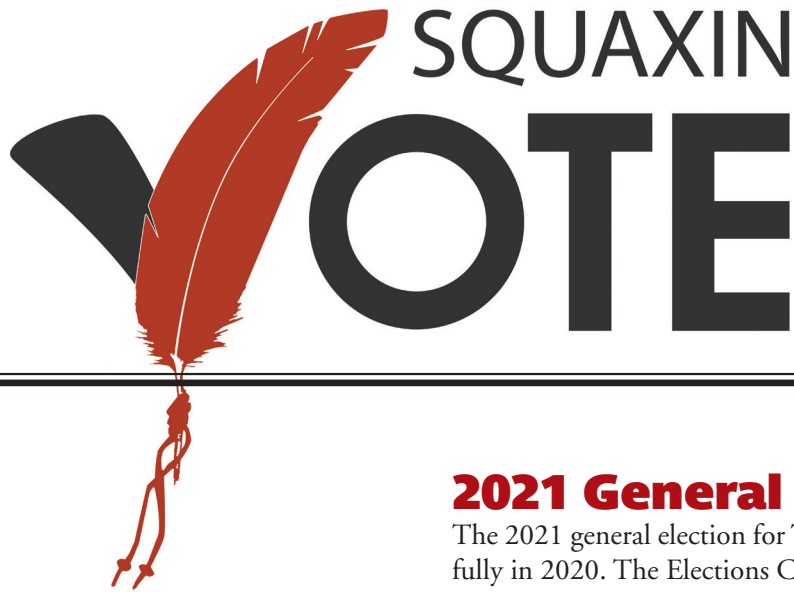




YOUR
VOTE

YOUR
VOICE

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2021 General Election

The 2021 general election for Tribal Council Secretary and Treasurer is being done via mail-in ballot. We did this successfully in 2020. The Elections Committee worked with the Tribe's legal team and a tribal parliamentarian to move forward with this recommendation.

Given the current pandemic risk in our region, the Elections Committee weighed options and decided the best and safest way to proceed is mail-in voting. While we are encouraged that many tribal members and spouses have been able to get vaccinated, many more still haven't had the chance or have chosen not to do so. The CDC and other health organizations are not recommending large gatherings until everyone is vaccinated and Covid-19 cases plummet.

Tribal Council Position Open for Election

- Tribal Council Secretary
- Tribal Council Treasurer



Tribal Council Secretary is currently held by Jeremie Walls and Tribal Council Treasurer by Vicki Kruger.

How Does it Work?

Candidate Nominations:

Candidates must be nominated by tribal members 18 years of age or older. Nominations this year were done through an electronic form and were due by March 26th. Candidates had one week to respond their nominations.

Ballot:

Ballot printing and mail-out began immediately. Ballots were mailed out the week of April 6th, 2021 and received during the week of April 12th (possibly sooner or later depending on your location). **Voters have until 11:00 a.m. on Election Day (the same day as the General Council meeting), which is May 1st, to return their ballots to PO Box 1158, Shelton, WA 98584, or to a drop-off ballot box.** These are located at Public Safety and Justice off Klah-Che-Min Drive and Fire District #4 off Old Olympic Highway.

Election Day - May 1st:

Ballots are due to the ballot boxes by 11:00 a.m. on May 1st and will be counted at 1:00 p.m. that same day. If ballots are not received on time, they will not be counted. Each candidate will be able to send a representative tribal member voter to the ballot count to ensure the count is done fairly. Candidates will not be allowed to attend the ballot count. The Elections Consultant will handle the ballot count with the Elections Committee, Legal team, and Tribal Administration present to oversee and assist.

Runoff Elections:

If a runoff is necessary, the ballot printing and mail-out process will start immediately following the ballot count. The runoff ballot count will be May 29th, if required. In order for a candidate to win an election, they must receive more than 50% of the votes. If no candidate has more than 50% then a runoff election follows.





Squaxin Island Tribe

Handling Your Ballot

Just like last year, your ballot will arrive in a mailed envelope. The heading in middle of the envelope will say, "Official Ballot Enclosed – Squaxin Island Tribe 2021 Council Election." Inside there will be two envelopes and your ballot. One envelope is referred to as the "secret ballot envelope." The second envelope will have an address in the center and will be pre-stamped in the top right corner. **This is the mailing envelope.**

- 1) Fill out your ballot neatly. Fill in the box completely for the candidates that you vote for. ***Vote for only one candidate per position.***
- 2) Place the ballot inside the secret ballot envelope and seal it.
- 3) Now place the secret ballot envelope inside the mailing envelope with the Tribe's PO box # on the front. Seal the mailing envelope.
- 4) ***Place your mailing envelope in the outgoing mail or in a designated Squaxin Island Tribe ballot box.***

Your ballot must be received by the election day in order to be counted in the election.

Don't put more than one ballot in a single envelope.

Don't mark more than one candidate for a given position.

Don't write your name or sign the ballot or envelopes.



***All ballots must be received no later than
11:00 a.m., Saturday, May 1,
or they will not be counted.***

This Year We Have Two Drop-off Locations:

- **Squaxin Island Public Safety and Justice office**
11 SE Squaxin Lane, Shelton, WA 98584
- **Fire District #4**
3660 SE Old Olympic HWY, Kamilche, WA 98584

You may also hand deliver your ballot to the Shelton Post Office and request it be placed immediately in the P.O. Box listed on the envelope.



Behind Public Safety and Justice



Fire District #4 on Old Olympic Hwy

There are now two ballot boxes in Kamilche for voters to drop off their ballots. These are black boxes that indicate on the front that they are for Squaxin elections. ***When dropping off your ballot, please make sure that is put together correctly and is inside the proper mailing envelope.***

Request a New Ballot

If you make a mistake on your ballot, lose your ballot, or need any materials which accompanied your ballot, you may request a replacement by calling MK Elections at (209) 259-6740. A new ballot will be sent right away and can even be rush delivered.

Where is My Ballot?

If you have not received a ballot by April 21st and your mailing address is within the continental U.S., please request a new ballot by calling (209) 259-6740.

Special Ballot Pickup

If you are voter who requested to pickup your ballot at Public Safety and Justice (PSJ), i.e. "law enforcement", you may do so during office hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Call ahead at (360) 426-5222 to check on availability. Only voters may pick-up their individual ballots with identification. Public Safety and Justice's address is 11 SE Squaxin Ln, Shelton, WA 98584.

Running for Tribal Council Treasurer *(in Alphabetical Order)*



Marvin Campbell

Squaxin Family,

I humbly accept the nomination to serve as our General Council's Treasurer.

When someone is selected as a Chief in the US Navy, we go through a six-week initiation prior to being accepted by current Chiefs/Senior Chiefs/Master Chiefs. The goal of this process is to rid us of "I" statements, to understand we can't accomplish anything on our own. I am not comfortable with resume type discussion. This is my attempt to give everyone insight into lessons I have learned on my journey and share the wisdom given to me by people who built the road I was allowed to travel.

It has been mentioned there are questions out there regarding my ability to do my current job, as Tribal Administrator, and a Council position. "Are my shoulders big enough to carry the work load?"

The role I served in at my last job, prior to retiring and coming home, was Military Training Director of the Navy's only boot camp. I was responsible for over

700 drill instructors, and over 8,000 recruits every day. Leadership in the military is not just during working hours; we are responsible for our people's personal lives, their professional development, their safety, and we manage the buildings, curriculum, and finances of the command. It wasn't uncommon to have calls all hours of the night and weekends.

Prior to that, I was responsible for five school houses, 300 instructors who provided training to more than 1,500 students daily at the Navy's largest technical school. Our team brought instructor-led training/classroom instruction back and moved away from computer based training. We received recognition for improving academic attrition, advancement numbers, and reenlistment numbers. I am accustomed to hard work, the importance of being committed, and taking ownership of the good and bad in areas of responsibility.

