



LUMMI INDIAN BUSINESS COUNCIL

2665 KWINA ROAD BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON 98226 (360) 312-2000

DEPARTMENT _____ DIRECT NO. _____

Via Email Transmission: lmalerba@moheganmail.com

June 14, 2021

Chief Lynn Malerba
Chair, Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee
c/o Self-Governance Communication and Education

Re: Nomination of Councilman Nickolaus Lewis for Appointment to the Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee– Portland Area Alternate

Dear Chair Malerba,

I write today to express our support for the nomination of Councilman Nickolaus Lewis as the Tribal Self-Governance Advisory Committee (TSGAC) Alternate Delegate for the Portland Area.

The Lummi Nation is a nationally recognized leader in tribal self-governance, and played a foundational role in the Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project in the early 1990's. It was the vision of Lummi leaders to "affirm the government-to-government relationship with the United States; to move forward in the future towards self-sufficiency, politically, socially, culturally, and economically".¹ Our vision is being realized by a new generation of tribal leadership.

Councilman Lewis is the grandson of the late hereditary Chief Sa-hum-kun (Donald Lewis) of the Lummi Nation, and an enrolled member of the Lummi Nation. He is currently in his fifth year of service as a Tribal Council member and is an eight-year veteran of the United States Navy. Councilman Lewis serves as the Chair of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, which represents the 43 federally recognized tribes in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington in health-related matters, and the Vice-Chair of the National Indian Health Board. Councilman Lewis understands the importance of self-governance, independence, and honoring our traditional ways, and we believe that he will bring his dedication to serving American Indian/Alaska Native people, and his heart for our people to the important work of the TSGAC. Councilman Lewis leads from a place of service. His work at the Lummi Nation and his responsibilities as a Tribal Council member include health care, criminal justice, Lummi Nation Constitution and Ordinance enforcement, and homelessness.

¹ Tribal Self-Governance Demonstration Project. Sovereign Nations. Focus on the Lummi Nation. July 1993, Volume 2, Number 7. Page 3. <https://www.tribalselfgov.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Issue-7-1993-Focus-on-Lummi.pdf>

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation. If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, or require additional information please contact Anthony Hillaire, Chief of Staff at AnthonyH@lummi-nsn.gov or 360-393-0890.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Solomon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lawrence Solomon, Chairman
Lummi Indian Business Council