



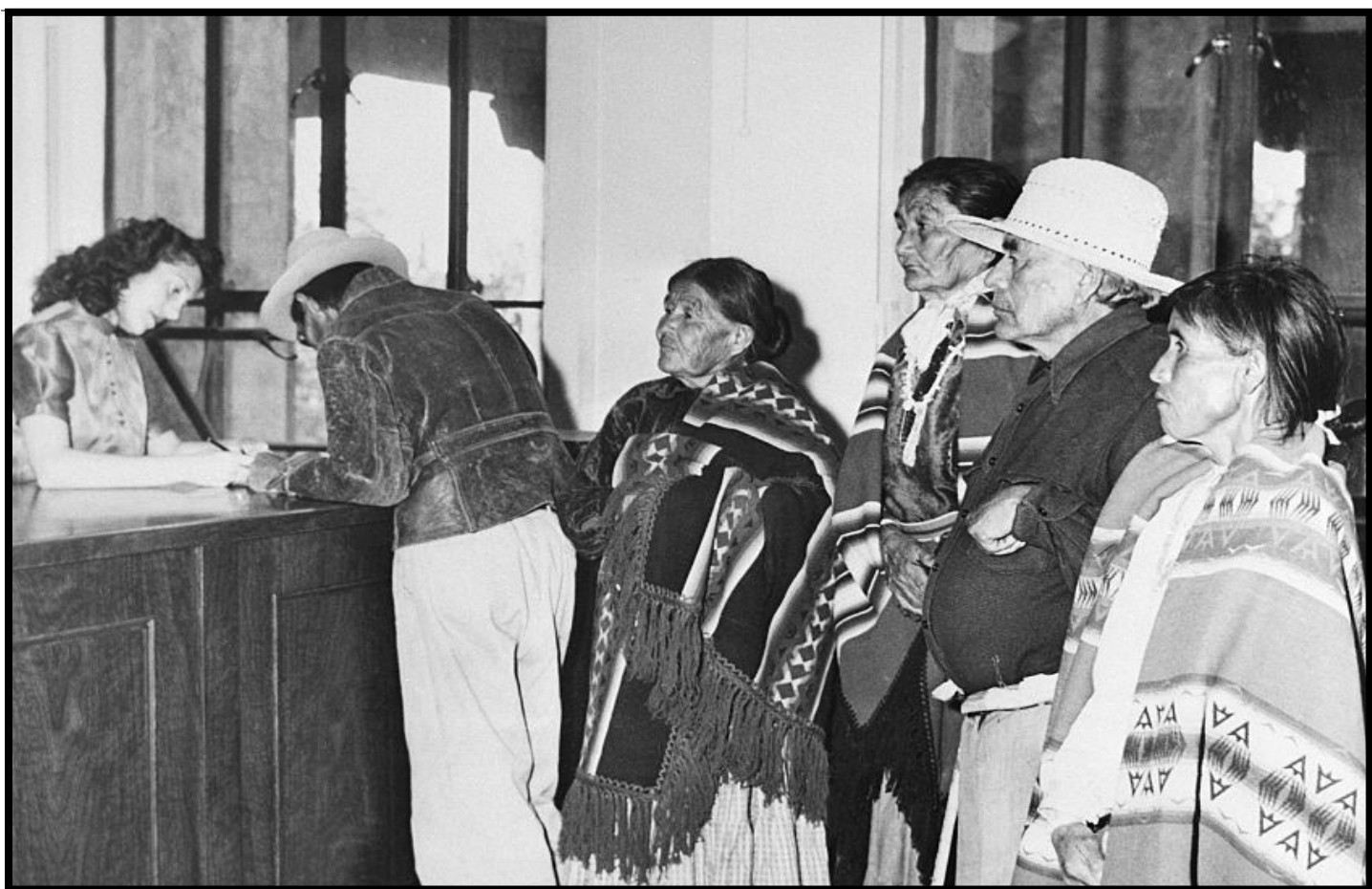
# THE CAMP NEWS

VOLUME XIX—ISSUE 10-1

October 17, 2025

SERVING THE RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY & HV COMMUNITIES

