

Thank you for considering me for the position of Vice Chairman of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation. I chose to run for many reasons, primarily because I've disagreed with some of the policies, practices, and decisions made by our government officials during the last six years. Hopefully, my personal ethics, professional experiences, and education can win your vote.

Our reservation is my childhood home and I moved away only for academic pursuits. All of my core values were created, and continue to be influenced, by our tribe. My driving principal is that all families are valuable. I was taught that no one is better than anyone else, and I really believe that to be true. We all deserve to be represented and heard, regardless of religious belief, income, or place of residency.

Our tribe has given me so much to be grateful for: a belief system, education, a home, and an incredible family; but throughout my life, it's also given me reason to be frustrated. Unfortunately, I've seen inequitable access to our public resources and services, unethical and unsafe actions get swept under the rug, and unequal application of policies. That is why I was excited to participate in the strategic plan survey and am eager to learn what we consider to be the most pressing issues. Only through cooperation, transparency, and accountability are we going to achieve our goals. Our collective voice set an agenda and it's the responsibility of our elected officials to get that job done. Also, our media, General Council reports, and public news should report our accomplishments *and* acknowledge areas needing continued improvement. All great athletes know that champions must be open to receiving both the coach's critique and applause and know when it's time to pass the ball.

My name is Nis Wilbur and I have a bachelor's in Youth, Culture and Social Justice and a Leadership credential from Washburn University. I also earned a Master's in Public Policy and Administration from Northwestern University, where I was awarded a fellowship with the Center for Native American and Indigenous Research. Prior to that, I was a Leadership Associate at Brazelton Touchpoints Center and, many years ago, was a Presidential Academic Fitness scholar at the University of Minnesota. For years I've led tribal and state programs with documented success and am a member of multiple boards that focus on improving the lives of children and families. My pride and joy, though, is my daughter Petannokwe. I want better for her than I had for myself, just like I want better for us all. Migwetth.