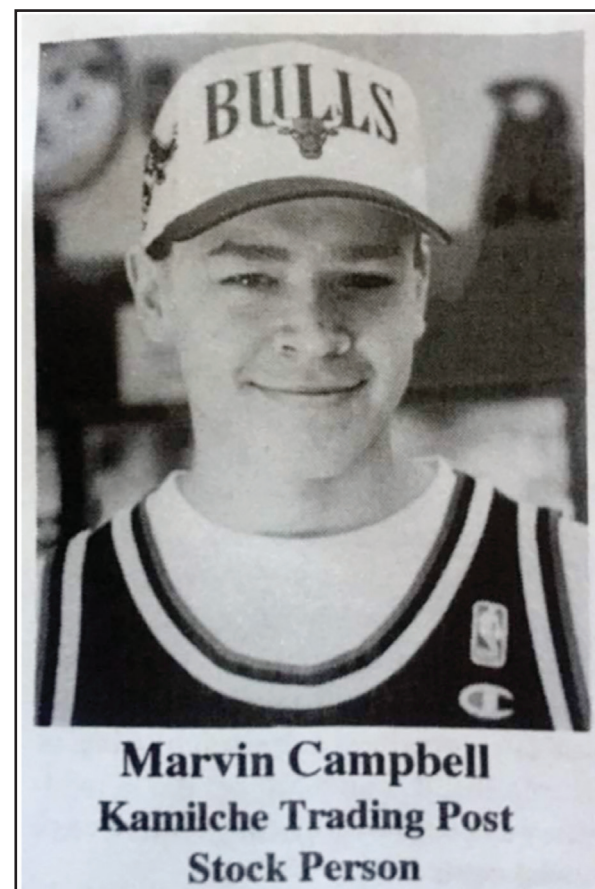
I have also been asked about my ability to handle pressure, as it will be multiplied if I were to do both roles. My reference, when things are tough and tough decisions must be made, is to find perspective.

How many people know what a "blood chit" is? Some of our veterans might. It's a paper that is written in a language of whatever country you are going into. It promises if you assist the person carrying it, the US government will provide you a reward for keeping them safe. I went into Iraq at the beginning of the Global War on Terrorism with a group where we were not allowed to wear anything on us that would identify us. We carried only our weapons and a blood chit. Nothing else. That pressure has taught me to manage intense situations. Those are experiences that will assist me in any situation that may arise. I can say it has helped during this pandemic.

My integrity has been mentioned in addition to audit experience. One of my roles was as Communication Security Manager. I was responsible for over 1,000 pieces of crypto equipment/keymat. This role required above a top secret security clearance. The audits for this job were greater than any money the federal government audited. A misstep with crypto will get you put in jail.

Also, regarding integrity, and leadership, one of the most difficult things I ever had to do was an initial investigation of misconduct by a protégé of mine. I had worked with her for more than seven years, and watched her develop into a leader. It was tough to remove feelings from facts, but that is what integrity is. I provided the Commanding Officer with my report, and she had to be held accountable for her actions. I don't lead with selfish ambition, or for personal gain. A leader's job is to know who we answer to. In any role I may have with our Tribe, I answer to 1,122 people.

It is my intent to offer insight into a candidate that you will trust to make decisions that best suit the future of our people. I was born on the reservation, and I don't take anything for granted that we had back then, nor the things we have today. We stand on the shoulders of Giants, and I would be honored to serve our people just as those who came before us.



Marvin Campbell
Kamilche Trading Post
Stock Person



Squaxin Island Tribe

Running for Tribal Council Treasurer (in Alphabetical Order)



Whitney Jones

Hello Squaxin Island Tribe,

After getting several requests from other members, and giving it thoughtful consideration, I have decided to run for the Tribal Council Treasurer position. I believe I have the right combination of skills, experience, and temperament that would best serve our Tribe and you, the General Council, as your Treasurer.

After benefiting from the Tribe's higher education assistance, I earned my BA in Business Administration and immediately returned to the Tribe where I've spent the last 22 years serving our people in management positions at the government, in the Enterprise division, and at SPIPA, as well as on a variety of committees and boards. I live and breathe planning, budgeting, evaluating, and enhancing services to tribal people. I'm one of those nerdy financial types who loves budgets and numbers – which is important to help act as a bridge between the Council, the staff, and you. Let me give you some more detail about my background and why I have the best combination of skills for this position... My financial background and expertise include extensive experience developing, approving, monitoring, and modifying budgets, both at the individual grant and

contract level, as well as at the overall agency level of a multi-million dollar tribal consortium. I've spent years ensuring federal compliance, and I am directly involved in and responsible for large-scale agency audits every year, including recruitment and selection of auditors, program reviews, and working with our team to provide required documentation for consistently clean audits. Additionally, I'm pleased to already have a good long-term working relationship with the Tribe's accounting staff and significant familiarity with operational procedures from my previous work at the Tribe and as a member of the Budget Commission.

My experience and affinity for economic development have also been beneficial for my involvement in the economic side of the Tribe, both as a member of the IEI Board as well as the Business Center Director and CSO of Island Enterprises, Inc. Like many of you, I was enthusiastic about the years of innovation and economic growth that our Tribe experienced and proud that Squaxin was a leader and front-runner in so many ways. We need to get back on top of our economic game and that is going to take commitment, planning, and then definitive action. As the Treasurer, I can gather and provide relevant financial information to help guide those discussions so that everyone can effectively participate in the conversation and decision making.

You've heard me stress the importance of comprehensive strategic and community planning. The Tribe's future, its growth, and its financial stability depends on defining our goals, charting a path, and sticking to it as much as possible. Your input into that community and strategic planning process is critical. I will continue to fight for this so that we can get movement as quickly as possible.

I am also passionate about continuing to increase communication between leadership and the General Council. I'm excited about the things Chairman Peters and the Council have been able to implement, even during this pandemic, and I look forward to being able to help the Council increase communication to you - and from you. In my previous term, I provided updates to you on a regular basis through the KCM Newsletter and I know there are even more

opportunities to expand that now. Transparency and communication from your elected leaders are important, and equally important is that the information is accurate. I feel strongly that you need to know what is going on so that we can reduce unnecessary rumors and confusion and so that we can come together as a strong community with a common goal to enrich our Tribe.

There are certainly many more topics that are important to our Tribe and tribal members – Elders needs, education, workforce development, youth engagement, community infrastructure, and so many more... They are all critically important and prioritizing them is almost impossible when there is never enough funding. That's why we elect a body of leaders – to listen to the community, to effectively assess needs, and to find reasonable solutions – so that we can ensure we have a strong foundation and the building blocks of what our Tribe needs in order to thrive.

You generally find me working behind the scenes rather than on the microphone, but don't mistake that approach for a lack of voice or willingness to fight for something. I'm known for my diligence and persistence and also for problem solving and finding solutions that incorporate all voices. My commitment to our Tribe is evident in my work history and my previous work on Council.

You have strong candidates for the Treasurer position this year – what a great thing for the Tribe! Having the right combination of leadership in the right areas will allow us to forge an even more effective and energetic partnership between the Council, who defines the vision, and the Administration responsible for executing that vision. One of the reasons I've been asked to run is so we don't lose female representation and perspective since Vicki is retiring. Some issues require a lady's touch, and I can provide that point of view firmly but diplomatically.

Now is the time to recognize that the Tribe could be on the cusp of regaining its momentum, increasing its economic vitality, and offering expanded communication and leadership to all tribal members. Thank you for your support and for your vote.

Running for Tribal Council Treasurer *(in Alphabetical Order)*



David Whitener, Jr.

Hi,

My name is David Whitener, Jr., and I currently serve as your Council Member Position Two.

As I reflect back on the last 4 years, I can say that it has been an amazing journey. I am not saying it was easy; it was not. There were many days of frustration, upset, and seemingly unending meetings and travel.

My base of experience did not prepare me for the unique organizational structure that Council is; I'm not sure anything can. :)

It was a steep learning curve in the beginning, and I will be honest, I sometimes wondered what I had gotten myself into.