## SPECIAL EDITION—TRIBAL ELECTIONS 2025



*RSIC Stock Photo of Natives lining up to vote in the 1950's*

*(4) Tribal Council Seats Open*

***VOTE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2025***

***POLLING LOCATIONS AVAILABLE IN RENO AND HUNGRY VALLEY!***

***SEE NEXT PAGES FOR MORE INFO & CANDIDATES LETTERS***



RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY

★ ELECTION BOARD

34 RESERVATION ROAD, RENO, NV 89502

Phone: (775) 329-2936 | Fax: (775) 329-8710

## 2025 Tribal Election Timeframe

Task	Timeline	Date
Post Preliminary Eligible Voters List	Posted at least 90 days prior to election	Friday, August 01, 2025
Challenge Preliminary Eligible Voters List	Within 5 days of posting the list	Wednesday, August 06, 2025
Resolve Challenges to Preliminary List of Eligible Voters	Within 10 days of challenge being filed	Friday, August 15, 2025
Election announced by Special Note - AES	At least 45 days before Election	Wednesday, September 17, 2025
Information on Absentee Ballot - AES	Sent out at least 45 days before election	Wednesday, September 17, 2025
Post Updates/Changes to Preliminary List of Eligible Voters	Posted at least 30 days prior to election	Thursday, October 02, 2025
Challenges Updates/Changes to Preliminary List of Eligible Voters - (if any)	Within 5 days posting of List	Saturday, October 11, 2025
Resolve Challenges Updates/Changes to Preliminary List of Eligible Voters	Within 10 days of challenge being filed	Monday, October 13, 2025
Candidates' names filed with Election Board	At least 30 days prior to Election	Thursday, October 02, 2025
Eligible Voter-New enrollment applicants must be approved by Tribal Council	At least 30 days prior to Election	Wednesday, September 24, 2025
Post list of Candidates that have filed with Election Board	At least 25 days prior to Election	Tuesday, October 07, 2025
Challenges to names on Eligible Voters List	At least 25 days prior to Election	Tuesday, October 07, 2025
Resolve Challenges to names on Eligible Voters List	Within 10 days of challenge	Wednesday, October 17, 2025
Challenges to Candidates List	Within 5 days of posting of Candidates	Monday, October 13, 2025
Voters must request an absentee Ballot in writing	No more than 2 weeks before Election date	Wednesday, October 17, 2025
Resolve challenges to Candidates List	Within 10 days of filing any challenges	Thursday, October 23, 2025
Final List of Eligible Voters posted	No less than 10 days before the Election date	Wednesday, October 22, 2025
Absentee Ballots received on or before Election Day	Returned on or before the days of the Election	Saturday, November 01, 2025
ELECTION DAY	Polls open at 7:00 am Polls close at 7:00 pm	Saturday, November 01, 2025
Challenges to the Election	Seventy-two (72) hours after the polls close on Election Day.	Tuesday, November 04, 2025
Certify Election Results (with no challenges)	5 days after Election (If No Challenges)	Thursday, November 06, 2025
Certify Election Results (with a challenge)	Within 1 day of ruling on Election challenge	Wednesday, November 05, 2025





# NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION

Saturday, November 1, 2025



## DEAR RSIC MEMBERSHIP

The General Election for the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2025 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Election will be for four (4) Tribal Council seats. The polling locations for the Election will be:

### **Reno Location**

Multipurpose Room  
34 Reservation Road  
Reno, NV 89502

### **Hungry Valley Recreation Center-Lower Level**

9075 Eagle Canyon Road  
Sparks, NV 89441

Please make necessary address and name changes at the RSIC Enrollment Office as the Election Board will be mailing date sensitive material.

The Eligible Voters List will be posted at [www.rsic.org](http://www.rsic.org) and at the following locations:

- **Administration Office Lobby**  
34 Reservation Road  
Reno, NV 89502
- **Reno-Sparks Tribal Health Center**  
1715 Kuenzli St.  
Reno, NV 89502
- **RSIC Housing Office**  
9055 Eagle Canyon Road  
Sparks NV, 89441

Candidates must submit a completed Declaration of Candidacy form to the Election Board no later than **October 2nd, 2025 at 5 p.m. No exceptions will be made.**

Hand deliver the Declaration of Candidacy to the **Reno-Sparks Indian Colony**  
Attn: Juliana Gravelle - Secretary/Treasurer  
9055 Eagle Canyon Drive  
Sparks, NV 89441 or  
e-mail to [RSICElectionCommittee@rsic.org](mailto:RSICElectionCommittee@rsic.org)

## THINKING OF RUNNING FOR COUNCIL?

**ACT NOW:** Due to longer processing times for background screening the results are being delayed.

**ALL CANDIDATES:** Must go to RSIC HR prior to turning in your Acceptance of Candidacy to Enrollment verifying you started the background check.

**DEADLINE:** October 2nd, 2025 @ 5pm to be added to the Candidacy List.

**NO EXCEPTIONS  
WILL BE MADE!!!**

## RSIC ELECTION BOARD

**Chairperson:** Tanya Hernandez

**Vice Chairperson:** Lynette Sam

**Secretary/Treasurer:** Juliana Gravelle

**Board Member:** James Thomas

**Board Member:** Sharon Yazzie

**Board Member:** Anita Talancon

**Board Member:** Vacant

## FOR QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS

**e-mail:** [RSICElectionCommittee@rsic.org](mailto:RSICElectionCommittee@rsic.org)

**Phone:** Juliana Gravelle, Secretary/Treasurer  
775-785-1300



# TRIBAL ELECTIONS

Did you know that Native nations' sovereignty allows them to decide for themselves how to govern? The majority of Native nations hold their own regularly-scheduled elections to determine who will create laws and represent their citizens. 574 federally-recognized Native nations, over 60 state-recognized nations, and hundreds of other non-recognized nations share geography with the United States. (The process of seeking federal or state recognition is complex, so we'll save that discussion for another day.) Tribal elections rarely receive mainstream media attention, yet they have important implications for all of us.

Below, we take an introductory look at how Tribal elections work and why they matter.

## HOW DO TRIBAL ELECTIONS WORK?

Every Native nation is unique: election processes vary significantly between nations. For the purposes of this discussion, we're going to focus on our organization's service region of Mni Sota Makoce, North Dakota, and South Dakota. Each of the 23 Native nations in this region has a constitution that includes information on elections, such as term limits, candidate eligibility, elected leadership positions, and voter eligibility.

Native nations' constitutions lay the foundation for their governmental processes, structures, and functions. Political term limits vary for Native nations: most have two- or four-year terms. Some Tribal elections take place in the summer, and others take place in the fall at a similar time to elections for non-Tribal governments.

