

Patrick Brennan Re-Elect for Council 2021

Creating Meaningful Change for Our People

Acknowledgments & Background

Chi-Miigwetch to ALL members of Henvey Inlet First Nation for their unwavering support for the past four terms (8yrs). The current term has been the most challenging and yet the most rewarding, only likely to be exceeded by the next. Council and your First Nation's truly dedicated staff have worked tirelessly and persevered through these uncertain times and have provided governance and vital services to our members at no small risk to themselves.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge Chief Wayne McQuabbie and my fellow members of Council, Tony Solomon (at rest), Brenda Contin, Carl Ashawasagai, Lionel Fox and Maureen Kagagins. Each of them has sacrificed so much for the wellbeing of our people and I see and know first-hand the toll this has taken on them and their families. Our community's solidarity is what has gotten us through.

Living on and off the First Nation has given me an insightful balanced perspective on our community's opportunities & challenges, and on how we need to respond to them. My experience managing financial institutions gave me a strong understanding of Human Resources along with Financial Risk Analysis. I have mindfully applied this knowledge to benefit the community. I have run my own IT company which has allowed me to assist many First Nations in their technological advancements including our own. I have learned that our strength is in our culture, in our tradition of mutual respect and our dedication to finding solutions that achieve BALANCE and HARMONY in our relations with each other, the peoples around us and, most importantly, with Shkagamik kwe (Mother Earth). With your support I will continue to listen, learn and diversify in order to effectively represent our First Nation.

Providing for Future Generations

This past term has brought our Windfarm on-line which is an extraordinary achievement and is something for all of us to take pride in. Its success allows us to **ALL** share in some financial assistance equally with **NO DISTINCTION** of our geographic residence as we are **ALL EQUAL** members while investing for our children and future generations so that they may have opportunities many have never had.

Finding Balance During Adversity

Some Key areas the Chief and Council and Membership must turn our attention to.

- Children, Elders and Vulnerable Safety
- Protecting our traditional territory from encroachment
- Revitalizing Anishinaabemowin, cultural and practices
- Member Development & Education
- Membership Code and Citizenship
- Mental wellbeing, healing and addictions
- Restoring our lands & species habitat
- Community Infrastructure and Economic Development Opportunities

These are issues that require continuity of governance, purpose and approach. I have been privileged to be part of an unbroken succession of Band Councils that has proven its ability to tackle even the thorniest issues and to find solutions that achieve the broadest possible acceptance among our people. I am immensely honoured by your support for the role I have played in these solutions and look forward to new challenges, including those listed above. I personally **DO NOT** as an individual have all the answers, but I know that working together through extensive community consultation we can develop solutions based on BALANCE and HARMONY that benefit everyone. My point to be made is this. If we are to move forward in a good way our people are vital in helping to provide sound and achievable solutions to help the Leadership implement. The reality remains that not all solutions work for everyone but personally I take comfort in knowing many decisions are a result of a collaborative decision-making process.

I appreciate your consideration to Re-Elect me in our 2021 General Election. Lastly, I ask you flip over this page to reflect on the 7 Grand Father Teachings. They are truths and hope they resonate with you as you sit with them.



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Please reach out to arrange a Zoom meeting any time

Seven Grandfather Teachings

Minwaadendamowin – Respect (Buffalo)

Zaagidiwin—Love (Eagle)

Debwewin—Truth (Turtle)

Aakodewewin—Bravery (Bear)

Nibwaakawin—Wisdom (Beaver)

Miigwe 'aadiziwin—Generosity (Jenu)

Dibaadendiziwin—Humility (Wolf)

The creator gave these Seven Grandfathers to guide the people the way to live a better life. As a people we need to reflect and do the best we can to live these Teachings. This is the only way to create true change. As we change as individuals, we become part of the change for all of us as a people.



**Chi-Miigwetch
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