I missed being on the dive boat and at the clam digs, but I had made a commitment and, as I learned the ropes and studied where we were at overall as an organization and tribe, I found my passion for economics rekindled and a vision for our economic future began to emerge.

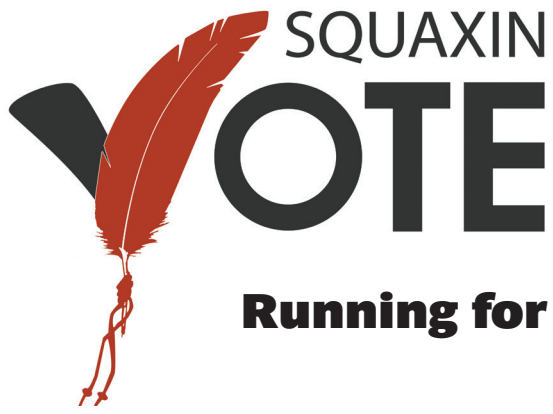
Then Covid hit, and everything seemed to change overnight. As we progressed through this epidemic, it became clear to me that planning for our future needs to be a top priority and that a strong economic base needs to be in place to support that future. That also means having a strong and efficient governmental structure that supports economic growth.

This is why I chose to run for Treasurer . . . because I feel this position would best help push us forward with this planning and growth. I feel we are at a critical time, and I don't believe this will be the last time we deal with something like Covid.

I will say that you have some great choices for this position. I believe we all bring experience and skills that you can count on, but here is the one advantage I may have - I am able and committed to devoting my full attention and time to this position.

Thank you for your consideration and lets turn our visions into reality. :)





Squaxin Island Tribe

Running for Tribal Council Secretary *(in Alphabetical Order)*



Patrick Braese

Hello!

I'm Patrick Braese. I proudly accept the nomination for Squaxin Island Tribal Council Secretary.

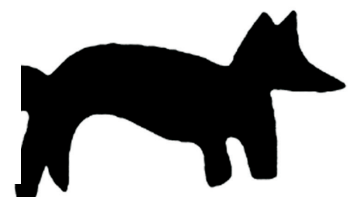
And without a doubt would love and be honored to serve you on our Tribal Council.

As a Tribe, we have always striven to be the first in our area to have a casino/resort and golf course, legal marijuana grow and distribution, and tobacco factory, amongst other things.

But I truly believe, to reach our full potential, it's time too start asking questions like, why aren't we self-sufficient yet, or what steps do we need to take to be the first to have a tribal hospital and Elder care center on Rez?

As a Tribe, we should take advantage of the lands we have to build a tribal school filled with tribal teachers and staff as a form of self-preservation. Especially with the threats of Covid and racism and how unpredictable things can be these days.

We should look into options for converting over to solar energy on the Rez, explore how to get our own actual grocery store where we can buy our everyday needs, and have an actual seafood market so we have a place too sell and market our own Squaxin Island oysters, clams, fish, and geoduck, as well as a family-style restaurant that's separate from the casino resort. I know it wouldn't see a huge amount of profit, but it would be a amazing service and provide great job opportunities for everyone.



Running for Tribal Council Secretary (in Alphabetical Order)



Diane Deyette

Hi!

I am honored to accept the nomination for the Tribal Council Secretary position.

I was born and raised in the Shelton area. At the wise age of 18, I moved as far away from this small town as I thought I could at that age – Made it to the Olympia area. While away starting my family and career, I never forgot where home was and, as the years went on, I knew I would return home.

I have lived in and served our Tribal community for the past 16 years. I have become increasingly passionate about making us stronger. Now I feel it is time to step up and serve in a new capacity.

I spent the past twelve years working in the Legal Department, where I was able to work with others to continue to protect our Treaty Rights. I also worked with all levels of government and enterprise employees, and I believe this experience provides me with a working knowledge of how we can best work toward successful goals.

I was able to secure my degree as a paralegal while working in the Legal Department through our Tribal member training program. As your Tribal Council Secretary, I will continue to support Tribal member training programs. I believe, with my first-hand experience, I will be successful when advocating for continuing and expanding these programs.

My volunteer work with the Community Emergency Response Team has recently led to my transfer from the Legal Department to my current position in the Emergency Operations Center. I am the Emergency Management Coordinator as well as serving as a Planning Section Chief when the EOC is activated. The decision to place me in this position of trust during the current national crisis speaks volumes. I am excited to work with our Emergency Operations team, directors, and the Tribal Administrator to grow this program. With the current national crisis, we can all understand the importance of this goal.

I was recently appointed as a member of the Island Enterprises Board because of my business experience and the professionalism I have demonstrated over the years.

As an active member of the community, some of the projects I have been most proud to work on include:

Tribal Member Preference Hiring. I was an appointed member of the Gaming Commission from 2012-2019. We worked with the director to meet our goal of increasing the percentage of tribal members employed by the Tribal Gaming Agency.

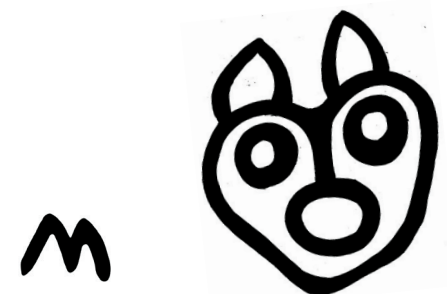
Reservation Homeownership Program. This is a project that I felt very strongly about and worked diligently to move forward with the support of Council and the Housing Commission. We finalized the Homeownership Program and made homeownership an attainable reality for more members. It was a great success!

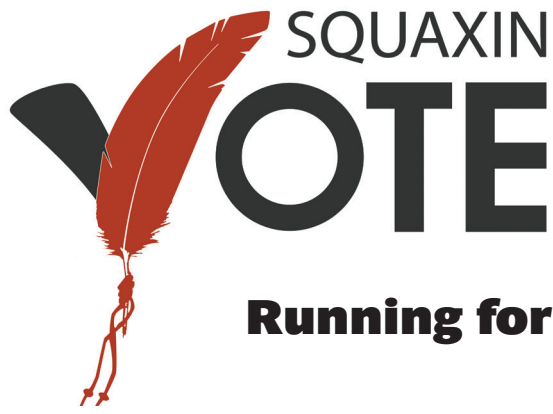
Community Emergency Response Team Training. I volunteered with the Community Emergency Response Core Team to begin efforts to make our

community a safer place in the event of a disaster, such as an earthquake or severe weather event. We provided training to 45 of our community members with plans to resume once it is considered safe to do so. We have also worked on planning for our vulnerable population and other preparedness outreach and activities.

I bring an established record of accomplishments combined with the energy and passion I have had over the years – I know that I can help with advancing the objectives and concerns of our General Council.

I thank you for your support and your vote.





Squaxin Island Tribe

Running for Tribal Council Secretary *(in Alphabetical Order)*



Michael Ogden

Hello People of the Water,

My name is Michael Stewart Ogden.
My Mother is Gloria Jean Hill.
My Father was William Stewart Ogden.

I am from the Bagley Seymour family here at Squaxin.

I hope this finds you well, all things considered in these crazy times.

Thank you to the Squaxin Island community for all your continued efforts through this pandemic. We WILL get through this, TOGETHER!

There is a lot for the Squaxin people to consider during our election process. Our Tribal Council is chosen by the people. Please choose wisely. For too long the hard questions have been passed over to be dealt with in the future. It's up to the people to find leaders who are going to commit to answering these and other hard questions. The future is now. Do you think now is the time to find solutions?

What is really the answer to satisfying all of the housing list?

What is really the answer to blood quantum for future generations?

What is really the answer to the moratorium on enrollment?

How is it that we are unable to find solutions on these, and other issues, that have been brought up multiple times a year for years on end?

Our tribal economy is strong and diversified, and our businesses have strong strategic plans of action for continued growth. There are funds from taxes, profits and grants coming in. Direct input from the community as to where those funds go should be welcomed by leadership.

