



Dear Elwha Community,

My name is Cody Gene Bankson and I am running for Tribal Council. I am an Elwha Tribal member with strong work ethic and good family values. I believe I am a good candidate to help our tribe flourish and be successful.

I work for Coca Cola and have worked for them for close to 15 years in total. I have helped hundreds of small, independent stores make money all up and down the coast through Oregon and Washington. These are the stores that help the community by supplying us with our needs and essentials. I have also worked in the Big Box industry stores such as Wal-Mart, WinCo, Safeway, ect. I have serviced every type of business from hotels, motels, restaurants, grocery stores, book stores, liquor stores, every type of retail and customer service there is. I am knowledgeable in the business world. While doing this I learned what it takes to make these businesses run and be efficient. I have talked and worked with owners and managers in every aspect of these industries. I have learned the "ins and outs" of just about every business. I have sat with the corporate leaders of supply chains in the business world and talked about what is successful and prosperous but also what has failed and not been successful.

For two years' time I ran Elwha's Food and Fuel and showed the tribe what our store can do. I brought my knowledge and business experience to Elwha and made our store successful. I more than tripled what our store did the first year and then doubled that number the following year. I made Elwha the # 1 store in the state, and in the top 10 on the west coast. I sat with the corporate leaders in the industry and helped changed how the C-Store industry works. I sat with Chevron and Dairy Mart CEOs and told them what we were doing at Elwha. Our one store did more than 10 of their stores altogether. We were leading the way. I brought a different aspect of what a convenience store can do. We added a food truck and espresso stand, doing this added profit to our store. Now other stores started doing the same. I added tax dollars to our community. Tax dollars that help our community grow.

With all the businesses coming into our community, I believe I can help Elwha grow. I believe I can help make Elwha number one. I have proved what I can do with the store. With your help and votes, we can make the community better. We need to make Social Services more efficient for our elders and youth. We need to help our fishermen with a good market to sell Elwha product. We need our Hotel to be a place the world talks about. Everyone around us is growing at a rapid pace. There is so much opportunity for our community and members to grow as well. I know I can be a huge asset to Elwha and the people of Elwha. Thank you for your consideration.

Cody Gene Bankson