I am seeking the opportunity to serve as Tribal Chair because I believe in our people, our community, and the future we have the power to build together.

I care deeply about this community. It is where my roots are, where my family has lived for generations, and where I hope future generations will continue to find a sense of belonging, opportunity, and pride in who we are.

I bring more than 20 years of professional experience working with nonprofit organizations and tribal governments. Over those years, I've had the opportunity to work with people from many different backgrounds, navigate complex challenges, and see firsthand what makes organizations successful—and what holds them back.

One of the most important things I have learned is that **good leadership is not about having all the answers. It is about bringing the right people together, recognizing the strengths and knowledge they bring, and creating an environment where everyone has an opportunity to contribute.** It means listening, building relationships, being accountable, and following through. It also means having the humility to recognize when we need help and the determination to see things through when the work becomes difficult.

When I think about the future of our tribe, I see so much possibility.

I envision a tribal government where our members are informed, engaged, and genuinely included in the decisions that shape our lives. Where we listen to one another, even when we disagree, and where our elected leadership understands that its responsibility is to represent the will and priorities of the people.

I envision our tribe taking its rightful place at the table with city, county, state, and federal governments—not simply as an invited participant, but as a respected leader and partner helping shape decisions about our lands, waters, natural resources, and the future of our region. We have generations of knowledge and an enduring relationship with our homelands. That knowledge should be central to conversations about co-stewardship, co-management, environmental protection, and the well-being of our communities.

I envision a tribe that continues strengthening its sovereignty and building toward greater self-sufficiency. A tribe that explores innovative economic opportunities, develops businesses that can support our people for generations, and makes thoughtful financial decisions that are not driven only by the needs of today.

Our ancestors understood that the choices we make carry responsibilities beyond ourselves. I believe we must approach our decisions with that same understanding, thinking not just about the next year or the next election, but about the next seven generations. We should be asking ourselves whether the decisions we make today will leave our children, grandchildren, and those who come after them with more opportunities, greater stability, and a stronger connection to who we are.

I also believe our economic future should reflect the values passed down to us. Innovation and tradition do not have to compete. We can pursue new opportunities while honoring the principles of reciprocity, respect, and responsibility that have sustained our people for generations. Success should not be measured only by the revenue we generate, but also by how that success strengthens our families, supports our elders, creates opportunities for our youth, and contributes to the health of our community and environment.

To make this vision possible, we need to strengthen the foundation of our tribal government and businesses. That means building a capable and supported team, investing in professional administration and management, establishing fair employment practices, and creating the policies and systems that allow us to operate with consistency, transparency, and accountability.

These are not changes that happen overnight, and they are not changes that any one person can accomplish alone. They require careful planning, responsible use of our resources, and a shared commitment to doing the work.

More than anything, I want us to build systems that put our people first. Systems that do not depend on who holds office, but continue serving our community long after any one of us has stepped away. Systems that create opportunities for participation, encourage accountability, and provide a strong foundation for those who will lead after us.

I am not seeking this position because I believe I have all the answers. I am seeking it because I believe I have the experience, commitment, and willingness to listen, work alongside others, and help build a more inclusive, accountable, and sustainable future for our tribe.

I believe in what we are capable of accomplishing together. I believe our best days are ahead of us. And I would be honored to have the opportunity to serve our people as we work toward that future.

Our future belongs to all of us, and we should all have a voice in shaping it.