ Medicine Wind Chaney
☐ Norman Skan
☐ Jessica Albertsen
☐ Stacey N. Williams
☐ (Write-in)
☐ (Write-in)
☐ (Write-in)

ADVISORY HEALTH BOARD CANDIDATES FOR TWO OPEN SEATS
One vote per candidate is allowed and no more than two candidates, by clearly marking
the box. The two candidates receiving the most votes will be seated for 2-year terms.

☐ Roberta L. Hull
☐ Sharyl (Whitesides) Yeisley
☐ Kim (Kimayla Ann) Wilson
☐ (Write-in)
☐ (Write-in)
TRIBAL COUNCIL & ADVISORY HEALTH BOARD

Candidates
My name is Melissa Johnson, I was born and raised in Ketchikan. I graduated from Kayhi in 1995. I have been married for 24 years to Kevin Johnson, a Choctaw from Oklahoma. I have three amazing kids: Isaac who graduated from Cal Maritime Academy, Kreylynn who is a Senior at UAA in Business and Bree a 10th grader at Ketchikan High School.

My Grandmother Mae Leask (Irvine) was originally from Kasaan and my grandfather Ronald Leask was from Metlakatla. I represent all three tribes of Southeast as I am Tlingit, Tsimshian and Haida.

I have been a lifelong KIC member and have benefited from the KIC Scholarship program. I believe that Scholarships have been the reason I was able to finish my lifelong goal as a Native person with an Education. I received a bachelor of Science in Education from Haskell University. At Haskell I played college Volleyball and Basketball. I also have two master’s degrees: One in Superintendent Leadership through UAS and One in Educational Leadership from Northeastern State.

My career path has been 22 years in education and I currently the Interim Superintendent of Schools for the Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District. I want to be an active member of the KIC Education committee and can only do this by being an active KIC tribal council member. My goal as the Interim Superintendent of schools is to be an advocate for all children in Ketchikan. Anyone that know me knows that Education is a major part of advocacy in Ketchikan.

I do believe that KIC needs to follow the policies and procedures when hiring for new positions at KIC. I do believe that we need to follow Native Preference hiring policies and need to look at employing KIC members first.
Please vote for me on January 17, 2022. I plan to always listen and advocate for you as a KIC citizen.
My name is Yaahl Sgwáansang (Charles Edwardson). My Grandparents were Robert and Nora Cogo. My mother is Verna Edwardson. I am Haida Double fin Killer Whale. My wife Timi and I have been together for 38 years. We have 4 daughters and 3 grandchildren who are all lifelong members of Ketchikan Indian Community.

I hope to continue to serve as a Ketchikan Indian community tribal council member.

I previously served in years past two consecutive terms, and most recently was appointed to a vacated seat by the current tribal council.

I am seeking your support for re-election.

I believe KIC is in a unique position with our funding sources and experience with workforce development to thrive in Economic development through workforce development.

If I was fortunate enough to be elected for this next term I want to strengthen post-secondary education with a strong emphasis on Vocational training as a strategic goal of our tribe.

The specific jobs that are available in our area, which include the construction industry, health care providers, nurses etc.

Are in demand and have endured through these troubling times and have historically endured through tough times in the past.
Only through strong economic independence will our tribe and tribal members achieve our shared goals.

As a Ketchikan Indian community tribal council member I can help in policy making decisions to help steer KIC into the future with strong Economic development strategies, and the development of a workforce of tribal members trained in the certain fields that are identified in our economic development endeavors as a tribe.

Putting our own people to work on our projects and in our clinic should and will be a tribal priority.

Through strong economic independence as a tribe and as individual tribal members we can together strengthen our Tribe into the future.

Family – Community – Culture
Questions? contact me: 254-9000
My name is Deborah (Debi) A. (Pearce) White. I am of Tsimshian/Blackfoot Descent, from the Mather Family, Wolf clan. My mother is, Barbara A (Leighton) Pearce, my grandmother, Pauline (Milonich) Williams, Great Grandmother Mabel (Mather) Milonich. My late father is Douglas Pearce, Blackfoot.

I am married to Charles (Charlie) White (Haida), past Tribal Administrator/Council Member. We have been married for 40 years and have four adult children, eight grandchildren and soon to be two great granddaughters.