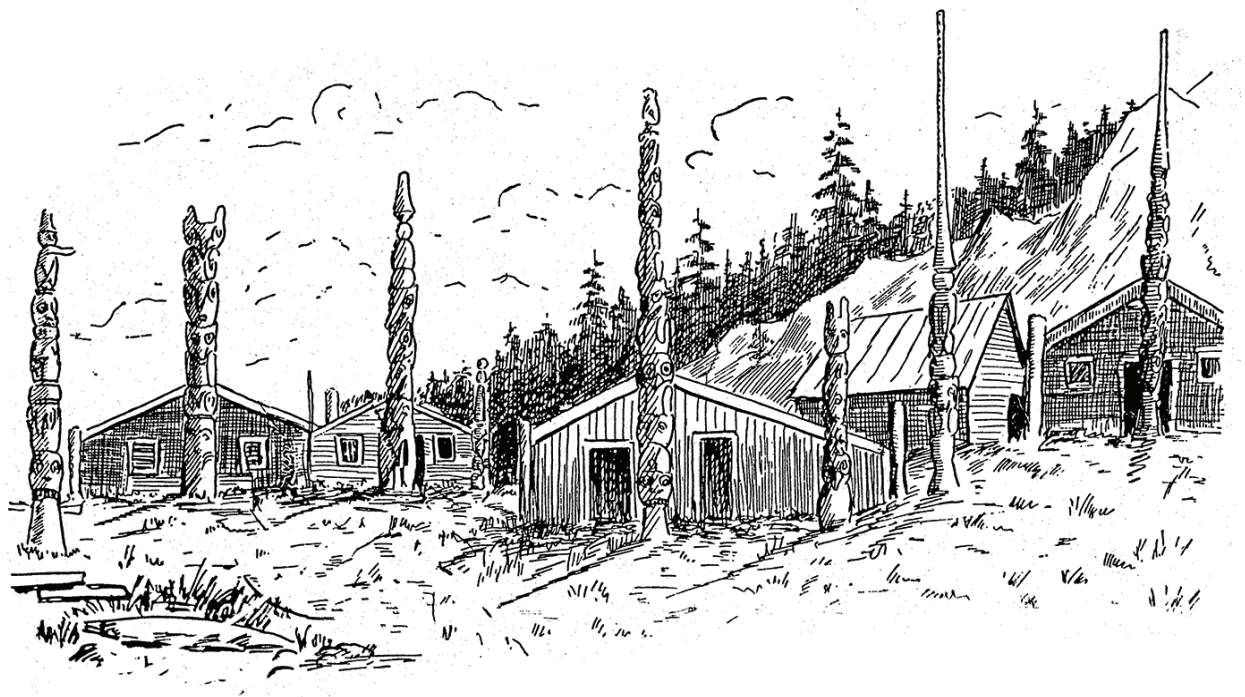
Are there enough funds in our family and out-patient services to sufficiently help our people with the heavy issues of addiction, domestic violence, child welfare and mental health? This is another area

where direct input from the community should be welcomed by leadership.

We can be innovative to gather community input. We can gather information through surveys or polls during handouts and before clam digs. We live in a modern world. There is no reason for not having more real-time input from the community and real-time responses from Council and committees, on a platform that is private to tribal members. Do you think now is the time to find solutions?

The government is an abstraction laid over the top of our community as the means to facilitate the needs of the people. The government is NOT the community, the government is NOT the Tribe. The people are the community. The people are the Tribe. It is up to YOU, the voter, to decide who will best serve and be accountable to the people of the Squaxin Island Tribe on these and all issues.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in the elections process and the future of our Tribe.
Take Care!



Running for Tribal Council Secretary *(in Alphabetical Order)*



Jeremie Walls

haʔl sləx̌il my fellow Tribal members.

I am honored and humbled by the time you have allowed me to serve you as Tribal Council Secretary. It's almost voting time again, and I want to let you all know I am accepting the nomination for the same position.

It was three years ago that I came to you for your support in helping bring a positive change to our Tribe.

I feel your Council has shown it's strength during this pandemic. This is the hardest thing our tribal people have faced in our lifetime. I feel proud to be part of that leadership.

You have asked me to be your voice and eyes by being a transparent leader that offers you hand in our vision as a Tribe. I have done my best and will continue to do so.

Please watch my video at squaxinland.org/elections/candidates to see more about the concerns and needs I would like your support with in order to bring them to Tribal Council in my next term.

I am currently a board member on the Olympic College Foundation. With that role, and being the Tribal Council representative for education, I see the need to develop a white page, of sorts, to recruit and train our young tribal members into the professional jobs we have to offer here at home. We all deserve a job with a real living wage. We need to let our high school seniors know how to achieve these goals and how to get themselves there. Our youth are our future. With that in mind, I have planted a seed with the Boys and Girls Club of America to have Squaxin Island Tribe become another Native club in their mix. We have top notch Education and Parks & Rec departments. This would be a great compliment to the relationship I would like to build with them.

We need to look farther into the future and find funds to build our gym. The Boys and Girls Club of America has 300 Native clubs from Alaska to Hawaii. I believe we can have the first of many clubs to come in Mason County.

We need an updated behavioral health and transitional housing program to strengthen our vulnerable adult program. The program needs the tools to better care for our people. We need to address our homeless and vulnerable adult living arrangements; we need to make sure all our families are dry and safe everyday.

I have seen and heard the need for our own senior living facility. Our Elders should not have to be broke to find adequate services from the state. We need to provide better service than our neighbors. Our treatment center is a perfect model for us to build this.

Tribal members could also benefit from a medium income housing subdivision on Tribal lands. Whether it be a flat rate rental program or a 184 loan opportunity, we need to make sure all of our tribal people have affordable housing.

Once Covid-19 becomes more manageable, we can start meeting with our local governments. I look forward to help building our economic base in Olympia, Tumwater, and Shelton, working with all city councils to strengthen our relationships.

It is important for our economic well-being to continue building culturally appropriate sales and tax revenues in our retail zone by drawing visitors to our Kamilche area.

So I ask, once again, for your continued support in becoming your Council Secretary in May.

I look forward to seeing you all at whatever forum we have coming soon. Thank you, stay safe, and Bless you all.





Squaxin Island Tribe

Running for Tribal Secretary *(in Alphabetical Order)*



Patrick Whitener

Hi!

My name is Patrick Whitener, son of Wilson Whitener and Donna Duback.

I am running for Council Secretary.

First, I would like to thank everyone for keeping us safe during this last year.

I would like to thank past and current Tribal Council for the path they put us on to get us here. I would like to thank our Elders and ancestors for showing us the way.

I have spent 20 years working with tribal organizations. Five years were spent at the casino, 10 years at the tobacco factory, and I am now going on my fifth year working with Housing.

Most of you know me to be straight forward, confident, and easy to talk to. I would like the opportunity to build on the foundation set before us.

I believe in being unbiased and transparent. Together, we can open up many possibilities for our tribe.

Those of you who don't know me, please feel free to reach out and get to know me.

I would be honored to serve our Tribe in a positive and uplifting manor.



