

Michelle Simon | Mis No Quah

As Secretary of the Tribal Council, this is how I would advocate for your needs:

1) The Nation needs to know what the members' priorities are. I suggest a PBP Nation-wide survey, which could be implemented immediately, and use it to develop a 5, 10 and 20-year strategic plan. Every 4 or 5 years the survey can be completed, with everyone's input, so we can adjust accordingly. In this manner our tribe will make unified progress.

2) Keeping you informed. In addition to the quarterly general council meetings, I would be open to hosting an informal monthly community meeting as a forum for tribal members to voice their concerns and ask their questions. There is too much going on in the Nation to cover everything in a quarterly meeting. I would also advocate for using technology more to facilitate communication with membership that is not in the immediate area.

3) With our current federal administration it seems that the Nation may soon face drastic changes. I hold a Masters in Business Administration with an emphasis in Change Management. I would utilize my proficiency in this area to minimize the negatives and do my best to establish positive outcomes.

4) I would encourage the hiring of at least two more lawyers so the Nation can expedite the process of expanding economic development, taxation issues, National Indian Child Welfare issues and all other legal matters.

I understand the working complexities of both the Nation's government and the casino, along with everything this role entails. There is work to be done on your behalf and I would like to do it. Many of you may not know me personally, but I have been working for our Nation for 17 years. During this course of time I have learned many skill sets, acquired the education needed for today's economy and honed my character while upholding our unique culture in order to serve the Nation as the Tribal Council Secretary.

I began my tenure with the PBP Nation as a Summer Youth Worker at the Bennotteh Wigwam watching over the children. Next I worked in the Human Resources department, where I researched health insurance coverage for all tribal members, which led to the implementation of the Vision Service Program, which is still going strong today.

In order to better serve the Nation, I chose to pursue higher education. While working toward my degree, I held contract positions for the PBPN. During this time I worked as a Housing Specialist managing the relocation program and implementing an inspection tracking system, and as an Education Administrative Assistant, where I helped establish a physical and digital file management system minimizing errors and increasing efficiencies.

In 2006, I completed my Bachelor of Arts degree in Mass Communication: emphasis in Advertising and Marketing, graduating Summa Cum Laude.

With my education in hand, I was hired by Harrah's Prairie Band Casino and Resort as a Marketing Coordinator, responsible for creating local campaigns and implementing national campaigns to drive business and ultimately provide our tribe with the funds to operate and provide services and per capita payments to you.

I was at the casino when we transitioned to self-management. At that time, I also transitioned back into Human Resources to establish on-site insurance coverage for over 1000 employees in one month's time. I learned the necessary software within one week, and implemented 9 plans with a less than 1% error rate.

Presently I serve as the Media Relations Specialist, a director-level position, for the Nation. Each quarter I produce the newspaper, provide daily management of the website, social media accounts and provide public relations as needed. While in this role, I have personally uploaded over 3,000 documents from 2015 and back to the Members Only section on behalf of the Tribal Council Secretaries Office in order for you to have access to the Nation's records.

I care deeply about the needs of our children and the welfare of our people as evidenced by my active commitment to the PBPB community. In April 2018, I was recognized for my years of service as a member of the JOM committee: President for 2 years, Member for 2 years and Secretary for 3 years. I currently sit on the Policy Council of the Early Childhood Education Center as a community member. For the past 2 years I have also been on the Enrollment Committee serving as Secretary, with only 1 excused absence during my maternity leave. I am also on the 2018 Gathering Committee serving as the Registration, Transportation and Communications captains and I regularly participate in General Council Meetings. In the past I have tutored students, served on the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Club, helped host a Youth Initiative geared toward healthy behaviors, facilitated a smoking cessation program and served on the Powwow Committee for approximately 4 years.

I would appreciate your vote in this election.

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M.Simon