Raised in Ketchikan, graduated from Ketchikan High School and attended University of Alaska SE, Early Childhood Education; Sheldon Jackson College, NW Coast Arts and Culture; and Sealaska Heritage Foundation, Language Studies completed Tsimshian Orthography (Shim-al-gyack) language - Level I Shim-al-gyack Instructor.

I was employed with KIC for 28 years, in various positions, leaving as the JOM Director/ 477 Director/Coordinator. Providing services from birth through 12th grade and family cultural/language classes for all three tribes. When I moved with my husband, I continued to do contractual work with KIC and KGBSD to provide Summer Cultural Programming.

In the lower 48, I did consulting work with tribes that wanted to enter the PL 102-477 Program and aiding them with the start up. Volunteered my time with smaller tribes with grant writing for resource materials, cultural/language programs and sharing of my culture throughout the schools.

For 3 years, I worked for the State of California, Shasta County, Department of Health and Human Services, administering MediCal, CalWorks and CalFresh benefits.


Northwest Coast Artist, Regalia making, NW Coast Design, Doll making,
Basketry, Beading, Subsistence gathering, Survival skills for youth, Traditional food preparation.

I will always take the time to mentor our youth for success however I can...

I ask for your support for the Tribal Council. I believe that my education, work experiences and volunteerism these past 40 years, has prepared me to work hard, listen to others, problem solve and work well within budget constraints. I have the capabilities to build strong working relationships with local, tribal, state and federal organizations and agencies. I also believe in building a positive, supportive working environment with administration and staff.

If elected, I will always put the well-being of our Tribal membership first. And as a tribal council member, I will always act fairly, honestly, and stay well informed on all issues. I believe in total accountability and transparency. There are many important issues facing our tribe today, and I will listen to the membership and make good sound decisions for our people.

My focus will remain on the health and safety of our tribal community and on providing services and programs that enhances the tribe’s ability to address issues that threatens the very well-being of our people, as facing us:

- Substance abuse and the drug epidemic overtaking our community.
- The need for affordable housing and the homeless issues.
- Keeping our children in school by providing tutoring and cultural programming of all three tribes equally.
- The needs for the very well-being of all our elders.
- Continuity and continued improvements to our health care services.
- Preservation and Perpetuation of our cultures, guidance by our elders.
- The Economic Development Board must be consistent with Tribal memberships values.
- Tribal news/updating through all media sources/meetings for membership.

Through our strategic planning, we must make sure our membership is involved and it’s your voices the Tribal Council listens too, and it’s how we allocate our tribal funding.

I respectfully ask for your support. Thank you.
We need to work as a team to make sure that we keep the health and wellbeing of all tribal member a top priority. We as a tribe need to focus on the members to help in any way we can.

- Healing body and soul – Substance abuse, depression, diabetes, high blood pressure
- Housing for all tribal members – affordable housing for tribal members
- Education – learn how to put up fish, make drums, beading, blankets, cooking
- Higher education options – continue education in all fields. Trade schools and University
- Grandparents that are rising grandkids that are not eligible for many things.

We need to know that the path we are on is the path we want our children to take. We all want to help but don’t know where to start. If you know how to put up fish, ask if you can help teach it to kids and others. This is how we as a tribe can help each other. As a single mother of boys, it was nice to have uncles and cousins that my boys can learn from. This is how we have learned for many years. We just need to go back to the old ways. The ways of respect and love for each other. Back when we worked hard so everyone can get an equal share of food and supplies. I remember when the boats docked full of fish and gave it out to everyone that came. Now we need to
save the fish before they are all gone! We have to help not only each other but the wild life around us. Times have changed. We must change with the times but stay true to who we are.
I am the grandson of Myrna Garza, the son of Beth Garza. My name is Medicine Wind Goomda Chaney. I was born under the Haida clan of Eagle Frog (sglaans) I carry the name from my Kiowa Uncle Medicine Wind Goomda Chaney. I was born here in Ketchikan, but raised in Sacramento and Anchorage, I have 3 beautiful children Myrna 15, Lucian 12, and Medicine Wind 8.

I am a weaver with cedar bark, trained by Holly Churchill, I am part of the Haida Dance Group.

Given the opportunity as Tribal Council Member, I will continue to maintain and monitor our strategic plan. I will continue with our cultural values in mind. I will maintain our collaboration with other organizations. As a parent I will keep in mind of Child Advocacy. As a Native American I support the withdraw of Blood Quantum Categorization.
My name is Norman Skan.
I am the 13th child of Dewey and Regina Skan Sr. I am Tlingit –Dog Salmon. I was born in Mt. Edgecumbe but raised in Klawock until our family sought more educational and economic opportunities and moved to Ketchikan.