The number of elected positions varies between Native nations, too. In our region, for example, a Native nation's number of elected leaders can range from three to 24. Elected positions have titles such as "Tribal Chair," "Secretary," and "Treasurer," among others.

As for voter eligibility, some nations require that Tribal citizens reside on the reservation to be eligible, whereas other nations allow enrolled citizens living anywhere in the world to vote. The most important takeaway? Native nations and their election processes are extremely diverse.

## WHY DO TRIBAL ELECTIONS MATTER?

For Native people, Tribal elections matter because they determine our future. It's important to learn about your nation's elections so you can make your voice heard and play an active role in helping your nation thrive. Your input, contributions, and advocacy matter. Does your nation have a constitution? Constitutions are a great place to start to learn more about how your government and elections work. Your local Tribal College and University (TCU), fellow Tribal citizens (especially elected officials), Tribal historians, and knowledge keepers may also have helpful materials and knowledge related to elections and voting.

For non-Native people, Tribal elections matter because they impact everyone. Native nations make significant contributions to regional and local economies. Did you know they employ more than 700,000 people across the country? In some cases, Tribal governments are outperforming local governments and serve as a model of good governance and innovation. Native nations do not exist in a vacuum; they collaborate and negotiate with local and state governments, along with the federal government, on a regular basis.

Understanding Tribal elections and voting can help non-Native people become better relatives. Having knowledge of how Native nations govern makes it easier to meaningfully advocate for Tribal sovereignty and build relationships with Native people and nations.





**Tribal Election 2025**

**1 NOVEMBER 2025**

**FINAL CANDIDATES LIST**

ANTHONY ABBIE  
MICHAEL ACOSTA  
DARRELL BILL  
JESSICA CASTILLO  
RAMONA "WIGGIE" DARROUGH  
FRANCIS DRESSLER  
ROBIN M. EAGLE  
FELICITAS GUEVARA  
ANGEL JACKSON  
SHARON MALOTTE  
VERNA NUNO  
CATHERINE PHOENIX  
RUTH SAMPSON GUERRERO  
NATALIE SMITH  
SUZANNE THOMAS  
JEAN WADSWORTH  
JERROLD "CECIL" WYATT



# CAMPAIGN LETTERS

**SEE PAGES 7-25**



My name is Anthony (Tony) Abbie, and I am running for a seat on the tribal council. I work for the Washoe County School District as a Special Education Resource Educator. I take great pride in being an advocate for several programs: Education, Seniors Program, Economic Development, Finance and Recreation.

Education at RSIC is a foundation for our community to flourish. As a candidate for the tribal council, we should continue to encourage and support higher education as it brings new opportunities and mythologies to help our community have generational knowledge. The more knowledge we have in our community, the stronger we will be as a Colony.

I am proud to advocate for the Senior Program. Our elders are a vital part of our community; we need to continue to honor and to support our Elders. They have laid the foundation for business development, land expansion, and the preservation of our culture. I believe it is essential to continue services such as health care, activity days, and nutrition support to ensure our seniors are looked after.

The Economic Development program along with the Tribal Council is in the process of developing new businesses on our prime real estate. These businesses will help us fund our tribal programs. Will also need to finish up the process of changing tribal lands into Tribal Trust lands. This will enable us to collect taxes on those lands.

Our Finance Department has been a crucial component of RSIC. The finance Department has had the insight to save money for times like today. With the Federal Government shut down for the past two weeks, we need to be stable with our finances and spending.

Finally, the Recreation Department is a special place in my heart. The Recreation department is where I found my passion for working with youth. I found that through athletics we can shape and guide how to deal with real-world situations. By developing working and social skills, being dedicated to a team or to a plan. Lastly, how to win gracefully and how to reflect on losses.

These are just a few departments that I am fond of working for, but as a tribal council member you must work for all the departments, make decisions that will benefit the community members and our future members.

I would appreciate your Vote on November 1<sup>st</sup>

Thank you,

  
Anthony (Tony) Abbie

## Letter of Candidacy

Hello,

My name is Michael Acosta, and I am running for a seat on your tribal council. I am Northern Paiute and have resided on the Reservation for all my life, currently residing on Reservation Rd., and experiencing childhood in Hungry Valley. I am the Son of Adriana Gutierrez, Grandson of Arlan Melendez, and Great Grandson of Don and Sally Melendez. I say these names, because they are the ones who have inspired, and motivated me to invest in myself for the betterment of my community. I hope to expand upon my grandfather's years of service, and sustain the legacy of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony that our ancestors and elders have paved for us.

I graduated from Robert McQueen High School in 2019, and during this time I was a Founding Member and Treasurer of our local RSIC Unity Chapter. I chose to attend Arizona State University where I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Public Service and Public Policy, with a concentration in Sustainability. Through this program I developed a strong understanding about what it takes to be a public servant, such as how to approach ethical dilemmas, make balanced decisions, and to lead with honesty, integrity, and transparency. I also gained insight on how policy shapes real-world outcomes, and may have unforeseen consequences. I believe it is essential to analyze and research how government policies actually affect communities from multiple perspectives, rather than focusing solely on their stated intentions.

I also minored in Urban and Regional Planning, where I developed my understanding of land and physical space and its relationship to goals such as social justice, economic development, and environmental sustainability.

