Arlene Wheeler

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Greeting Community Members,

On April 6th, 2020 I was nominated to be put on the ballot to run for Tribal Council, and I accept the nomination as a Tribal Council candidate for 2020.

My mother is Loretta A. Charles and father is the late George Bolstrom, my maternal grandparents are the late Phillip Charles Sr. and Rosalie Thomas-Charles; my Paternal Grandparents the late George Bolstrom Sr. and Hannah Bolstrom-Sampson.

I grew up on the reservation after moving to Lower Elwha in 1968 when the tribe finally received reservation land & status. I have worked for the tribe most of my life (30+ years) and currently I am one of very few tribal member Directors. I have a lot of experience in Tribal government; as I have served on various committees within the tribe (housing, elections, education, youth coalition), as well as outside of the tribe which include Northwest Indian Housing Association, Nez Perce Policy Council, CNCS – Canoe Nations Support Consortium and the Burke Museum Native American Advisory Board. I graduated from Peninsula College with my AAS and graduated from The Evergreen State College with my BA in the Reservation Based Community Determined Program.

As we continue our journey to have a thriving community, our inherent rights must be protected, our young people educated on how to be self-sufficient, how to protect and utilize our natural resources while caring for mother earth. Culture and language are important factors of who we are as indigenous peoples, we must continue to have programs available to teach anyone who wishes to learn.

I believe in transparency and accountability, I have my own voice and I am dedicated to being a community voice. Throughout the years I have witnessed many changes and growth here at the tribe. Meeting the needs of our community through your voice is key to the success of our tribe. Important areas to address include listening to the community, transparency, enrollment policy as well as the quorum concerns and Constitution & by-law updates.

Leadership is the drive within yourself to work hard for your people! I am asking for your support, your vote, I will do the best I can if elected. If we all work together we can do great thing for our community

Arlene "Pebbles" Wheeler