



NATIVE AMERICAN VOTING RIGHTS COALITION PACIFIC NORTHWEST FIELD HEARING

JANUARY 24, 2018

Affiliated Tribes of NW Indians Winter Conference

Hilton Double Tree Lloyd's Center, Ross Island Room

Valdez B. Bravo

Valdez Bravo is a Standing Rock Sioux descendant. He is a native Oregonian, Latino, and Army Veteran, having served from 1995-2003. He was elected as 1st Vice Chair of the Democratic Party of Oregon in March 2017. As 1st Vice Chair, Valdez is a member of the Democratic National Committee ("DNC") and is one of only nine DNC Members who are Native. Valdez also serves on the Portland Community College Board of Directors representing Zone 5. He is also a Healthcare Administrator at the VA Portland Health Care System and received his English degree from Portland State University.

The Honorable Henry Cagey

Councilman Henry Cagey is a member of the Lummi Nation. For the past twenty four years he has served as a Councilmember on the Lummi Indian Business Council. He spent twelve of those years as Tribal Chairman. He has worked on a wide range of issues ranging from taxation, to housing, to economic development as well as get out the vote efforts on the reservation. He is currently the Chairman of the Tax Committee of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians ("ATNI"). He sits on numerous boards including the National Coalition for Boarding Schools, The Mother Nation Group supporting victims of domestic violence, the National Kateri Conference, and the Boys and Girls Club Advisory Committee. He is a US Navy veteran that has been married for 34 years.

The Honorable Brian Cladoosby

Chairman Brian Cladoosby is a member of the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. He has been elected annually as Chairman since 1997 and has served on the Swinomish Tribal Senate, the governing body of the Tribe, since 1985. He is a commercial fisherman and continues to fish whenever there is an opportunity. He is a graduate of Skagit Community College and La Conner High School. He served as President of the National Congress of American Indians and the Association of Washington Tribes. He currently serves on the Executive Board member of the Washington Gaming Association. He has also represented 57 Tribes of the Northwest as President of Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians and is active in tribal and Washington state politics. Most of his spare time is spent with his wife of 37 years, Nina, their daughters LaVonne and Mary, son-in-law Tyler and grand children Isabella & Nathaniel or on the golf course.



Julie Johnson

Julie Johnson is a member of the Lummi Nation. She is the Chairwoman of the Washington Democrat's Native American Caucus. She has 30 years of experience working for Native governments and organizations at the regional and national level. She served two terms as a Governor-appointed member of the Peninsula College Board of Trustees, including a term as Chair. She has also served on the Northwest Indian College Board of Trustees. She was named Committee Member of the Year at the Washington State Democratic Party's 23rd annual Warren G. Magnuson Awards Banquet, September 17th, in Yakama. She also received the Pearl Capoeman-Baller Civic Participation Award in 2012 from The Potlatch Fund. She has undergraduate degrees in education counseling and in social and health administration.

Barbara Lewis

Barbara Lewis is a member of the Lummi Nation. She graduated from Central Washington University with a bachelor's in English, and is now in graduate school studying management and leadership. She is currently the vice-chair of the Native American Caucus for the Washington State Democrats, chair of the Whatcom Democrats, and the public information officer for the Northwest Indian College. For the past two years, she has attended the National Democratic Convention as a delegate. She also attended the Eighth Annual Tribal Nations Conference. She dedicates her time to empowering people to get involved in political activism.

The Honorable Carina Miller

Councilwoman Carina Miller is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and her bloodline comes from Warm Springs, Wasco and Yakima. She was elected Councilwoman in 2016. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Ethnic Studies from the University of Oregon. After college she worked as a PA and eventually a director for ABC news.

Subsequently, she worked for the Warm Springs Tribe's Children's Protective Services, and then went on to work for the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla at Cay Uma Wa Head Start. Her volunteer activities include Girl Scouts, Warm Springs Little League, and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The Honorable Joe Pakootas

Former Chairman Joe Pakootas is a member of the Colville Tribe. He grew up on the Colville Indian Reservation and was raised in Inchelium. He served 16 years as an elected Council member of his tribe, five of those as Chairman. He and his wife of 41 years, Cheryl, have raised their four children and seven grandchildren in Eastern Washington and have served as educators, coaches and mentors to the youth in their community. He has spent the last 8 years as CEO of 3 tribal corporations managing their enterprises. He received his Masters of Business Administration from the University of Washington in 2006. He believes education is the cornerstone of job opportunities, cares deeply about the environment, and is passionate about protecting the land and water for future generations.