My wife Sonya and I have been together for 34 years. I have 5 sons who were raised in Ketchikan and we all are proud to be a part of Ketchikan Indian Community. My interests include basketball, volleyball, football (Seahawks), fishing, shrimping and working. I was employed at the pulp mill for 20 years and at the shipyard for 21 years. I retired from being the machinist department supervisor in 2018.

My greatest passion is to help people realize they have value and they have worth. My Tlingit name is Xaakw. It means “a bite in the river where the salmon rest before continuing on their journey upstream”. I treasure my name and daily seek to live up to it. I also enjoy doing Native art. My profile picture is an alder wood mask that I carved and painted. I freely give out a smile, a hug, a handshake, some kind words or whatever is needed. Life is short. Be proud of who you are. Live your life free of negativity. Live your life to its fullest. I’m here for you.

I am running for tribal council so that I can be involved in every aspect of our tribal citizens health and well being. My goal is to ensure every tribal member receives the assistance they need to be all that they can be.

I strongly believe financial opportunities grow along with improved employment skillsets. We must continue to provide education and training for our members. Improvement through college education, trade schools and on the job training amongst other educational opportunities will be life changing for our members. We need to support our language and our arts. This is who we are. Every chance to teach and to learn needs to be explored.
I believe our medical, dental, pharmaceutical, behavior health and all other health related services need to be second to none. We have a lot of work ahead of us. Especially when you consider that we also want to bring our healing center to fruition.

Our elders are and will always be a valuable asset to our tribe. We must always strive for improvement in their lives. Our youth are the future of our tribe. We need to provide for them so they have every opportunity to succeed.

Our staff are highly valued. We need to ensure the right people and processes are in place to retain and to promote them.

Our financial strength is the backbone of our tribe. Without funds we could not operate and provide for the needs of our people. We must be fiscally responsible. We must ensure every dollar of the tribes money is allocated in a manner that protects the tribes interests. We must continue to seek grants and other funding to continue to provide services. We are growing bigger and stronger. I want to be a part of this exciting development.
My name is Jessica Albertsen, my mother is Frances (Swink) Cox, my grandparents are James Swink and the late Frances (Douville) Swink. I am lingít, Deisheetaan of the Basket Bay Arch house, and a grandchild of the Ganaax.ádi. I was born and raised in Ketchikan/Saxman, where I am now raising my own.

I am passionate about learning, teaching, and reviving our native languages and cultures, serving our community, advocating for youth, and breaking cycles through health and wellness in our community. I believe that the continued revitalization efforts of Our Way of Life is essential to our community, at home, work, and in the school district. I have served our community coaching youth basketball and baseball for the past 4 years, serving one year on the KDL board, and currently as a foster parent.

I started my professional career at KIC in the Cultural Heritage Academic Services (CHAS) department in 2010. I then continued gaining experience and knowledge working for various KIC departments, including SEATEC (Education and Training), Housing, Behavioral Health, and Administration helping with clinic Policies and Procedures, Quality Management, and the Safety Committee.

Following KIC, I was employed at the Organized Village of Saxman as the Saxman IRA Tribal Council Executive Assistant, and most recently for Cape Fox Corporation (CFC) as the Recording Secretary/Office Manager. I left CFC in August of 2020 to focus on obtaining an AAS in Business Administration at the University of Alaska Southeast.

I have spent my life with the privilege of watching, learning, and absorbing from Ketchikan and Saxman’s many strong leaders. Although, I still have so
much to learn. I am asking for your vote so that I can listen, learn, advocate, and someday teach the next generation through my own leadership. I care for this community, on or off the Council.

I am a lifelong KIC Tribal Member and a member of the Tongass Tribe dance group.

I have spent my entire life on Sanyaa Kwaan and Taant’a Kwaan land and am running for the KIC Tribal Council to represent the community that has defined and molded me.

If elected, I will advocate for the health and wellness of our community, focusing primarily where my passions lie with substance abuse, recovery, and mental health. I will advocate for our future, our indigenous youth, and our valued elders, while providing perspective from my generation.

