

Dear Lower Elwha Tribal Members,



My name is George Charles, my mother was the late Georgianne Charles and my father is Alan Charles. Both of my parents are former Tribal Council Members. Beatrice Charles, Adeline Smith, and Bernice Anderson are all apart of my family who have had an impact not only on the tribe but myself. These leaders are a part of who I am today, they have all taught me so much about family and community. Auntie Bea and Adeline were a part of a group of elders who kept our language and culture alive and fought to get the Elwha River dams taken down. My family always said education was important and encouraged me to further my education and so I went on and got my degree in Business Administration/Management and my accounting certificate.

It is that time of year again, when you need to let your voice be heard, to get out and vote. I am just finishing up with my 1<sup>st</sup> term on tribal council, it has been a humbling experience and an honor to be serving all. I am asking for your support during this election season in hopes to be re-elected to the Lower Elwha Tribal Council. Every vote counts, and I encourage each and every one of you to vote; and to please vote for me.

During my three years on council we have accomplished a lot as a tribe. We have built new facilities for Natural Resources, Klallam Counseling Services, Head start and Child Care, plus the Hotel, which is still in process along with the Cannabis Shop. It has been amazing seeing us grow and to see our new buildings go up and be utilized by our members. These projects took a lot of time and effort to get done and a lot of staff were involved with the processes of these projects. I want to thank all the employees in all the departments for all the hard work and dedication they have shown throughout the years. There is a lot of work going on behind the scenes.

I have learned a lot during my first term and I know there will always be more to learn as we move forward. I bring a different and fresh point of view to this council. I have always loved working with our people within the tribe and my track record will show it:

**Graving Dock** (3 years) working multiple roles on the Tse-whit-zen village site alongside archeologists to protect and uncover our ancestors and artifacts.

**Recreation Director** (10 years) Health and Wellness, supporting and helping our youth and elders with wellness and physical fitness, coordinating field trips, tournaments, holiday events, potlatches, and assisting with funerals during our community's hard times.

**Gaming Commission** (9 Years) protecting the assets of the tribal casino. This is the regulatory side of gaming and being a commissioner I got level 1,2,3

certifications and was the Chairman of the gaming commission for 4 years.

**Assistant store manager** (1.5 years) worked before the store opened to learn the back office, POS system, and daily operations, then I trained all the employees. I wrote Policies and Procedures for the store, ordered inventory, scheduling for employees, and all other manager duties.

**Tribal Council** (3 Years) This is such a broad position. In addition to the accomplishments listed up above, we deal with fishing and hunting law suits, Port of Port Angeles, EPA, legislature, Port

Angeles City Council, and many other organizations.

We still have a lot of work ahead of us still and Covid-19 is making things difficult. This puts a real perspective on life and how fragile it really is. As council, we are doing our best to help our people and will be distributing gift cards to tribal members 18+, and putting money on PUD bills. All people need help during these difficult times and we are doing our best. Individual programs are stepping up as well to help our people out. The services above mentioned are for enrolled tribal members in our service area, but I would ultimately like to see it expanded to all enrolled tribal members 18+ in the near future. We should help everyone regardless of residency.

I have always been involved in our community. Whether it be drum group, canoe journeys, basketball tourneys, grave digging, community events, and helping individuals personally. I like to help where I can, which is a value my parents instilled on me. I have worked hard to be a positive role model for not only our youth but the community in general. Your support is greatly appreciated and I am asking for it again in the form of your vote.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "George Charles". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

George Charles