Bay Mills Election 2013 - Candidate Profiles

Kurt Perron, incumbent
Bay Mills Tribal Chairman candidate

I would like to start by saying thank you Bay Mills. Thank you for choosing me to lead our tribe for the past two years. Thank you for the chance to try to carry on the tradition of selfless service to our community and thank you for the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of a long line of great but humble leaders for our tribe. I would also like to thank the Executive Council members for their hard work, time and commitment in working together to make the tough decisions that we mutually discussed and decided must be made to improve our community and quality of lives. I would also like to thank the support staff and all the employees of Bay Mills Indian Community.

I believe real progress has been made. Our financial condition has been strengthened and improved upon. We met all of our financial commitments for two straight years and our interest rates have been lowered. Our credit rating has improved and this has led to hundreds of thousands of dollars in real savings now and in the future for our tribe. It is also allowing us to now finance and build a new hotel addition and gaming floor expansion which will also generate millions more in annual revenue, thereby increasing services and programs to our members.

We do have challenges ahead of us with the federal budget cuts, sequestration, government shut down and an increasingly weak overall economy. Within these fiscal constraints we still are planning and preparing to continue to improve upon our financial condition and our community. Our casino revenues have retained their earnings at a higher rate than all other tribes in Michigan, who are all experiencing drastic decreases in their revenue. We are now poised and positioned to take the next step forward into a better and brighter future for all of us here in Bay Mills.

Please lend me your support and your vote. I will not betray the sacred trust that has been placed in the position by the creator himself and between the people and their leaders.

It has taking me many years to earn this position, I am asking for a few more years to continue to create the positive, relentless progress we have been working on. This is not a part-time or retirement job.

Please lend me your support in this year's election.

Vicki Newland
Bay Mills Tribal Chairman candidate

I would like to introduce myself as a candidate for Tribal Chairperson of the Bay Mills Indian Community. I am Vicki (Bowen) Newland. I am running for Chairperson because, while our tribe has come a long way, I think we have reached a point where we need a new perspective on how to move forward.

I am the daughter of Rob and Dee Bowen, wife of 32 years of Gordon Newland, mother of 3 grown children, Bryan, Holly and Rob and grandmother of Graydon and Meredith. I'm a sister to 2 brothers and 3 sisters.

I grew up in Bay Mills, graduated from Brimley High School. I married, had children and worked right after high school. While having a family and a full time job was a challenge, I did not view it as a barrier to college. I enrolled in the new Bay Mills Vocational Education Program just 4 weeks before our first son was born. I attended classes, with him in tow. I enrolled at Lake Superior State University in 1986, shortly after our third child was born. I graduated from LSSU in 1999, the same year our son Bryan graduated from high school. I jokingly say that it took 13 years to obtain my 4 year degree. However, I believe this is a testament to my dedication and perseverance.

I believe in setting goals and mapping out paths to achieve them. Only by setting goals and charting a course will we, as a Tribe, advance. It also takes knowing, evaluating and utilizing our strengths while recognizing weaknesses. It takes reviewing all the information available before making decisions. And, it takes courage to the make the difficult decisions that sometimes must be made.

I have learned from my 20 plus years of administrative experience that moving ahead takes planning and teamwork. Success does not happen by accident. I believe in our members enough to provide them with information and opportunities to participate in this process. As a Community, we are all vital to its success. As Tribal Chairperson, I will use this philosophy to lead our Tribe and to make Bay Mills a place where we all have an opportunity to succeed. I look forward to the opportunity to talk with you about my plans. Please take the time to participate in the success of your Tribe by voting on Oct. 16th and Nov. 6th. Megwitch.

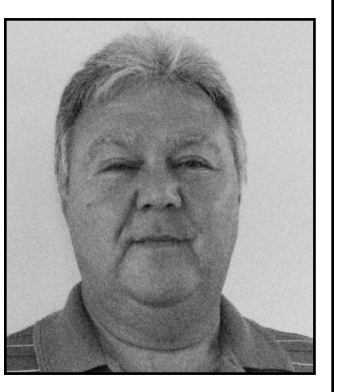
Randy Touchtone
Bay Mills Vice Chairman candidate

I've lived in Bay Mills all of my life. I'm asking for your support in the upcoming election, I have a lot to offer, ideas on how to save money and work toward a sound financial plan.
Right now I feel this Council has forgotten that they work for the community as a whole. I don't see where they have come up with a sound financial plan to help us get out of the debt we are currently in. The Council has overlooked a very useful & intelligent resource within the Tribe US. Have they asked the employees, (not managers), what they feel would help or make things better? No, I think asking the employees would really help considering they are the ones on the front line daily. There was a question asked "How can someone work for the Tribe and only make $13.00/hr." That's a good question considering there have been 3 new positions created in the last 2 years that are high paying positions. They have added these positions to the payroll adding to our financial burden, because I have not seen where they have helped us so far. When question about the financial situation, or anything for that matter you will most likely hear "I'll look into that and get back to you", or "Well the previous council left a mess for us to clean up, it will take some time." I invite anyone to take a look at the pictures hanging in the Resort hallway; the majority of THIS council IS the previous council. My opinion is if your boat is sinking you must first patch the holes before adding more weight. After a few years there should've been some kind of improvement not regression.

I think we can overcome the problems we are facing, but it will take careful spending, and hard decisions will have to be made. Personally I don't feel this council is up to the challenge, as they have displayed these past 2 years.

