

Candidates - 2019 Tribal Council election

Carina Miller - Agency District

Carina Miller is a member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. She has a Bachelor of Science in Ethnic Studies from the University of Oregon.

She is currently the agency district or Wasco Tribal representative on the 27th Tribal Council of Warm Springs. She is also a co-chair of the energy committee for the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians and the chair of the Native American caucus for the Democratic party of Oregon.

She worked for Head Start for The Umatilla Tribe and for Childrens



Protective services for Warm Springs. She is passionate about seeing services

for children and families be supported and grow and would like to provide more opportunity for healing and healthy spaces for those in recovery.

She is proud to be a member of the UNITE slate along with Jaylyn Suppah, Simnasho, Charlene Dimmick who is running as a write in for Simnasho, Wil Sando and Dustin Seyler who are running in Agency.

She lives in Greely Heights with her partner Victor Barkley and their newborn son Waluxypykee Walter Barkley.

Emerson Squiemphen - Simnasho District

Niix Pachwai,

I'm a candidate from the Simnasho District. My Indian name is Unaxash, also known as Emerson Squiemphen.

As of now I'm employed with the Warm Springs Confederated Tribes. I've been employed at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center as a patient transport driver since 1996. I worked first as a federal worker, under 648 with Public Health nursing. In turn



I served as a committee man for the Fish and Wildlife Committee, in turn as a commissioner with the

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission located in Portland. This was very challenging, meeting a lot of different people, one has to represent himself in a good way.

So with my teachings when growing up, hopefully that's enough common sense to help our people. For we are a nation in need of a new direction.

Respectfully,
E m e r s o n
Squiemphen

Lola Sohappy - Agency District

Hello,

My name is Lola May Sohappy, Wasco name Kissitith. I am Warm Springs/Wasco. My parents are Joseph and Gladys Miller Thompson. My husband is Don William Sohappy, of the Yakama Nation.

We have three daughters and three sons, one deceased; and lots of grandchildren. We're grandma and grandpa, or uncle and auntie to all.

I worked eight years in the Warm Springs Po-



lice Department, eight years in the Family and Children's Program, and 22 years in

Tribal Court.

I am a founding member of NICWA, former member of the National Indian Justice Centers, and National and Northwest Judges Association, and I served one term on the Warm Springs Tribal Council.

My concerns are languages, traditional and cultural issues, tribal sovereignty, the tribal financial situation, and the health and welfare of all our tribal members.

Lola May Sohappy

Jaylyn Suppah - Simnasho District

Jaylyn Suppah is a mother, educator, advocate for social justice and a member of the Confederated Tribe of Warm Springs.

She was raised in Simnasho and is a traditional food gatherer.

Jaylynn is a mother of two beautiful children. Her Indian name is Alish (Ah-lish), given to her from her namesake, Margaret Suppah, her grandmother who raised her.

Jaylyn's passion is decolonizing education for herself, her children, her community and always looking for ways to



incorporate her culture into her home, classroom and programming.

She currently serves on the Education Committee, where she uses her voice to

work towards equitable education for all students.

She developed the Papalaxsimisha program, which incorporates historical trauma, healing, self-identity, cultural awareness, high school readiness, college and career readiness in a curriculum she and two other Native teachers developed.

Her background includes as a Cultural Awareness trainer, youth mentor, historical trauma facilitator, curriculum development and youth program development.

Dustin Seyler - Agency District

Dustin M. Seyler (Wasco, Warm Springs, Colville, Pend d'Oreilles, Muskogee Creek) is a first-time candidate running for a seat as an Agency District representative.

Dustin and his partner Ardis Smith currently reside in Warm Springs and are raising three children.

Dustin is the son of Dean and Jeannie Seyler. His paternal grandparents are Aradonna (Aguilar) and Cecil Seyler. He is the great-grandson of Adeline (Brunoe) and Easton Aguilar and a descendant of Billy Chinook.

Following high school, he served four years in the United States Navy, where he obtained the rank of E-5 and had 25 people under his command.

After being honorably discharged, he obtained a bachelor's degree in business administration from Eastern Oregon University and focused most of his career on developing healthy and vibrant businesses.

He has worked in the U.S. Small Business Administration, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and several private industry businesses.

Currently, he serves



the community as a small business coach for the Warm Springs Community Action Team, and is the chairman of the newly re-activated Warm Springs Area Chamber of Commerce.

His education and work experiences have helped him to develop an understanding of how businesses thrive and how regulations can hinder or assist in development.

In his current position, he is coaching individuals on personal finance strategies, is developing four community gardens, is teaching Indianpreneurship to help future Native business owners develop their ideas to start their business, and is helping students obtain monies for college and identify a career path.

Dustin is the Junior Vice Commander of the Warm Springs VFW Post 4217, and is actively working with various tribal departments to help future generations obtain higher levels of edu-

cation.

He participates in activities at the school as well, and shares career pathway information with the school counselor with hopes to get students thinking about their future at a younger age.

Dustin believes firmly that education is the path to the tribe's success. Working together to improve educational outcomes at all grade levels and ensuring Tribal members have access to college and vocational training will result in a stronger and more dynamic economy, a more productive and effective workforce and will help to improve living conditions reservation-wide.

As a strong proponent for economic development, he continues to work towards building a small business economy where the owners prosper and employ others as they work towards their goals.

He believes that infrastructure improvement is key to successful economic development growth and smart investments must be made in the water treatment plant and distribution system, renovation of existing buildings, and building new structures to meet varying needs across the Tribe.

Jeffery E. 'Luke' Sanders Jr. - Agency District

My name is Jeffery E. "Luke" Sanders Jr. I am thankful for the nomination to run for Tribal Council.

My father is Jeffery E. Sanders Sr., and my mother is the late Patricia Leno-Baker. My grandparents are the late Martin Sanders, and the late Edna Sanders; the late Edwin Buchannon Leno, and the late Ruby Dean Leno.

Yes, I am in favor of implementation of water improvement, to help secure grants and federal monies to cover the costs. Yes, we need economic growth for future generations.

We need to utilize our natural resources, tourism for economic



growth. The quote I believe in is our elders' wisdom, and be for one tribe for our future generations.

A healthy community and families feel empowered, have services available, and our children have the backing of our Tribe to feel good about education, and feel the backing of our elders,

parents, grandparents and family, and feel good about making healthy choices.

We should value all our natural resources gifted by the Creator. Our culture is very important to us—Teachings from our ancestors, elders and Creator since time immemorial.

Our Human Resources are the most important we have: They are at the top of the organization. We need to stand together as one tribe, working together as one for our future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Jeffery E. "Luke"
Sanders Jr.

Glendon Smith - Agency District

Hello,

I am a tribal member and lifetime resident of Warm Springs.

I have worked for the tribe in different capacities. I have worked for the Tribal Court nearly 10 years as Associate Judge.

I served as the Secretary-Treasurer for 14 months.

I am also on the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) Commission as a Com-



missioner for about a year now.

As I explained at last

week's candidates forum, meth and opiates have begun to overrun our reservation and our people.

I think we need to explore innovative ways of helping our people, but not forget that there are those who do not want help and may have to be punished in order to discourage their behaviors, effectively.

Glendon Smith