Chris Roberts (written testimony)

Chris Roberts is a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. He was elected to the Shoreline City Council in 2009, 2013, and 2017 and served as Mayor from 2016 to 2017. His term expires December 31, 2021. He graduated from Willamette University in 2000 and earned a PhD from the University of Washington in 2012 in the field of political science. On the Council he serves as a member of the Puget Sound Regional Council Executive Board, the Association



of Washington Cities Legislative Committee, and the Sound Cities Association Public Issues Committee. Before his election to the Council, he served as the Legislative Assistant to Oregon State Representative Bill Garrard. He served as Chair of the Native American Caucus of the Washington State Democrats, as the Native Vote Director for the Washington State Democrats in 2012, and as a board member of the Seattle Indian Center.

The Honorable Norma Sanchez

Councilwoman Norma Sanchez is a member of the Colville Tribe. She is serving her first term on the Colville Business Council as the Chairwoman of the Tribes' Tribal Government Committee. This Committee has the authority to address any federal, state, or local legislative matters of interest to the Council. Her focus has centered on internal governance and federal matters of importance to the Colville Tribes. She has worked for more than 20 years in the Colville Tribal Administration and Finance Departments. She has lived most of her life on the Colville Reservation except for when she was pursuing higher education. She received her Associate's Degree in Business Administration with a Certificate in Accounting and a Certificate in Business and Payroll Taxes from Yuba College in Linda, California. She is the mother of five daughters (one has passed on) and two sons and 23 grandchildren (one has passed). All her children and grandchildren live on the Colville Reservation.

Teresa Taylor

Councilwoman Teresa Taylor is a member of the Lummi Tribe. In 2016 she was elected to the Ferndale City Council. She is a State Committee Woman for the 42nd Legislative District. She is the Treasurer/Secretary for the Native American Caucus for the Washington State Democrats and was a National Delegate for President Obama in 2012. She is currently employed as Project Manager for the Lummi Indian Business Council, Economic Development Division. She has worked for the Council off and on since 1992. She is also a small business owner and manager of Washington Fireworks and Northwest Pyro wholesale fireworks, located on the Lummi Reservation. She serves on the YWCA Board of Directors and is a former treasurer of the Board. She has served on the Lummi Nation's Law Justice Commission for ten years, which focuses on issues of violence against women, peace with justice, code revisions, legislative issues, and oversight of the Chief of Police and Chief Judge. She studied Accounting at Western Washington University.

The Honorable Mathew KM Tomaskin

Former Councilmember Mathew Tomaskin is a member of the Yakima Nation. He is currently the Legislative Liaison for the Yakama Nation as well as the Yakama Nation Get out the Vote Coordinator. He serves as the Co-chair of Native Vote Washington. He is a former Yakama Council Member from 2001-2002. He is an Army veteran and served from 1982-1988. In 2012, he was a Delegate for Democratic Convention. In 2014, he ran for the 14th Legislative District in Washington.

Mike Tulee

Mike Tulee is a member of the Yakama Nation. He serves as the Executive Director of United Indians of All Tribes Foundation, a social service agency. He is a military veteran. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Geography, a Masters of Arts Degree in Education, and a Ph.D. in Forestry. He has resided in Seattle for over 30 years. He is a former school teacher and administrator in the Seattle School District and former University Lecturer. He is married to Betsy Tulee, a member of the Makah Indians.



Patricia Whitefoot

Patricia Whitefoot is a member of the Yakama Nation. She was raised in the original homelands of the Yakama Nation and she still lives in White Swan, WA where she was raised by her maternal grandparents. She obtained a B.A. in Education from Central Washington University in Ellensburg and a M.A. from Ft. Wright College in Spokane, WA. For over 40 years, she has managed Indian Education and community mobilization programs from preschool to adult education. She has served on the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (62 Tribes) Executive Board and also as the Education Committee Chair for over 25 years. She was previously appointed by President Obama to serve on the National Advisory Council on Indian Education with the U.S. Department of Education. She has also served two terms as the President of the National Indian Education Association. She has previously served in elected positions of her tribe, which includes the tribe's Code of Ethics Committee and Yakama Tribal Council. Over several years, she has been actively involved in Voter Registration, Indian Policy Advocacy, and Candidate Education since the 1990s when Indian treaty rights were under attack in Washington State.