If elected I will bring honesty and integrity to the council. I'll listen to your questions and concerns and give you a straight answer. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me via e-mail at randytouchtone@yahoo.com or by calling 906-440-8678. Once again I'd like to ask for your support in the upcoming election. Help me help OUR tribe.

Levi Carrick, Sr.
Bay Mills Tribal Chairman candidate



My name is Levi Carrick Sr. and I am running for Tribal President/Chairman. I have been a proud lifelong resident of this community, why I say proud; just take a look around you, look what we have here, look what we have done with treaty rights, gaming, housing, we have led the way for all of these issues and we can and will continue this leadership.

I was the third police officer hired here at Bay Mills, following in the footsteps of two great men, Wade Teeple and Walt LeBlanc. In 1980 I was hired by the Bureau of Indian Affairs where I retired from as a Special Agent in 2011 after 31 years. At the Bureau I completed many classes that I will call upon to help make the right decisions for our tribe. They include Contracts and Grants performance, Manager/Supervisor Equal Employment, Total Quality Management, and Labor Relations for Managers, Advanced Police Management.

I was also a member of the Bureaus Special Response Team for many years where I served as a team leader. As a leader I received additional training on leadership and teamwork, building a team that works together as a single unit that sets attainable goals and shares in the responsibility of attaining them.

I was assigned to many complex investigations on reservations around this nation, some lasting as long as three months. Some included public corruption; others involved arson and many other crimes. These assignments took me away from family and friends at times where I missed many social events, like graduations, birthdays, and weddings. I am not complaining, what I am saying is I am willing to accept whatever this position demands or requires in accomplishing our objectives.

As a Special Agent on our reservation I was tasked with conducting investigations involving family and friends, I'll be the first to admit this wasn't easy, but my oath to the profession was first. In these and other investigations, I was not the judge; I gathered the facts and presented them for review.

We don't know much about our financial status at this time, because this information is not shared freely with our members, I promise you this vital information will be public knowledge and I will lead an open and honest administration that is financially sound and living within our means.

I ask for your support at this critical time for our community.

John Paul Lufkins
Bay Mills Vice Chairman candidate

My name is John Paul Lufkins and I am a candidate for Vice Chairman of the Bay Mills Executive Council. I work as a Executive Casino Host for Bay Mills Resort & Casinos and reside here on the reservation. As a current council member, I am committed to helping our tribe 24/7. My experience on the Council has prepared me well to deal with the many challenges that face our tribe today. I am running for Vice Chairman because I believe that I can continue to be a leader on council at this critical time in our tribe's progress. I feel I have the ability to work well with other council members and bring them together as a whole to address the issues we receive daily. I have been on council for the last two terms and have the necessary experience to take us through these trying times we may face in the future. I grew up in a household with parents being involved with council before and had no idea that it consumed so much of your time and energy. It is a life that takes a little getting used to and I feel I do well with that juggle. With that being said, I would like to thank my wife and children for understanding my commitment to the tribe and the membership. Last but not least, I want to thank the community for the opportunity to work with some really great individuals these past two terms, and look forward to working further for Bay Mills.

A profile was not received of Vice Chair candidate Joann Leblanc by deadline.

All candidates listed for the Bay Mills Primary Election, held on Oct. 16, were given the opportunity to provide a candidate profile of 400 words. Those received by the deadline have been published here, as received, unedited. The list of candidates moving forward in the General Election, to be held Nov. 6, will be posted on www.baymillsnews.com and www.baymills.org.

Bay Mills Elders

BINGO

Every Friday Night
Armella Parker Senior Center
12485 W. Lakeshore Drive
BRIMLEY
Games start at 6:45 p.m.
Canadian Money Accepted!

Bingo Packets $30
2nd pack 1/2 price
Regular Bingo Prize $125

Full Concession Stand
Drinks, Food, Daubers &
many more goodies!

6 Ways to BINGO!
Any Straight Line, Any Diagonal Line, Outside 4 Corners, Inside 4 Corners, Top or Bottom "V", Postage Stamp (any corner)
Bingo in 4 numbers and win an additional $50

Early Birds, Specials and Jackpots included in every packet!
Final Game: Winner Take All
Double Postage Stamp is not included in packet.
Sold Separately -$1 each

Kitty- $1
First number called is the Kitty Number. Bingo on that number and win the pot. If no one bingos, it carries over until the next bingo session!

BINGO GAMES
1. Early Bird, $50
2. Early Bird, $50
3. Early Bird, $50
4. Early Bird, $50
5: Special Game: Small O $200
6. Regular Game
7. Regular Game
8. Regular Game
9. Regular Game
10. Special Game: Letter X $200
11.Regular Game
12. Regular Game
13. Regular Game
14. Regular Game
15. Special Game: Letter T $200
16. Regular Game
17. Regular Game
18. Regular Game
19. Regular Game
20. U Pick Em
21. Bonanza
22. Jackpot Coverall

*Jackpot Game is played in three parts: Outside 4 Corners - $50; Block of 9 (9Pack) - $100; Blackout - $1,000

Special Bingo Games: Small O, Letter X, Letter T
If you bingo first with the outside 4 corners: win $75

ACHIEVEMENT:
THRIVES LOCALLY

We're committed to helping the community and everyone who lives here achieve more than ever.

PNC is thankful to be part of your community.

PNC for the ACHIEVER in us all™

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