During my Senior year of college, I gained hands-on experience with grass roots activism, where I advocated for Native American Voting Rights with the Worker's Circle, an organization based in New York, New York.

After graduating, I returned to Reno and began working as a Land Planner with Manhard Consulting. In this role, I gained hands-on experience navigating the laws and regulations of multiple jurisdictions involved in new development projects. I also developed a deeper understanding of the political and economic challenges that often accompany the planning and construction process. In addition, I served as a volunteer member of the RSIC 2040 General Plan Steering Committee, where I worked with the Planning Department to help draft the Comprehensive Plan—a key initiative guiding the future growth and development of Reno-Sparks Indian Colony properties.

Currently, I have recently become employed by the RSIC Human Services department, where I have had the opportunity to assist daily operations, and grasp an understanding of some of the challenges that are prevalent within our community.

If elected to Council, I will advocate for the best interests of our community members and our Tribe, while working to protect and strengthen our Sovereignty. I commend our past Tribal Councils for paving the way and establishing a foundation of governance that will endure for generations. It is now up to us—the next generation—to honor that legacy by protecting what has been built, while continuing to innovate and advance our government for the future.

My name is Michael Acosta, and I humbly ask for your consideration to serve on your Tribal Council.

Sincerely,





Dear Tribal Members,

I am honored to submit my name as a candidate for a seat on the 2025 Tribal Council election. I bring with me over 23 years of experience in law enforcement, during which I developed strong leadership skills and a deep understanding of governmental processes. I previously had the privilege of serving on the Tribal Council from 2012 to 2015, and I remain committed to serving our community with honesty, integrity, and transparency.

My decision to run again is rooted in a continued desire to support and uplift our people. During my prior term, I made it a priority to be accessible and responsive to community concerns. It has been especially meaningful to hear from young people who feel inspired and empowered to pursue their goals—this is the kind of positive impact I hope to continue.

Key issues I am passionate about include housing accessibility for our younger generations, fair and transparent distribution of resources, and ensuring our tribal employees are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve. I believe that addressing these challenges requires strong, honest leadership and open communication with all tribal members.

I would also like to advocate for the elimination of preliminary meetings that are held without tribal members input. Decisions that impact our community should not be made behind closed doors. Greater transparency and inclusiveness in the decision-making process will help restore trust and ensure that all voices are considered.

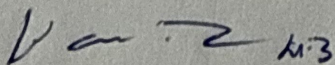
If elected, I will listen carefully to your concerns and work hard to represent your voices at the council table. I believe in constructive dialogue and making informed decisions that benefit the entire community. It is important that every member feels heard, valued, and included in shaping our future.

I humbly ask for your support and your vote in the upcoming election. Together, we can continue building a stronger, more united future for our tribe.

Respectfully,

Darrell Bill

Candidate for 2025 Tribal Council Election

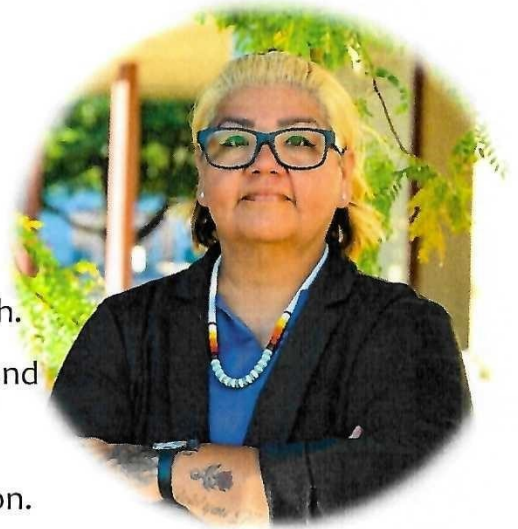




## Jessica Castillo

My name is Jessica Castillo, and I am the daughter of Lorraine Wadsworth & Joe Ramirez, and the Granddaughter of the late Elliott & Edna Wadsworth.

I am running for a seat as a Tribal Council Member and it is with great excitement and a profound sense of responsibility that I stand before you today, asking for your support and your vote in this critical election.



Our community is at a crossroads, and the decisions we make in this election will shape our future for generations to come. I am here because I believe in the potential of our community and the power of collective action. Together, we can create a brighter, more prosperous future for all.

If elected, my vision for our community is to foster an environment of inclusivity, innovation, and opportunity. Together is the beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success!

1. Economic Growth and Job creation for Tribal Members-  
Update policies that encourage business development, support small businesses, and most importantly revenue.
2. Improving Education and the 477 Program-  
Education is the cornerstone of a prosperous society. I will work to ensure that the education program is well-funded and Tribal members are supported and have access to resources they need to succeed. This includes expanding vocational training and higher education opportunities.
3. Housing-  
Update the policies in regards to Housing. Seek grants for homeowners to be able to make any renovations. Accessory Dwelling Units, this will provide space for additional living space for multiple families. Self-contained living space located on the same property as a single-family home. Build senior living apartments/duplexes for independent seniors. Build apartments in Hungry Valley with Tribal Funds, this will allow Tribal Members who don't qualify under HUD regulations to live within our colony lands.
4. Tribal Health Center –



Healthcare is a fundamental right, not a privilege. I will advocate for all Tribal Members that have not had their bills paid and sent to collections. Keep all Tribal Healthcare funding within RSIC. The clinic was established for Tribal members, once we started accepting other tribes, funding became limited on healthcare options. Support Mental Health services, especially after hour care for emergencies.

