

Always do the best you can for the betterment of the people. This lesson from my childhood is part of the foundation of who I am and how I approach my life today. I believe that it's possible to compromise to achieve goals for all our people, so long as you know the principles that can never be compromised; and so long as we're willing to listen to each other.

My name is Raphael Wahwassuck. I am a candidate for Tribal Council seat #3. I am honored to say that I have lived most of my life here on our reservation. I have witnessed and participated in the many great accomplishments that we have gained in recent years. I am fortunate to have worked within our Tribal government in multiple capacities. I have assisted many of our departments develop from ideas, to become functional programs. I have also worked with many national organizations that seek to improve the quality of life in Native communities. Many years of my life have been devoted to identifying, learning, and implementing holistic methods to contribute to the wellness of our Nishnabeyēk.

Our Tribal Council hold the most crucial offices for our Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. Through its leadership, can come a more vital life for our people. Leadership comes with great responsibility; a responsibility to listen and to be an advocate for the people. It is our responsibility as members of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation to ensure that we have the right people in these positions to be our advocates.

I look forward to the opportunity to bring my ideas and knowledge to our Council to contribute to our continued success and future endeavors. My education, previous work experience, and most importantly, my devotion to our future, the future of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, will enable me to be an effective member of our Tribal Council. I will bring a new energy to the position, and to the council.

Leadership does not come without sacrifice, and I thank my family and friends for supporting and encouraging me to be a representative for the people. Thank you for your consideration.

K̄tamik̄t̄ewitwak wīt̄ nishnabeyēk mine k̄t̄āshēwenmak.

Respectfully,

Raphael J. Wahwassuck