

TRIBAL CHAIR POSITIION



Bozho! ~Hello To Our PBPN Membership,

I greet you with a warm heart and a hearty handshake. I am a former Prairie Band Casino and Resort Board of Director and a certified Gaming Commissioner at the Master Level. I am running for the Tribal Chair position, as I possess the skills of being a strong Native American Leader and I have addressed National and local issues for many years, in Indian Country. Having been a College Instructor, and having taught Sovereignty, ICWA – Indian Child Welfare Act, Indian Studies, and Tribal Government; I truly believe I would be an asset to our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, and our Nation will lead the way to real Native American advancement. Our people as a whole have a voice, and I vow to strengthen our General Council as it is the ultimate authority. Respecting the rights of our members will be granted, along with due process of law, in all areas of our Nation. Healing and empowering our Nation will allow our people to move forward in a more cohesive manner, one of which allows for teamwork and an environment where productivity can now take place.

We are in a time where our Nation must closely look at how we are going to supplement programs to meet the needs of all our people, as Indian Country nation-wide, will take a Federal budget cut of about half a billion

dollars in 2019. In fact, some programs may be eliminated or function at a bare minimum; which in return will hurt our local economy and ultimately employment will suffer. This is not a time to wait for something bad to happen, we need to be proactive instead of reactive. Tribes everywhere are bracing themselves for this huge impact and we must too. It will take a team of Council Members dedicated to voice and address these concerns. It will take countless hours of working on supplemental programs to meet the needs of our people and to ensure a future for generations to come. Basically, these cuts will affect the general welfare, health, and education of our people. It will further impact housing, and special programs designed to help strengthen our families and community. Although Congress stepped in and passed a fiscal 2018 omnibus bill, that included increases for the BIA, Native land and water settlements, Indian Health Service and Indian Education Title VI., on Oct. 1. 2018 begins the new 2019 budget year. I was a Data Coordinator for many years in a very large school district, and I have been a School Administrator, which included budgets and accountability. Having this experience and working with a team of Council members to address these upcoming issues are vital for our Tribe. Travel of any kind must benefit the tribe, no more of this fruitless spending, when we know this storm is coming. I have been a Keynote Speaker at many conferences and my passion for my people speaks loudly wherever I go. I don't pass the buck, but rather search for remedies in order to make things work more efficient. Creating a Tribal Grant Department will be another top priority. I am asking for your support in the upcoming election and I do so with the most sincerity.

In closing, I would like to add that I have earned two Bachelor of Arts Degrees and went on and achieved Master's Degrees from the University of South Dakota in 1991. I have been awarded the National Indian Educator of the year, SD Indian Educator of the year, as well as having received numerous awards for outstanding performance in various career areas, and I was given a "Dorothy Kiyukan" day. I take pride in our culture and traditional ways of life. My nishnabe'k name is Wiche Quah, a name given to me by my Misho/Grandfather David Paul Lewis of Soldier Creek area, who close friend was Wiche Quah. I am a proud Thunder Clan member, Granddaughter of Minnie LeClair, daughter of PBPN Elder, Julia Lewis, and my color is Blue. My family has a long history of serving our Country in the Armed Forces. A list of our family Veterans both male and female can be seen on the Veteran Memorial Site at the Prairie People's Park. My extended family served as Treaty Delegates, and they have instilled the respect for our Tribal Sovereignty with the respect for protecting our Tribal assets and natural resources for generations to come. I am a dancer, singer, and active participant within and outside of our community; I live on the Prairie Band Potawatomi reservation. In the Professional arena, I am known for being *Competent, *Accountable, and *Trustworthy. Keeping in mind while you vote, longevity, proficiency, and expertise is vital in this position. With your vote, I will continue to provide professional oversight by monitoring and ensuring our Tribe's most precious assets in all areas are protected and upheld. I would be honored to have your vote and serve our Nation, Igwein!

VOTE "Dorothy Kiyukan" PBPN Tribal Chair

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