This journey requires the support and vote participation of every Tribal member. The essence of my campaign revolves around transparency, responsiveness, and Tribal empowerment. I pledge to strive towards the progress and betterment of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony.

I would greatly appreciate your support and votes in this endeavor and I, thank you for your encouraging involvement and for believing in me.

Sincerely,

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

Jessica Castillo  
Tribal member #00294

Suzanne J. Thomas

## RAMONA “WIGGIE” DARROUGH

Candidate for Reno/Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council. I have lived on the Colony for the past 60 years, and have worked for our tribe for 40 years.

My family have lived and served on the Colony for many, many, years. My grandfather, the late, Tellivan Eben was the Chairman in 1964-1966, my mother, the late, Carolyn Moore worked for the tribe over 20 years, Smoke Shop and Clinic, and my son, the late, William Astor worked in IT and Procurement, my daughter, Evalyn Darrough worked for the tribe for 10 years in Childcare and Senior Center. I have five grandchildren, Landon Phoenix, Ethan Astor, both recently graduated this year from High School, Mayci Darrough, Holden Astor, and Drayven Pigg.

I worked at the Clinic for 17 years, after graduating from Pyramid Lake High School, holding various jobs within the Clinic from medical records, Data Entry, billing, IT, Medical Records II, Medical Records Supervisor, and was instrumental as part of the team in obtaining the AAA Accreditation with accommodation, also obtaining two AA degrees from Truckee Meadows Community College, Medical Secretary and Word Processing, the Recreation in Hungry Valley Gym for 3 years, and the Housing Department, Tenant Relations Officer, for 20 years and currently employed.

I have served on the Pow wow Committee, Law and Order Committee, and Election Committee, in the past, and currently serve on the Pow wow Committee. I currently teach Beading Classes sponsored by the Language/Cultural Department on Tuesday evening in Hungry Valley.

In those 40 years of service to the Tribe, I feel our Tribe needs to focus on the future, the funding, the policies, and the various software all the departments utilize, to sustain what is coming in the future. We can't rely on funding grants as we use to in the past, with the current administration cutting the funding for healthcare, medicaid, food Stamps, and tribal programs, we need to look at what is needed to sustain all of our programs to assist our tribal members. Let's look at

*Continued on page 13*



upgrading the software we use, it is compatible to the growing needs and expansion of our programs, as of today, it is not. How can we improve the services, customer service, efficiency, communication, and collaboration with regards to ALL of our Departments. We need to be able to sustain our Tribe financially to keep all the programs in place for our people.

Working for our tribe for 40 years, I have seen the good, the bad, and the ugly. The substance abuse has increasingly gotten worse, how do we help the people help themselves to live a sober/drug free lifestyle, which has affected all of our families.

I would like the opportunity to be a part of improving our tribe, let's work smarter not harder. I respectfully ask for your vote at the Reno/Sparks Indian Colony Election, November 1, 2025. Please get out and vote, your vote counts. Thank you for your time 😊



R. T. B. M.  
"Wiggle"

# Vote



Robin M. Eagle  
2025

## Committed Leadership for Our Future

“

Re-Elect  
Robin Eagle  
2025

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I have proudly served the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony with integrity, transparency, and dedication. As a voice for the people, I continue to stand for accountability, community unity, and the preservation of our culture. With your support, I will keep working to strengthen programs, empower our youth, and ensure a stronger future for the next generations.



**GET OUT THE RSIC VOTE!**  
**Tribal Election Day**  
**November 1st from 7am-7pm!**







# ANGEL JACKSON

FOR RSIC TRIBAL COUNCIL

Hello RSIC TRIBAL MEMBER VOTERS! My name is Angel Jackson and I am running for RSIC Tribal Council. I hope I can count on your vote on Election Day 2025!

My one campaign promise is **I promise to every RSIC Tribal Member to put the membership first, always protect the rights of the membership, and fight for fairness for our People.**

My visions and goals for my campaign are (1) RESPECT the RSIC Membership, (2) Financial Accountability, (3) Jobs/On-the-Job-Training, (4) Community Growth and (5) \$\$\$ Distribution

Respect for the RSIC Members is gone. Our voices to the Tribal Council are ignored. We ask questions and we are banned. We speak up with an opinion and we are shut down. No more! The current Tribal Council cannot continue to disrespect the members and violate our FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHT TO FREE SPEECH. We have always been able to say our opinions without retaliation—now people are threatened or charged when speaking up.

- Financial transparency is not bad! Its our money, how much do we have, what is the bank balance, what are our deposits, what do we owe, who do we owe and why, what are we paying, WHO are we paying? Departments need audits—not overnight audits. No more unnecessary payouts. I am a NO vote for the Clinic having their own finance. All RSIC money stays in RSIC Finance.
- Jobs! Tribal Member Preference in Hiring. The RSIC jobs are supposed to be Native jobs to stabilize our Native family incomes. Jobs are not created for non-Tribal Members. On-the-Job-Training and apprenticeships are important tools for skill building. Economically empower our People!! HR audits for application receipt, communication, and hiring.
- Community Growth. What is the update on Economic Development—what is being developed? RSIC has not developed new partnerships with retail, have not entered into new leases for tax collection, have not given updates on the Dispensary profits or Spanish Spring property development. We need more homes, 22 houses isn't enough. We need to always add new homes for new families. RSIC is growing. Recognize all RSIC MMIW.
- NEIGHBORHOOD STORES: We need convenience/drive-up stores for essentials/snacks. Let's generate Indian-Indian income and financial opportunities!!!
- \$\$\$ Distribution. +\$200 is not enough of a raise for Christmas. No bonuses for Tribal Council until we get financial reports from the Treasurer. No bonus for staff. We are ready for payouts from the profits/tax collections from the car dealerships, Walmart & Dispensary. Finance Committee development for oversight.



