



Peggy Nioce Houston

*Comma kwe*

I was blessed with my traditional Potawatomi name of *Comma kwe* with the meaning of it being; first born girl or leading lady, given by my Grandfather Sauk Nioce. I am the first born girl of his only son, Edgar Lee Nioce. I was the last child born to the late Edgar Lee and Patricia Kahbeah Nioce. I am the proud mother of two children.

Children are first and foremost of our people. Children are the flame of our hearts; children are a daily motivation; and children are our future. We must work for our next generation. We all know our membership is decreasing. We all participated in several community conversations about what steps to take in changing our enrollment. It has not moved in four years, and we are short changing our children of the membership with benefits that they are entitled to. Let's finalize this process of approval and enroll our next generation with an updated plan that meets the needs of our membership.

Let's improve policies and follow them. Let's listen before we act fairly. Let's stop paying for unnecessary investigations. We have Talented, Educated Tribal Members, so let's utilize our resources. We have internships in our enterprises, however, we have very little formal internship development internal of the government. We have opportunity for improvement; let's offer this and accept their knowledge at the table to grow our Nation.

True Sovereignty. What is our vision and long term goals? Is it a secret? Let's promote true transparency. Our infrastructure is lacking. While many tribes are fighting for water and working for energy efficiency on their reservation, ours is still provided by Jackson County. We have multiple power companies and spend mega dollars on energy, however, we are still not a stakeholder. Let's take control and stop paying our neighbors more than we give ourselves.

My commitment first and foremost is; 1) move enrollment forward; 2) enforce the policies we have fairly; 3) Develop a Tribal Government internship program for our college graduates; 4) Develop a strategic Energy plan, and 5) support our casino enterprise board to do their job with confidence to increase revenue.

I completed my B.S. in Sociology and Anthropology with a minor in Rehabilitation Counseling in 1980 from Emporia State University. I completed my Masters of Science in Management as a non-traditional student in 2005 from Friends University. I have over 20 years of executive level experience working in Indian country; predominantly gaming and with 12 of those years working for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Working in a management role in two Prairie Band Casino openings, my expertise will add value to the oversight of the casino expansion expense. Let's bring more to the bottom line and distribute higher per caps to the people.

Vote **PEGGY!** A vote for the people!