



My name is Michael Romine and I am running for position #6. I am a Miluk Coos enrolled Tribal member, descendant of Mary Adamec.

I am running for Tribal council because I want to push our Tribe in the best possible economical position, while maintaining our ancestral traditions. Our Tribe has done a great job thus far, but there is always room for improvement. My ideal improvements are listed below:

Economic development

- Our Tribe has grown exponentially in the years since becoming a restored Tribe, but there has always been one thing missing in our economic portfolio and I believe that is diversity. The structures in place currently, if utilized properly can empower and assist our Tribal membership to their financial goals.
- If I am to be elected, I would work with my fellow council members to build an economic plan that stretches far past the four-year term. We have not yet reached our financial goals because we do not have a process in place that holds the next council members accountable to maintain the economic path from the previous. With open communication and a willingness to work with past and present council members towards a common goal, our Tribe will continue to grow to sustainability for the next seven generations.

Tribal Youth

- After working with the Youth Council in the capacity of Vice Chair for four years, it gave me an understanding on how important it is to have youth engagement in a Tribe. One of my main missions, if elected, is to ensure that our Tribal youth have the same opportunities I did as a youth, and more.
- Over the past two years, our communities have faced unprecedented times, which has kept our family's home and away from their Tribal community. While our Tribe has worked very hard to keep our Tribal families safe but engaged with virtual activities, it is time to bring our back families together for in person camps and activities. Our youth are the Tribes' future. With strong youth engagement and programs to support them, our community will continue to grow.

Outreach

- A Tribes biggest strength is their community of people. Knowledge for one, is knowledge for all. I believe transparency is key in the position of a Tribal Council member. Every decision made, from the purchase of land to the settling of debts affects every Tribal member. Not only do I believe we need to do a better job of keeping open and honest communication with our Tribal members, but also with the State and local governments. A healthy line of communication across the board opens doors for our Tribe that have been closed to us in the past.

As a Tribal member born into a restored Tribe, my outlook and experiences can bring forward a unique and diverse portfolio, that isn't present in our current leadership. From 2015 to 2017 I worked for our Tribal government as our Human Resources Coordinator, and several internships with the Tribal Police department, as well as Tribal Courts. In 2015, with a group of others, we were able to lay the foundation for our Tribal Youth Council. I operated as Vice Chair, until I aged out in 2020. The Tribe has helped me get to this point and the next step is our Tribal Council.

Per our constitution, it is our duty to promote and protect our unique identities as members of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, to promote and protect our cultural, religious, and historical beliefs, as well as to the social and economic welfare of our members. If elected, I will uphold the goals set forth through our constitution. It is time for change. With change comes discomfort, but with change comes growth. I am walking down the path laid for me by our ancestors and I want to lay the same path for the people that come long after me.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,

Michael Romine

541-551-9224