***All ballots must be received no later than
11:00 a.m., Saturday, May 1,
or they will not be counted.***



ELECTIONS 2021

YOUR VOTE

YOUR VOICE

Who Turns Out to Vote

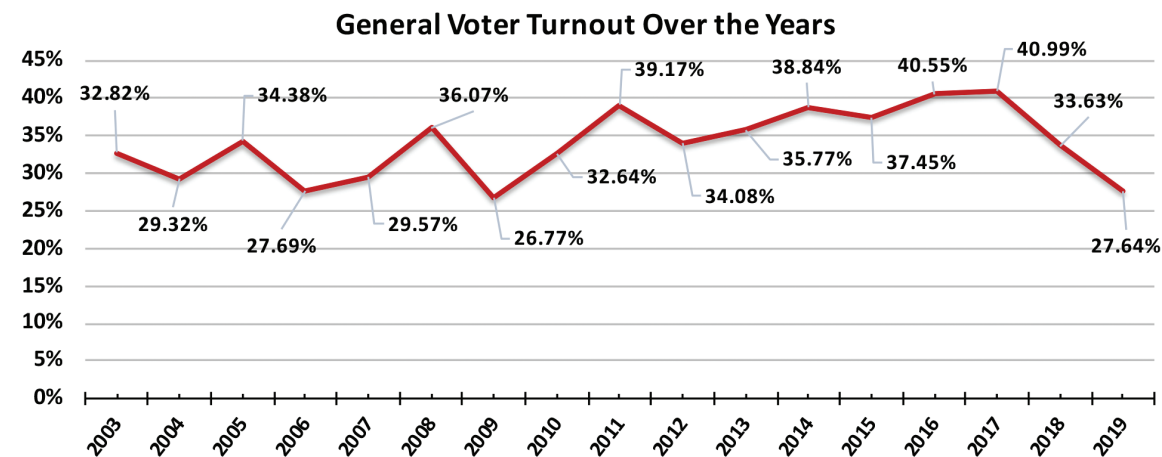
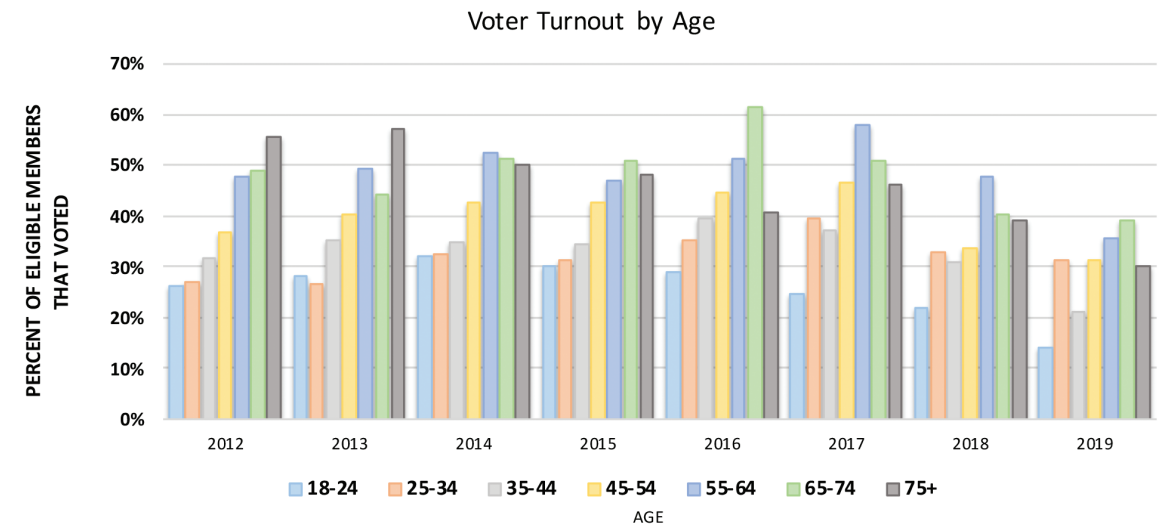
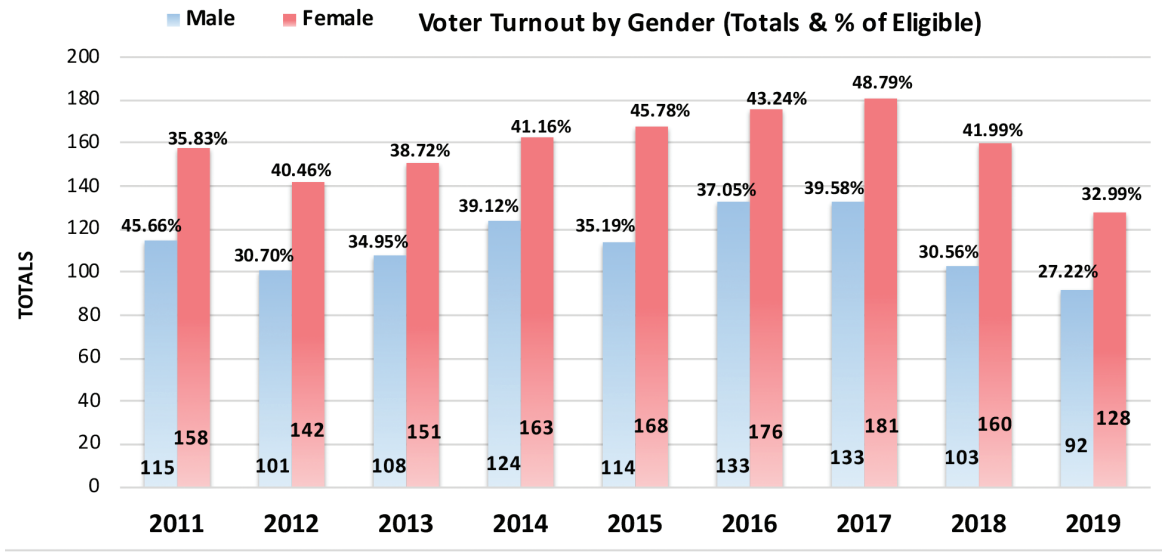
We collect and provide anonymous information on our voting population so that we are better able to strategize and provide election services to our General Cody. It is a collaborative effort by our Elections Committee, Enrollment, and the outside consultant providing and counting ballots.

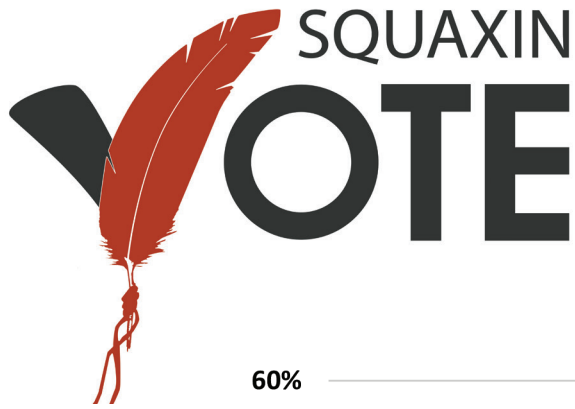
While the numbers are accurate and helpful, it is important to note that they do not always match our attendance. It is a voter's right to attend the General Body meeting to establish a quorum and not vote; those not voting are not recorded in our statistics at this time.



Election Statistics

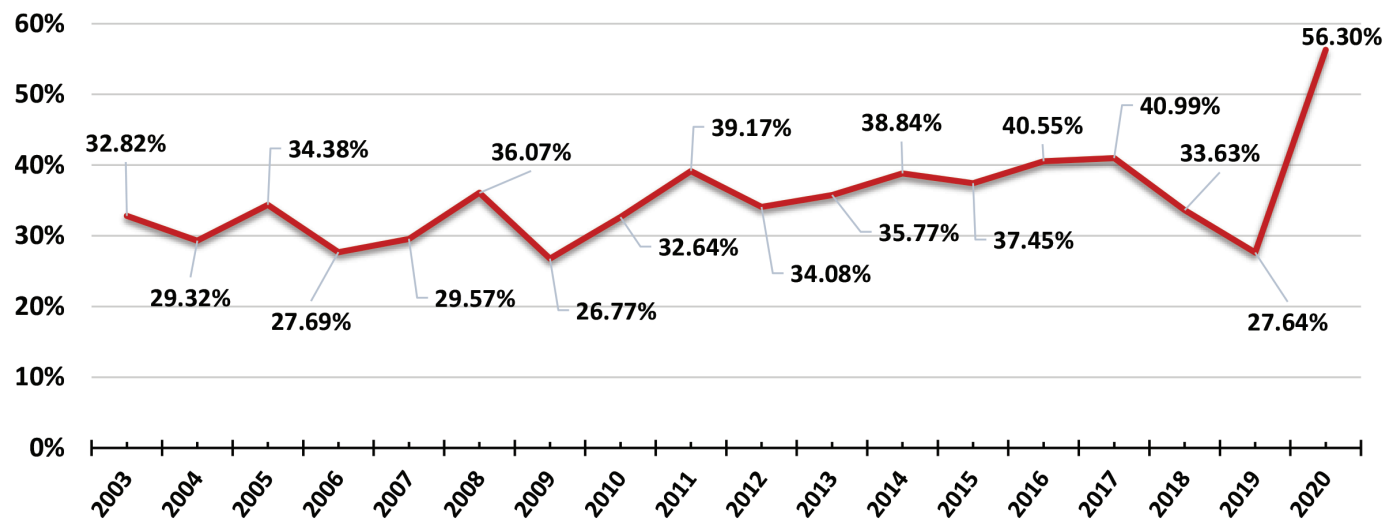
Voter turnout is the percentage of eligible voters who cast a ballot in our election.



