

Tribal Summit Group Board of Directors' Biographies

CHAIRPERSON - JAMEY BALOUSEK

My name is Jamey Balousek and I'm currently the Chief Operating Officer for Marine View Ventures - the economic development arm of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition to my work with MVV, I've been honored to be involved with the Tribal Summit Group since it began in 2009. My involvement with the TSG is inspired by the mission statement we established many years ago - to encourage economic success in Indian Country by uniting Tribes in the sharing of best practices, building effective relationships with our partners and leveraging the strength of our members. My motivation is to do my part to help further our mission to the best of my ability.

VICE-CHAIRPERSON - RONALD MYERS

We have come a long way from when Bob Solomon, Marie Murray and myself set behind KTP discussing some issues we were having with our stores and said "What If", we could form a group of Tribal store management that could have a network to share their skills, knowledge and best practices. I am extremely proud of everyone's drive, dedication and commitment to reach this goal.

SECRETARY – MARIE GOODWIN NELSON

My name is Marie Goodwin Nelson (formerly Marie Murray) I have worked in the convenience store and gas business for eighteen years. Twelve years ago I was fortunate enough to be hired by the Swinomish Tribe which started my journey in Indian Country. Before working for the Swinomish tribal community I worked for Arco AmPm and was with them for seven years.

During these last twelve years I have come to love the culture and feel I understand firsthand what we need to do to create the path that this summit needs. In the future it is necessary to do all we can to help our tribal businesses strive and be successful. My wish is to accomplish this through successful communication with the knowledge we have gathered by each and every one of our experiences of living and working with tribal communities.

TREASURER - JIM STANLEY

Jim is the Senior Operations Manager of Quinault Pride Seafood and currently serves as the Treasurer for Tribal Summit Group. Professionally, Jim serves the financing needs of tribes, non-profits, and for profit businesses. Jim's clients have an objective 3rd party perspective to help them better navigate market up and down turns. During the recent economic period, Jim engaged clients to manage their business by adjusting to factors such as declining sales, shrinking profit margins, cash scarcity, positioning for financing, elongated accounts receivable and expanding accounts payable. The goal is to help business owner(s) maintain financial health, regardless of economic cycle. Jim's communication style is direct and respectful. Jim lives in Snoqualmie, WA and is a member of the Quinault Indian Nation.

AT LARGE MEMEBERS -

My name is Robert Solomon. My traditional name is Cha' ja wub. I am a member on the Nooksack Indian Tribe, where I am currently the Retail Operations General Manager. I have been in charge of the Nooksack Market Center for the last 12 years and am currently serving my second term as a Nooksack Tribal Council Member. It's been an honor to serve on the Tribal Summit Group's Board for the last 2 years. I am excited to be nominated to a second term on the Board. I have been in Retail for 32 years, 20 of those years managing Tribal C stores. This industry has changed so much in the last 20 years, networking was weak and tribes didn't like to share what they were doing with each other. Today we all work together networking to stay in tune with all the new trends, policy changes and industry updates. This group of tribal store operators works together to help each other gain the tools to have better business practices and network to help each other with industry issues. This is a goal we all share. I remember Ron Myers, Marie Murray and myself sitting on a curb behind the Kamilche Trading Post talking about how cool it would be for all of us C store operators to have a chance to work together and leverage buying power with vendors and now we do that and more. I would be honored to continue to sit on the Tribal Summit Group's Board; I believe I bring my 32 years of retail operations experience as well as the perspective of an elected Tribal Council member to this position.

Chris Richardson is the Managing Director of Chehalis Tribal Enterprises, which includes the management of the End of the Trail Convenience Stores in SW Washington. His education and training is in finance and accounting in which he earned a BA from Queens College, CUNY. As a certified public accountant and a past controller/CFO of several companies, Chris' career has been in Indian Country for the past 18 years serving in various management roles in enterprise and government. He was involved in the early formation of the Summit Group for several years and served on its first Board of Directors. He continues to attend most if not all Summit Group Board meetings. Chris shares a vision of a more robust Summit Group focused on industry training & education opportunities for its members as it grows in the coming years.

Chris also serves on his local Big Brothers Big Sisters' Board of Directors. He has two teenage daughters and a mixed Border Collie dog, none of which are spoiled. He is an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation in Oakville, Washington.

My name is **Frank Black** and I am running for re-election as an "At Large" board member. I have been in Retail Management for 43years with the last 33 years specifically in C- Stores. I have experience as a clerk, store manager, manager trainer, and district manager. I currently am the Retail Director for the Suquamish tribe. I have severed on committees that developed bonus programs, corporate policies/procedures, job descriptions and advertising programs. Serving on the board for the last two years has been and exciting and fulfilling experience. I am proud of the board's accomplishments and progress and would like to continue being instrumental in the future growth of the Tribal C-Store Summit Group. I would appreciate your vote during the upcoming elections.