***Sharon Mallote, M.D. – Phone: 775-750-6066***

Election Day is November 1<sup>st</sup>, and I hope to have your vote and support for Tribal Council.

I've lived at 35 Reservation Road since 1958, and have seen many changes to our way of life, as well as the physical changes on our reservation.

Real World experiences and education can allow me to make appropriate decisions and allow me to hear what the tribal members want and need.

Though change is difficult, we, as tribal members, need to make choices that will increase our visibility, strengthen our cultural identity and make financial decisions that will help every tribal member.

We, as members of a sovereign nation, are in a unique situation.

We have the ability to generate revenue, but we must also have the capability to manage appropriately.

First on the agenda, would be to elect people who are qualified to oversee the revenue, and be able to determine what is necessary and what is not.

We should be able to train our own tribal members to fill open positions, and we can use local resources to establish training, such as thru TMCC and UNR.

I promise to think critically about the decisions facing our tribal members.

I promise to be an honest, fair, unbiased representative of and for the people.

***Why vote for Sharon Mallote, M.D.?***

Now, since retiring, I have the time and a full commitment to my tribe to be the best councilperson ever.

I am honest, non-biased and educated, and I'm asking for your vote.

*-Sharon Mallote, M.D.*

**GREETINGS TO ALL ENROLLED MEMBERS:**

**I am Verna Jean Nuno, Paiute and Shoshone member of our Reno-Sparks Indian Colony and I respectfully submit my name as a Candidate for Tribal Council.**

**I am very honored to have served our Colony Membership and Community as a Tribal Council Member, Council Treasurer, Council Secretary and for 11 years as Vice-Chairman of Our Honorable Tribal Council. My first year as a Tribal Council member was in 1980. I have years of experience as a Tribal Council Member. Experience comes from doing also knowledge and wisdom. Two Great Tribal Leaders were my mentors Chairman Lawrence Astor and Chairman Arlan Melendez.**

**My focus as a Tribal Council Member will be to serve our Enrolled members and Community members with integrity and honesty. I will be here for you when you have a concern. The physical health and emotional/spiritual well-being of our members, from birth to becoming an Elder is so important to me.**

**It is important to me that our Tribal Council invest in projects for economic development and financial stability of our Tribe. Also to support our Enrolled Membership business, develop our Spanish Springs land and Hungry Valley. Jobs for our own members, hire our own, train them, give them a chance.**

**Housing-home ownership, along with single family homes/duplex rentals. Tribal Council Quarterly meetings with our Enrolled Membership where concerns will be heard and addressed by Tribal Council and our Programs. Meetings with our Enrolled Membership that shows we are in good standing financially, for transparency, review our yearly audits with Enrolled Members.**

**We must not forget those in need of healing from alcohol/drug addiction, a special place where they can heal. This disease affects the whole Family. Also our Domestic Violence Victims. Tribal Council support is needed.**

**Being a Tribal Council Member will be a rewarding and prideful life journey for me. I would consider it an honor to be a part of the positive changes happening for All Of Us. I would appreciate your VOTE on Election Day.**

**May You and Your Family Have Many Blessings From Our Creator**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Verna Jean Nuno". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.








## Catherine Phoenix, Candidate for RSIC Tribal Council

My name is Catherine Phoenix. I was born and raised in the Reno-Sparks area, and I am the proud mother of five children: Kaylea, Nicholas, Christian, Francine, and Martin Jr. I am deeply rooted in this community, and I am running for Tribal Council to stand up for what is right for our people, our families, and our future.

I believe that leadership is not about speaking over others, it's about listening, including, and acting with integrity. Our members deserve to be heard, respected, and involved in the decisions that affect their lives. I'm committed to working as a team, gathering insight from our members, and moving forward with unity and purpose.

I am only one person, but I carry the interests and concerns of the RSIC community members in my heart. I lead with compassion, integrity, honesty, and respect. I will be open-minded and maintain an open-door policy to ensure that every member feels welcome and heard. I am a fast learner, and I will dedicate my time to understanding the issues, asking the right questions, and making informed decisions that protect and uplift our tribal members.

My focus areas reflect the needs I hear from our community every day:

-  **Community Safety** – Protecting our families and sacred spaces with proactive care.
-  **Accountability** – Leading with transparency and responsibility.
-  **Risk Awareness & Communication** – Keeping members informed and prepared.


### VOTE CATHERINE PHOENIX

#### RSIC Tribal Council 2025

 **Election Day: November 1, 2025**

 **Polls Open: 7 AM – 7 PM**

 **Reno-Sparks Indian Colony**

 ***Your Voice. Your Vote. Your Future.***  
I'm running to stand up for what's right,  
amplify your voice, and build a stronger  
RSIC together.