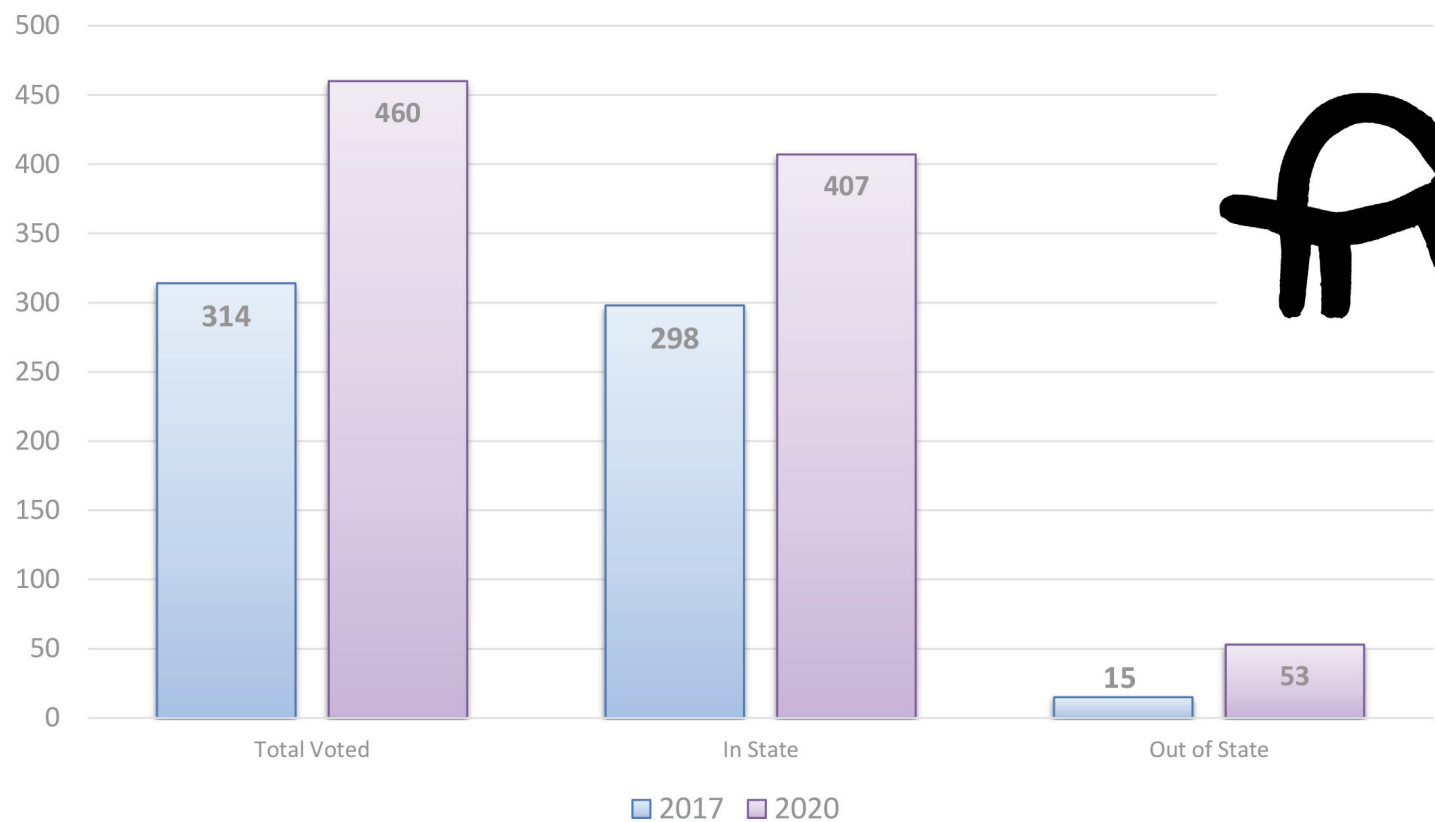


Squaxin Island Tribe

General Council Voters Over the Years



In Person Meeting vs Mail-In Ballot Election



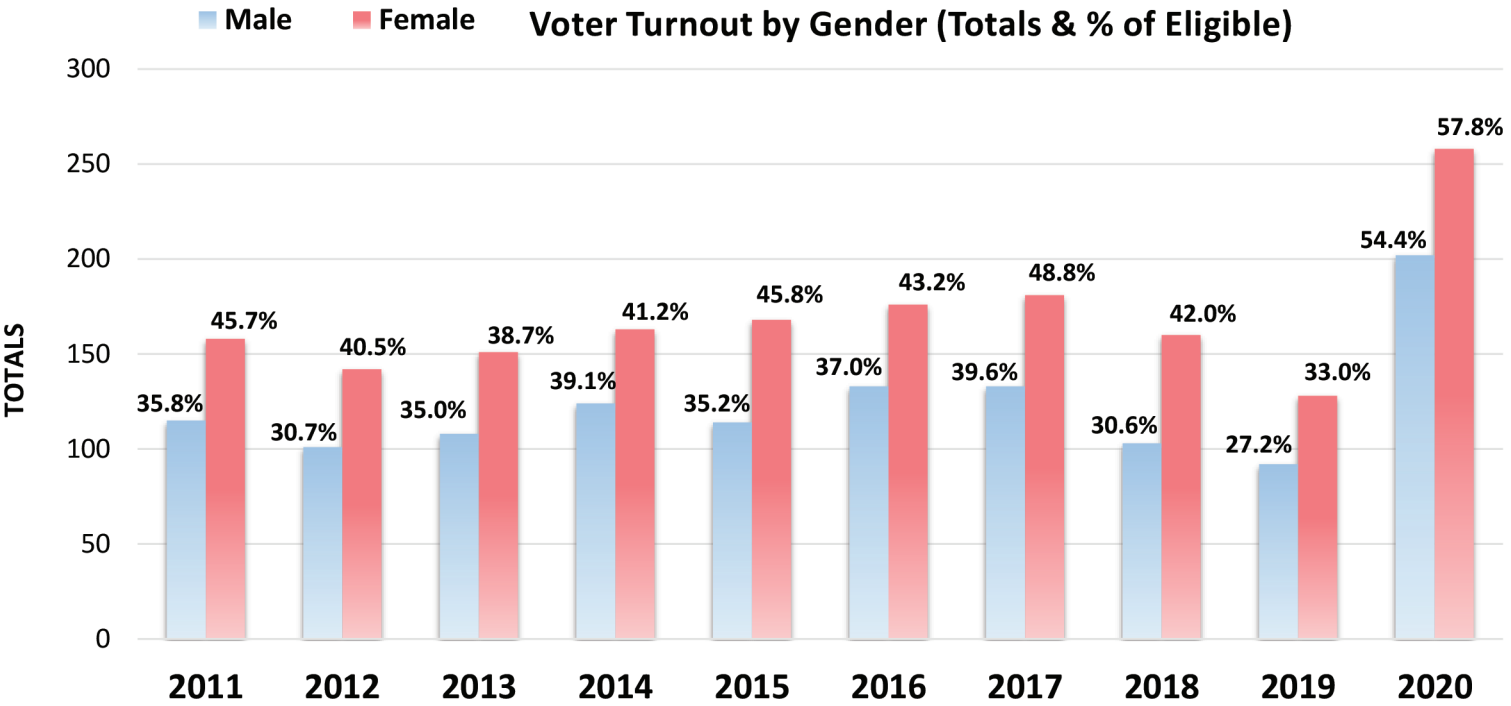
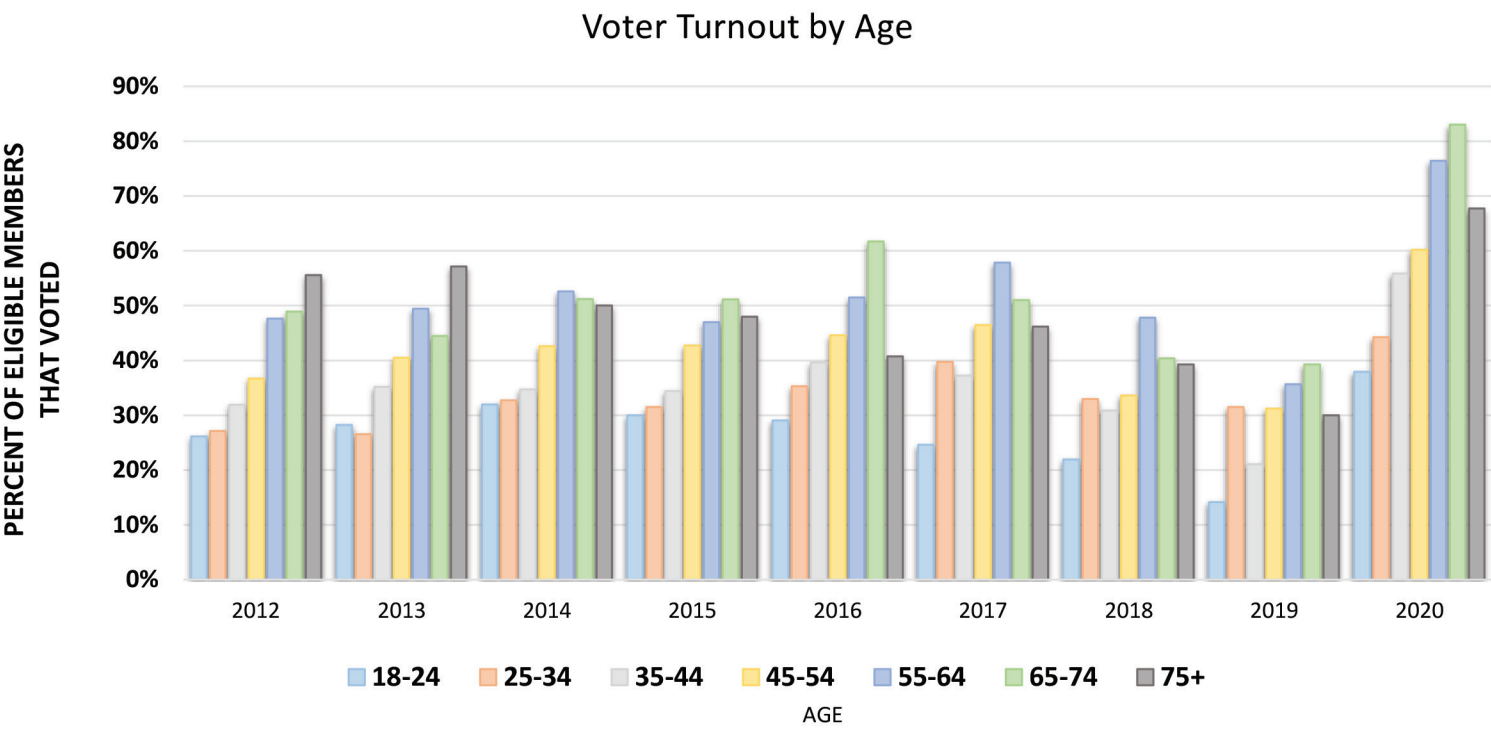
For this comparison we looked at the 2017 General Council meeting and the 2020 mail-in ballot elections. These two years were selected for comparison because they were both elections for three Tribal Council positions and so they were most similar.

The statistics show that, across the board, we had more participation by the Tribe’s General Council in 2020 (mail-in ballot elections). With 56.3% voter participation, it was the first election in at least the last 20 years that had more than 50% participation of the General Council. There was a growth of 109 voters in Washington and 38 out of state. A vast majority of voters in the mail-in ballot elections were local with over 88% of the ballots coming from tribal members within Washington State.

ELECTIONS 2021

YOUR
VOTE

YOUR
VOICE





Squaxin Island Tribe

Looking At Our Constitution

The entire Squaxin Island Tribe’s Constitution can be viewed online from a link provided at:
www.squaxinland.org/elections.