I will fight to continue the restoration of our native languages and cultures. Our Way of Life is the heart of who we are, and we should seize every opportunity to incorporate Our Way of Life into our daily lives; through the food we eat, the language we speak, the art we teach, and the lands we fight for.

I aim to lead by example, through transparency, honesty, and respect. I promise to continue educating myself and challenging my knowledge, skills, and abilities to benefit the Tribe and Tribal Members. I will respect our lingít aní, culture, and people in every decision I make as a fellow Council Woman.

KIC currently has remarkable, strong, leaders who I would be honored to serve with and learn from. I would be honored to be a voice for our community, but most of all, I am honored for the opportunity to run for the KIC Tribal Council and earn your vote in this upcoming election.

Gunalchéesh, Háw’aa, T’oyaxsn
Stacey Williams is a Tlingit Raven under the Dogsalmon clan. She was raised in Ketchikan, AK where she continues to practice her arts and teaching. As a student under Holly Churchill, Dorica Jackson, Diane Douglas-Willard, and many other talented weavers, she has worked hard to study multiple disciplines of weaving including cedar bark, spruce root and textiles. As an instructor, she instills hope in each of her students that the arts will go on. She inspires many to delve deeper into her love that is Northwest coast weaving. As an educator, she works to maintain the delicate balance of traditional knowledge and contemporary growth of the culture. Her baskets and pieces can be seen on display in the Ketchikan Museums as well as Crazy Wolf studios and in private collections.

As a tribal member of KIC for many years, I have watched the organization grow and prosper. I believe that a strong foundation in our education, social services and employee commitment is essential to continuing this momentum. As an educator I hope to instill a love of art, culture and traditional language into our younger tribal members. I believe that encouraging youth to be involved is one of our communities highest priorities. By expanding our reach into the educational system we can ensure that the future of Ketchikan Indian Community will be successful.
My name is, Roberta Hull. I am Haida of the house of stuts and my clan is Eagle, Beaver, Frog. I have been married to my husband, David, for over 47 years. My parents were Bertha Lee Charles & Norman Charles. I have two daughters, Dawna and Rushcelle, who gave us the happiness of three handsome grandsons, Izaiha, Nyron, Kordell, and one beautiful granddaughter, Zaylee.

With 35 years as a federal employee, I retired from KIC Dental on January 2, 2015. Not only was a certified Dental Assistant, I also helped in the Pharmacy and Medical Records.

In 2004, with a little support and persistence, Dave, got me to train to be an EMT and I also learned how to drive the tanker trucks and ambulance for the North Tongass Volunteer Fire Department. Additionally, for the past 15+ years I have been a delegate for Tlingit & Haida Chapter of Ketchikan.

With my many years of experience working in the dental clinic and other departments, I will bring to the table a unique perspective on how the clinic is run. With being retired, I am able to supply a fair amount of time and effort in the operations of the Advisory Health Board. I want to work toward easier access to the services our clinic provides. We all deserve the best possible care for ourselves and our family.

I humbly ask for your vote on the Advisory Health Board.

Haw’aa
Roberta Hull
Sharyl Yeisley was born and raised in Ketchikan. She is of Aleut descent and her family lived in the Aleut Relocation Camp at Ward Lake CCC camp in Ketchikan after being evacuated from the Aleutian Islands in 1942. Sharyl graduated from UAS with Associates of Applied Science in Business, Small Business Management Certificate and Accounting Technician Certificate. She has 120 credit hours. She is a married to Tony Yeisley and together they have five children and three grandchildren.

Sharyl worked at KIC Tribal Health Clinic between 2002-2010. While there, she worked with the Elder Care Program in Behavioral Health and she also worked as the Executive Assistant to the General Manager/Tribal Administrator. Sharyl has been working at Community Connections since 2012. She manages the OARS program which provides services for Veterans, Elders, and people with developmental and physical disabilities in Ketchikan, Saxman and Metlakatla. She is a strong advocate for those who need assistance and Tribal Members.