*Continued on page 21*



- 🦋 **Program Visibility** – Elevating services that support youth, families, and elders.
- 💰 **Budget Clarity** – Ensuring smart investments that benefit our members.
- 🏠 **Support for Homeless Members** – Exploring housing and wraparound services for those in need.
- 👴 **Care for Our Elders** – Honoring our elders with accessible healthcare, transportation, and engagement.

I bring professionalism, compassion, and a deep commitment to going above and beyond for our people. I ask for your trust, your time, and your voice as I run for Tribal Council. Your vote matters, but so does your voice. Together, we can build a stronger, safer, and more inclusive RSIC.

Thank you for your support.

Catherine Phoenix

October 13, 2025

**Catherine Phoenix for RSIC Tribal Council 2025**



🗳️ **Election Day: November 1, 2025**

🕒 **Polls Open: 7 AM – 7 PM**

📍 **Reno-Sparks Indian Colony & Hungry Valley**

## VOTE NATALIE SMITH FOR TRIBAL COUNCIL

Hello Tribal Members and friends,

I am running for a seat on the Tribal Council because I believe I represent the values and community of the RSIC, being born and raised on the RSIC and making my home in Hungry Valley since its establishment. I have the experience, education and compassion for our people and will always have our collective best interests in any decisions made. Understand that I am coming from a place of being a part of the community and share basic concerns for improvement of services to support the health and welfare of the common member.

1. The separation of the HV community and the Reno colony needs to be dissolved. We moved to HV, we were assured that we would not be segregated from the main Colony. BUT, for 30 years the distinction of separate communities still exists. For example, Recreation tickets distribution is only in Reno, on a first come first serve basis. The distribution should take into account the time as well as the gas for HV members to get into Reno, it takes time. Distribution should be done at both sites based on population distribution to be fair.
2. Senior Meals. Many comments from Seniors about the lunches being bland and distasteful and the repetitive menus. A survey should be taken and the results should be seriously considered to improve the quality and variety of the meals while still being nutritious.
3. Education Program. Our population is growing! I have 13 grandchildren. Our Education Program needs more office space to hire more staff to adequately serve our students and take advantage of educational opportunities to excel in school. Full financial aid and support services should be provided for all students regardless of college, university, TMCC, Haskell, vocational or technical schools. We love our children and need to provide the best for them.
4. Library. Being the RSIC librarian, I was told that when the Reno Library modular was destroyed, that a new library would be erected, or space made for a Library. This still hasn't happened. I strongly feel that a Library is needed to sustain literacy for our children and adults because in this modern world, reading remains a valuable asset, and is needed and essential in all walks of life.
5. Community Engagement. The Tribal Council should commit to re-instilling its meetings with the community and membership. It is good governance to **actually be** transparent and share information with the community and address their concerns and issues in a face-to-face situation. We are a small community and should be able to come together without conflict to discuss issues that face our community with elected representatives.

Voters, I come from a place of being a lifelong part of the community and will always make decisions based on our Tribal values. I will listen to community concerns because these will also be my concerns. I will respect those that come before the Council because I want respect when I go before the council.

It is my hope that by expressing the above concerns, our governing body will be inspired to make positive changes for the future of our people. Vote for those that will actually make those changes. **Please remember me, when casting your vote on November 1, 2025.**

Thank you ,

*Natalie Smith*

## Letter of Candidacy

My name is Suzanne Thomas I am writing to humbly and proudly to announce my candidacy for the 2025 Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council. I am enrolled member and a lifelong resident. This step comes not only from a place of ambition, but from a deep commitment to make a meaningful difference.

Throughout my journey, I have faced challenges that have shaped me, victories that have motivated me, and experiences that have taught me the true value of perseverance, leadership, and compassion. I believe all these lessons and struggles and success have prepared me to serve with authenticity and purpose... Given the opportunity is a chance to contribute in a way that is bigger than myself. I am dedicated to bringing honesty, determination, and a vision for growth that will reflect the needs of all those I will represent. My goal if given the opportunity will be to elevate others, support unity, and build relationships to make progress possible for everyone within the Tribe & community.

I am asking for your support, not just as a candidate, but as someone committed to walking this path with integrity, hard work, and heart. Working hard to create something lasting and impactful.

I appreciate your support and encouragement and look forward to speaking and meeting all of you. May you continue to stay Blessed.

With gratitude and determination,



Suzanne J. Thomas



Greetings Tribal Members,

My name is Jean Wadsworth and I am coming forth today as a candidate for the RSIC Tribal Council because I believe our community deserves a fresh voice with new ideas, compassion and real change.

I know many of you have strong feelings about the leadership and the direction of our tribe. I want you to know that your voice matters and has been heard. If there is one promise I can make, it is to listen to your concerns and stand for what I believe to be right. But I will not stand for wrong doing against the people or the Reno Sparks Indian Colony. When our Tribal members are valued we are able to focus on what is good for the community as a whole.

Over the past 20 years I have passionately served the Reno Sparks Indian Colony community as the Recreation Program Manager and have respectfully served on the following committees:

- RSIC Drug Elimination Task Force
- RSIC Prevention Coalition
- RSIC Head-start Parent Committee
- RSIC Child Protection Team
- RSIC Multi-Disciplinary Team

These experiences have taught me that we need leadership that listens and acts with integrity. I support growth and change but I am also here to protect and preserve the history that built the Reno Sparks Indian Colony and what it is today.