Election related processes are primarily found in Articles V (Elections), VII (Vacancies and Removal), VIII (Meetings), and IX (Referendum). Election proceedings are also determined by our Electoral Code, which was voted on by our General Council and put in place by Tribal Council.

While our Electoral Code can be revised through a vote of either the General Council or our Tribal Council, a constitutional amendment requires a vote of our General Council and is administrated by the Secretary of Interior. The Secretary of Interior is the head of the U.S. Department of Interior that oversees the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA).

It is the Election Committee’s recommendation that we proceed with a constitutional amendment regarding election processes. Several pieces of the constitution related to elections are outdated and need attention. Other areas concerning voter requirements are restricting and difficult for voters to enact change.

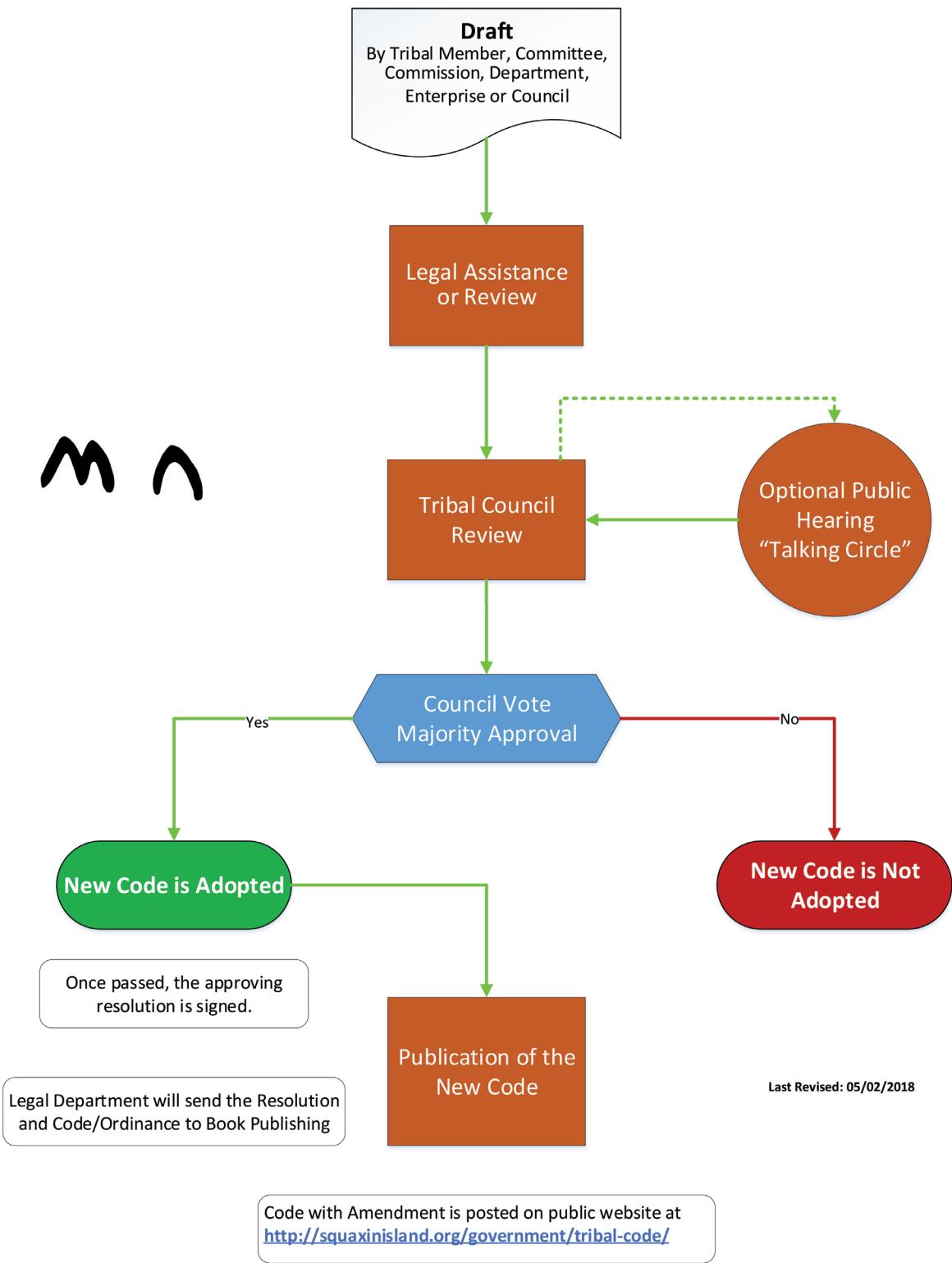
Following are some of the limitations of our constitution that warrant review. For context, at the time of this printing, we have 821 General Council members. A 30% quorum is 247 members and 50% is 411.

