

2005 Candidate Statements

Editor's Note: *Smoke Signals* did not edit the 2005 Tribal Council Candidate Statements.

☑ Kathy Tom

Hello Tribal members,
I'm Kathleen Tom seeking your vote to bring about positive change. My family includes Clinton Tom, Thomas Lawney, Marceline Riggs, Caroline LaBonte, Alex LaBonte, Susan LaChance, Edmund Jeffers and Clementine LaChance. I'm a descendant of the Shasta, Molalla Band of Umpqua and the Mary's



River Kalapuya. In 1934 my Great Grandfather Bob Voutrin served on Tribal Council, as did my father Leon "Chips" Tom. It is my desire to follow in my ancestor's footsteps.

Yes, challenges face our Tribe today **Enrollment, Jobs, Healthcare and Diversification** are all key issues. There is no long or short-term strategic plan. Ethics have disintegrated, spending is out of control and Elders' pensions are at risk. Fixing such problems will take time, but solutions are possible. However, it will take leaders who are proactive and visionary. I can offer some solutions and that's why I've decided to run for Tribal Council.

Better communication at all levels is needed. Many members have expressed a growing concern that our current leadership has not focused on Tribal members' best interests. A fear exists that our Tribe's stability has weakened and morale is suffering.

Complacency is not the answer! It is time your voice was heard once again, time to join together and protect the interests of all Tribal members. If elected I will promote equity of services for those who live outside the six-county service area. I am confident that we can make positive change that would benefit everyone. I propose the following as solutions to bring about positive change:

Solution: Restore accountability, not just financial accountability, but accountability for maintaining higher standards of professional conduct and behavior. It appears that the principles of honesty, integrity, and stewardship have become a dimming light within the chambers of the current leadership. We need to revitalize these ideals and make them meaningful. Remember, Tribal Council members sit in positions of public trust. Those holding these positions are placed there to serve all members.

Solution: Work collaboratively with peers and Tribal members to seek input from all stakeholders in developing a comprehensive Tribal Revitalization & Improvement Plan (T.R.I.P.) containing both short and long-range goals. This plan will become our "Road Map" for achieving success. Having a well-thought out and publicized strategy ensures that resources are focused only on those activities that the Tribe deems important. Since Grand Ronde has limited resources, it is critical that we follow our road map and achieve objectives in a cost-effective manner. Without a road map, success will be uncertain and our future course uncharted makes us vulnerable.

Solution: Work to build a consensus decision regarding Tribal enrollment and annual per capita payments. I think some alternative per capita payment distribution method should be considered. I will work to implement other distribution options, i.e. monthly, quarterly or semi-annually.

Everyone agrees that these topics are highly controversial. Inevitably an acceptable outcome will be one requiring compromise. It is critical for the sake of future generations that these matters get resolved and the enrollment Ad-hoc committee is the first step.

Solution: Employment training division, that meets the needs of our membership, and the growth of the Tribe we need to better prepare our members for the competitive job market.

We are ready to stand up for the Tribe's best ideals, ready for positive leadership that will bring positive change. It's critical for the Tribe to have leaders who are willing to work towards building a financially healthy Tribe, one that we can all be proud of. United we can accomplish great things together.

Thank you for your vote.

Kathleen Tom

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☑ Bernadine Shriver

My name is Bernadine Shriver. I live in Gresham, Oregon. My great grandparents were Frank and Mary Ann Michelle. My grandparents were Ethel Michelle and Irving Tom. My mother was Hazel Tom. My children are Lisa Adams, Greg, Baxter and Jim Archuleta. My husband, Doug, and I own and operate a Wholesale Tree Nursery and a U-Cut Christmas Tree Farm.



I have served on the Tribal Health Committee for a number of years. I also am a delegate to the Northwest Area Indian Health Board, which represents 43 Tribes in the Northwest.

I am running for Tribal Council because I believe we should have Tribal Representation from all different areas. I want to continue to reach out to all of our people everywhere. As a Tribal member, I want to preserve the culture, heritage and integrity of our Tribe and to pass these on to our children's children. This is something I believe all of Tribal member want to see. We need to preserve our relationships with other Tribes. We cannot allow others to cause distrust among us and threaten our Tribal Sovereignty. Now more than ever before we need to stand together, we need to put aside our differences for the good of our Tribe.

As all of you know there is a lot of work ahead for the Tribal Council. They have many important issues to focus on. There are enrollment issues to be settled. There are issues that could impact Tribal gaming revenues. We need to be prepared. We need to continue to look at long-term health care for Tribal members everywhere. There are decisions to be made about the Adult Foster Care Home and how it should be operated. The Tribal Administration needs to be reviewed at every level. The Health Clinic needs to be redesigned to truly meet the needs of our Tribal members. It needs to be what you, our tribal members, envisioned.

We must always be watchful of the Tribal investments, our trust funds and any other revenue the Tribe receives, making sure that they are protected and preserved. I would like to have an Elder Abuse Code adopted. Our Tribal Elders should always be treated with respect and dignity. They should always feel secure and protected. I would like to have more activities for youth. We need greater support for Tribal members and their families seeking access to A & D and mental health treatment, those in recovery and those coming out of jail or prison. They and their families need all the help and support that we can provide. We need greater employment opportunities for Tribal members.

In summary, I want to preserve what are ancestors left us and to keep adding on to that legacy. I believe each and every one of us has something positive to contribute to our Tribe. All of us can continue to build and strengthen our Tribe at every level. We must keep our eyes on the road ahead always focusing on the future. Please share your vision with me at shriverfortc@msn.com.

Best wishes to all,

Bernadine Shriver

Are You Registered To Vote?

Each Tribal member who desires to vote **MUST HAVE** a Signature Verification Form on file with the Election Board.

Each Tribal member who has a Signature Verification Form on file with the board will receive an Absentee Ballot. Tribal members may also submit a Signature Verification Form at the polls on Election Day.

Tribal members can obtain a Signature Verification Form from the Election Board Office. The Election Board can also be reached at 503-879-2271.