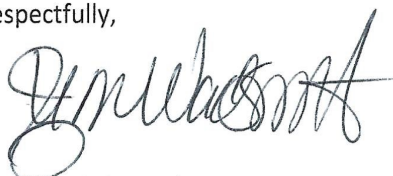
If elected I promise to walk in my own shoes and advocate strongly for fair and equal treatment, transparency, housing, prioritized health care services, hiring our own tribal members, and education.

- ✓ Housing: enough housing as our membership grows, especially for our tribal members whose income is over the low income guideline
- ✓ Education: I believe our education program is a disservice to our students and families in k-12 grade and hide behind the FERPA form as an excuse to not provide needed services to our students. You don't need a FERPA form to provide services in the community. What is a FERPA form?
- ✓ Human Resources: Reno Sparks Indian Colony preference
- ✓ Health Care/Clinic: the Reno Sparks Tribal Health Center is the Reno Sparks Indian Colony Health Center it should be represented as that. The RSIC tribal members should not be receiving any grief over our healthcare. If there is money being received for the clinic to splurge on the outside community, I feel the RSIC tribal members should be priority over non-RSIC members, state of the art healthcare and services for our elders, youth, substance abuse recovery, and mental health assistance. Why are our seniors receiving bulky metal dentures that put them in pain? Why are our tribal members waiting 4-6 months for an optometry appointment? Why are we not servicing all RSIC tribal members living outside the RSIC?
- ✓ Fair and Equal Treatment: I believe our Tribal members deserve fairness, honesty, transparency, compassion and should be given a fair opportunity to voice their concerns with a respectful open dialogue

I kindly ask for your support and vote this coming Election Day and allow me to be a New Voice for us all!

I am not just a candidate but a kind neighbor who truly listens and cares.

Respectfully,



Jean A. Wadsworth

Hello members of the Reno Sparks Indian Colony,

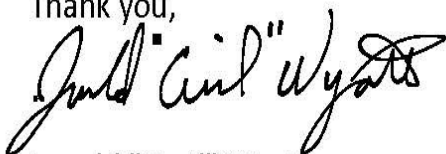
My name is Jerrold "Cecil" Wyatt. I am Washoe and Pyramid Lake Paiute. Son of Carol "Noonie" Wyatt and Harold Wyatt.

I am a resident of the Hungry Valley Community. I have lived on the RSIC my whole life. I have been employed by the RSIC for almost 20 years. It has been important for me to show others that I have longevity with the Tribe and a reliable resource in the community, creating a safety net and trust among my community is important.

I will be transparent and approachable to the community and be part of making informed decisions to benefit Tribal members and residents. Fairness is one of my priorities.

I will continue to value the importance of our elders, children, families, and traditions when making those decisions for our Tribe.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerrold 'Cecil' Wyatt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jerrold "Cecil" Wyatt





# RSIC Tribal Government Info

The Reno-Sparks Indian Colony is a sovereign nation. Its tribal government includes an elected chairman and an eight-member council which serves as the governing body per the RSIC Constitution.

The constitution gives the Tribal Council the authority and responsibility to raise revenues, incur expenses, enter into contracts, borrow money, administer funds, purchase land, and provide services for the general welfare and benefit of the Colony's tribal and community members.

As a sovereign Indian nation, the RSIC Tribal Council carries the same unique powers and duties as any city council, county commission, or legislative government across the United States.

Regular, monthly meetings are held to discuss and sometimes vote on matters that affect the Colony, its membership, the community, and any aspect of the tribal government.

The RSIC held its last tribal election on November 4, 2023, and the next tribal election will be November 1st, 2025.

Four of the tribal council seats are up for election every two years, for four-year terms. Five council seats including the Chairman position will be up for election in 2027. Staggered terms allow the governing council greater continuity.

The tribal council is organized to include a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer. The chairman shall be elected by the voters, and the vice-chairman, secretary, and treasurer shall be selected by the tribal council from within its own council membership.

The Colony owns unique traditions, history, culture and languages which are essential for the progress of our tribe. The reservation covers about 15,610 acres and is located in central, west Reno, Nev. The tribal enrollment office reports a total membership of 1,373 as of October 2025.

The tribal council strives to maintain positive, constructive relationships and tribal unity. These important elements are the guiding principles for tribal economic development which exists to improve the quality of life for all, even those yet to be born.

The Colony is an equal opportunity provider in accordance with applicable Colony and federal laws.

To learn more about the RSIC's constitutional election process, read RSIC's Constitution at [www.rsic.org](http://www.rsic.org) on the Tribal Government webpage.







# SPECIAL NOTICE

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony

# TRIBAL ELECTION DAY

**Saturday November 1, 2025**

**POLLING TIMES: 7AM-7PM**

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## POLLING LOCATIONS

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**RENO MULTIPURPOSE ROOM  
34 RESERVATION ROAD  
RENO, NV 89502**

**&**

**HUNGRY VALLEY  
COMMUNITY ROOM  
(HV GYM LOWER LEVEL)  
9075 EAGLE CANYON DRIVE  
SPARKS, NV 89441**

**(4) TRIBAL COUNCIL SEATS OPEN**

**MORE INFO: [RSICELECTIONCOMMITTEE@RSIC.ORG](mailto:RSICELECTIONCOMMITTEE@RSIC.ORG)**

**OR VISIT:**

**[WWW.RSIC.ORG/287/TRIBAL-ELECTIONS-2025](http://WWW.RSIC.ORG/287/TRIBAL-ELECTIONS-2025)**