Meeting Requirement:

The constitution currently requires a minimum of 30% of our tribal member at an annual meeting in the spring to hold the elections with nominations from the floor. Over the years, it has been consistently difficult to meet this quorum requirement. Consequently an Electoral Code was passed by General Council (eligible Squaxin Island voters) that allows the quorum to be lowered to 60% of the 30% requirement if a quorum is not met in a timely manner. Our voters should review and decide if the constitutional 30% quorum requirement should be lowered or if we want to adjust election procedures to allow for absentee voting in the case where a quorum is not met.

Adoption of a New Code or Amendment

Squaxin Island Tribe; Constitution, Article IX



ELECTIONS 2021

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Referendum Requirement:

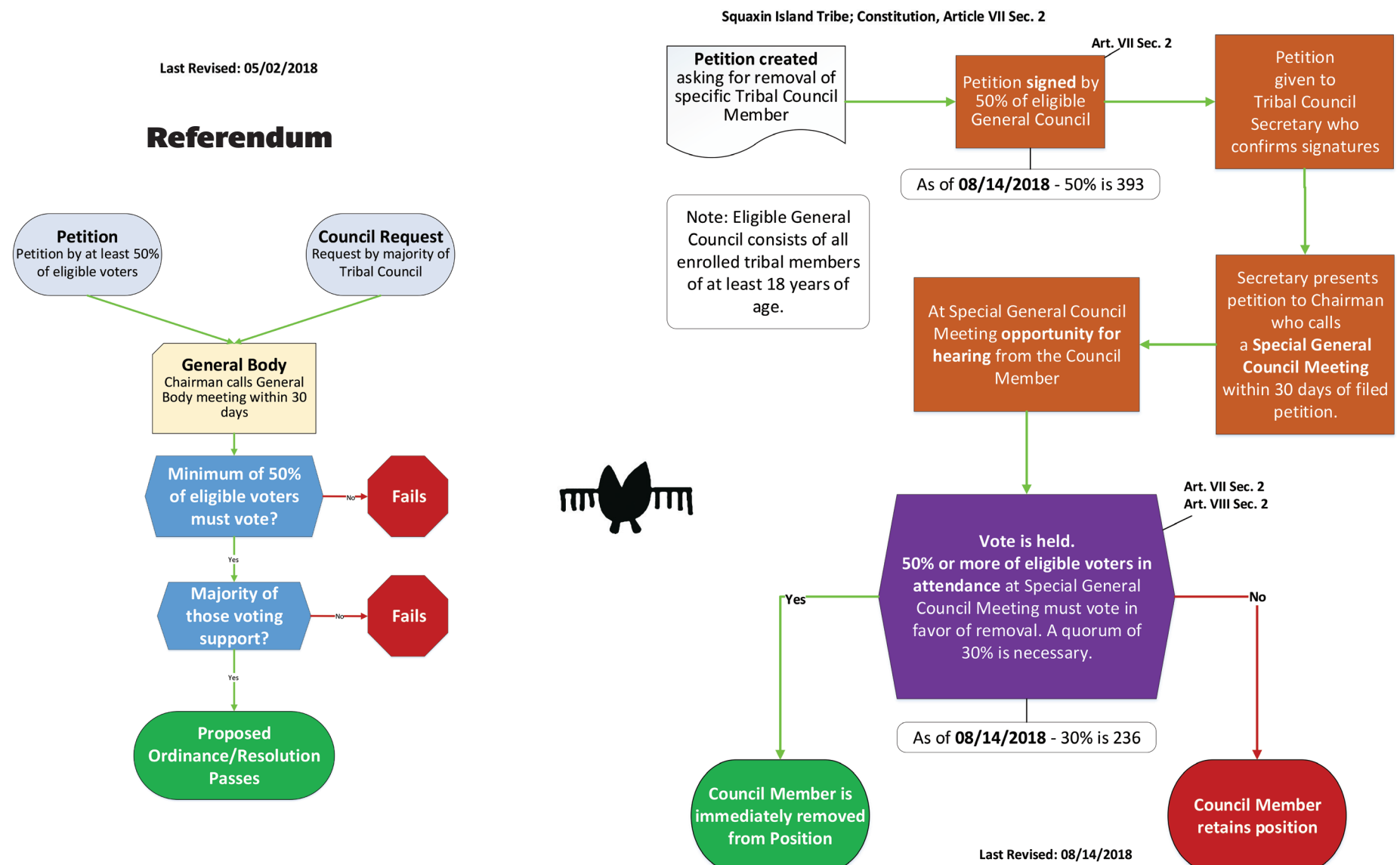
For a referendum to be passed by the people, the constitution currently requires a signed petition of 50% of our eligible voters and then requires 50% of our eligible voters to attend and vote on the petition. Referendums are an important tool for voting people to enact change and show our leaders where our community stands. However, with the current requirement, it is very difficult for a referendum to ever proceed.

Removal Requirement:

The constitution requires a petition of 50% of eligible voters be presented to the Council Secretary and then the Council Chairman is required to hold a special council meeting within 30 days. At that time and during a special meeting, 50% of eligible voters must be present and vote in favor of removal.

The Elections Committee and the recently formed Constitution Committee have been working on the amendment process with a parliamentarian who has experience developing and enhancing tribal constitutions and election processes. We are hoping to begin the Constitutional Amendment process soon which will heavily involve community input. As is required by the constitution, amendment votes will be conducted by the Secretary of Interior and require participation of 50% of our voters.

What is the Process for Recalling a Council Member?



Thanks to all of our candidates!!!

Elections Committee

The Elections Committee members are appointed by Tribal Council. Annually, Committee members elect the officers. The Committee's primary responsibility is to conduct a fair and legal election process. The General Body meetings are organized and facilitated by tribal administration at the request of the sitting Council Chairman who has the authority to ask the administrator to conduct the meeting. The Election Committee assists with planning the meeting. In order to make the election process as efficient as possible and to reduce any potential conflicts of interest the Elections Committee hires an outside consultant each year to print and record ballot counts. Candidate representatives, Election Committee members and tribal law enforcement supervise the ballot counting. The Current Election Committee members and officers are:

Joshua Whitener	CHAIR
Juana Nelson	VICE CHAIR
Cassidy Gott	SECRETARY
Tamatha Ford	STAFF SUPPORT
Mitzie Whitener	
Terri Capoeman	
Elizabeth Kuntz	
Niki Ho	
Monica Nerney	
Penni Restivo	
Candace Penn	
Jaimie Cruz	

