

2018 Candidate Biographies



Korena Nelson

Korena Nelson was born in Kodiak and raised since birth in the community of Port Lions. She spent her entire school years in this wonderful little town she will always call home. During her sophomore year in high school she was inducted into the National Honor Society. With hard work and commitment, she graduated with top honors, which earned her a 5 year UAA Scholar Award. She is getting ready to start her second year at UAA again as a full-time student. Korena is currently seeking her degree in Biological Sciences. She aspires to be a Pharmacist. Since the age of 14, Korena has been commercial fishing with her family. Her position requires long hours and although difficult at times she always finishes the job she starts. She has realized after her first year in college what “full-time” student means and even though she will be spending a majority of her time studying she would embrace the opportunity to be a part of the Native Village of Port Lions Tribal Council.



Nancy Nelson

My name is Nancy Nelson, I have served on the Native Village of Port Lions Tribal Council for seven years. I represent the Council on the Economic Development and Finance Committees and attend the Village Forums on behalf of the Tribe.

I work for the Native Village of Afognak as Program Administrator, manage the Dig Afognak Youth Camp and administer the Environmental Program. I am also a commissioner for the Kodiak Island Housing Authority. Although I reside in Kodiak, I have a home in Port Lions, only a 10-minute flight away and I come home as often as possible. My plan is to retire in a few years and move back.

It has been a busy past three years. Just a few of the items the Council has worked on was establishing the Tribes strategic plan along with the staff on what is important for the community, worked on policies, invested some of the one-time RAMAH funds so we could gain a higher interest rate, improved internet for the Tribal building, and worked on the indirect cost proposal and budgets. We are working on securing funding to repair and remodel the Tribal Building; thanks to our Administrator we have secured some to get started. We should be hearing in September if the Economic Development Committee receives a grant to help individuals develop small business plans.

It has been a pleasure to serve on the Tribe with my fellow Council Members and Staff and I humbly ask for your support to serve another three years. Quyannasinaq (thank you very much).



Amanda Holden

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Amanda Dawn Holden. Daughter of George (Sonny) Squartsoff and Jennifer Torsen, and I am married to Michael Holden. I have recently changed careers and begun training for the Community Health Aide in Port Lions. I'm very excited for this change as I care about our community and the people who live here. I have lived in Port Lions for most of my life so I know the kinds of struggles there are in the village, and want to help make a difference and address some of those issues. So, I am asking for your vote to serve on the Port Lions Traditional Tribal Council. I will do my best to represent each and every one of you and any concerns you may have. Thank you very much for your support.



Denise May

Camai fellow Tribal Members,

I would like thank you all for your support over the past three years. We continue to face challenges in the community of Port Lions, however progress has been made. Some of the significant services we

have worked hard on are: We have been able to secure funds to open a Library with internet available in our building. We have contracted with the State of Alaska for the State road maintenance. We have updated a strategic plan for our tribe. We continue to work with The Native Village of Afognak and Afognak Native Corporation to build an Economy in the village of Port Lions. We have increased scholarships for our children for both Higher Education and youth programming. Most of this work has been done with both a dedicated staff and a dedicated council. The future for Port Lions is bright and I would appreciate your support in continuing to enhance our Tribal Member services through your vote in this year's election.

Denise has served on many boards over the past years including:

The Indian Education Parent Committee (Port Lions)
The Advisory School Board (Port Lions)
The City of Port Lions Council
The Kodiak Area Native Association Board of Directors
The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
The Alaska Federation of Natives Board of Directors.

Denise's current service on Boards in committees include:

The Native Village of Port Lions (current President)
The Afognak Native Corporation Board of Directors
The Alutiiq Museum Board of Directors
The Alaska Bureau of Indian Affairs Budget Committee
The North Pacific Management Council Charter Boat Sport Halibut Committee
Port Lions Fisheries Board of Directors

Again, Thank you for your support. -Denise May



LaToya Hartley

Camai Tribal Members:

My name is LaToya Hartley. I am the daughter of Lester and Lisa Lukin and granddaughter of Reggie Gundersen and the late Irene Gundersen; and the late Afonie and Zenida Lukin. As many of you are aware I am in the process of relocating my family back to Port Lions. Having grown up in our village I was exposed to the rich values and ethics of our community. It is our goal as a family to provide the same opportunity to our son.

I have a strong desire to give back to our community. Teamwork and the ability to listen intently while learning, brought me to the decision to run for the Council. I am committed to being actively engaged in the community of Port Lions. Member communication is vitally important and through my experience as a Communications Manager with Afognak Native Corporation I feel this can benefit the Tribe. As our demographic evolves we must begin to utilize other methods to engage, educate, and motivate our members. My background as a graphic designer allows for me to provide guidance with digital marketing and audience engagement tactics through visuals. Over the past 9 years I have developed a strong working relationship with First Alaskans Institute which can allow for more opportunities for cultural and youth collaboration throughout our state.

If elected to the Council I would like to work toward achieving the following goals:

Establishing meaningful long-lasting partnerships.

- Strong partnerships allow us to apply a diverse perspective toward a common challenge and provide the ability to pool together resources across organizations.
- Maintaining key partnerships can assist us in addressing the numerous challenges our community faces such as: development of affordable housing and providing access to high-speed broadband.

Increase civic leadership roles within our Tribe.

- I would like to see a strategic approach to ensure our Tribe is represented in local groups.
- To cultivate strong leaders, we must continue to provide our membership with access to trainings, seminars, and education. Our people are our most important resource. Development of this resource allows for further growth within our community.

I am committed to be an active and accessible council member. I look forward to speaking with you and respectfully ask for your support.

Quyanaa,

LaToya Hartley



Susan Boskofsky

Camai Fellow Tribal Members,

My Name is Susan Boskofsky, I am the youngest daughter of the late Harry & Rhea Knagin. I am seeking election to the Native Village of Port Lions Traditional Tribal Council. I've lived in Port Lions the majority of my life. I am currently living and working in Port Lions.

I have spent my adult life serving the Native Village of Port Lions as both an employee and member of the Port Lions Traditional Tribal Council. I was on the Tribal Council in the early 1990's. As an employee I have happily served our tribe in the capacity of Tribal Clerk, Family Activities Leader, Office Manager, Pull Tab Clerk, Gaming Manager, Accounting Clerk, and Bookkeeper. In 2007 I became the Tribal Administrator until 2016, when the sitting Tribal Council terminated me stating that they had lost trust and confidence in my ability to serve as the Tribal Administrator. I would like to make it very clear to the membership that throughout my service as the Tribal Administrator I fulfilled all duties that were required of me and carried them out to the best of my abilities. It is also important to know that the majority of the time I went above and beyond the requirements of my job description, always working to make the Tribal organization as successful and possible.

With the Council at the time siting trust as a reason for my termination, I would like to make it very clear that in my opinion, as well as those who know me well, I am a very trustworthy and fair individual. I am asking you, my fellow tribal members, to put your trust in me by electing me to the Port Lions Traditional Tribal Council where I will once again be more than happy to serve you.

Quyanaasinaq,



Susan Boskofsky