Sharyl is currently the Advisory Health Board Chair and has been a member since 2019. Sharyl has volunteered with a variety of youth programs including KIC Basketball Camp and KIC Culture Camp. Sharyl is the host of The Addict’s Mom, Lights of Hope event that is held annually in September for the last five years. This event is to stop the stigma for families and parents of those who have substance use disorder. Sharyl has her Personal Care Service Attendant Certification, VA Behavioral Health, Person Centered Planning, Case Management Certification from Boston University and Mental Health First Aide Certification as well as a variety of other certifications in trauma informed care, traumatic brain injuries, dementia, geriatrics and leadership training.
I continue to believe for membership to trust the Tribal Council, Advisory Health Board, and Administration we need transparency, fiscal responsibility and provide the best options for health care. My concerns are the current pandemic, eldercare, substance use epidemic, increased depression and anxiety in youth and adults, increased collaboration with other agencies, membership voices, and transparency. I will continue to advocate to provide adequate support for Tribal Members/Patients to have their own voice and speak when praise or concerns should be brought forth.

In the few years that I have been a member of the Advisory Health Board, I have watched several changes and turnover in employees and patients. I have heard the praises and concerns brought forth. I have advocated for change within our clinic and grown in my relationships with not only our Tribal Members, but in within our clinic staff so that we can work together on the journey to meet your needs as patients. The Advisory Health Board has worked hard to rebuild their relationship with the Tribal Council and follow our intended purpose, to advise the Tribal Council.

If elected, I intend to remain a positive voice working towards continued growth and the best ways to serve our Tribal Members/Patients. I believe that we cannot compartmentalize people into the same box. Treating members based upon where they are at, what they are presently experiencing, and as individuals should happen. I am committed to building stronger relationships and partnerships with other agencies who serve our members. I am committed to continue to hear your concerns, wants, needs and praises and share those with the Tribal Council to advocate for you. Your voice is important and I am committed to ensure you are heard.
Kim Wilson, "Kimayla," is a proud Haida from the Sdast’aas Clan House - Eagle, Beaver, Frog, Sculpin lineage. Her parents are Bertina Yeltatzie and Loren Siegel. Kim’s matrilineal grandparents were Romay Edenshaw and Lloyd Yeltatzie from Haida Gwaii. The Edenshaw/Yeltatzie lineage has a rich history of master Carvers and Chiefs which is well documented in Haida history. Kim was born in Ketchikan and spent childhood growing up in Metlakatla. She is a 3rd generation graduate of Chemawa Indian High School in Salem, Oregon. Kim is married to Rodger Wilson and have a combined family of 7 children. Kim has worked for KIC for over 20 years which included over 15+ years in Dental as a Nationally Certified Dental Assistant. Additionally, the other departments included Employment & Training, Summer Youth Employment Program, General Assistance, Social Services, Finance and Pharmacy as a Pharmacy Technician as needed. Kim was accepted and attended the University of Alaska Southeast in the Associates of Applied Science/Business Administration and also passed the DANB, Dental Assistant National Boards in Radiology, Infection Control and General Chairside. Over the years, Kim has also retained her IHS radiology competency certificate. Kim enjoys creating a number of artistic items with many different mediums to convey the powerful Haida culture and design. Kim has had her art in a few stores and featured art galleries in downtown Ketchikan. In the years past, she has also volunteered as a dribblers league coach and Girl Scouts of America.

Kim’s recent experience in 2021 with KIC Advisory Health Board has confirmed her knowledge and desire to help the KIC Health Clinic members and employees with continued guidance and clarity to help maintain continuity of the clinic policies and ordinances. The need for KIC member employee retention and recognition has always been a main topic as well as providers needed in both Behavioral Health and the Medical Clinic, especially during these difficult times with this Covid-19 pandemic. Also, the delivery
and announcement for all KIC services online need to be utilized and accessible for our members. Suicide prevention is also a very important topic that all of our members need to be educated with as well. Kim is honored to have your support during the 2022 KIC Advisory Health Board elections and hopes to help advocate for the KIC members and tribe with complete transparency.
ATTENTION TRIBAL MEMBERS 18 & OLDER

Please join us to meet the candidates of the 2022 Elections via Zoom.

HOW TO ATTEND

Go to Zoom.us and sign up for free account. You will need a working email address.

After you have your information click on join meeting on December 15, 2021 @ 5:30 PM and use the following information:

Meeting ID: 882 7346 5516

Passcode: 570794

There will be a waiting room and the host will admit you to the event. If you join the meeting you will be entered to win 1 of 6 $75.00 gift cards to Crazy Wolf. Winners will be announced December 17, 2021.

For Questions or Comments Please Contact 907.228.4900 | cmann@kictribe.org | aburns@kictribe.org

Háw àa, Gunalcheesh,́ Doyackshin