



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: *Luther F. Mills*

Board or Commission Name: *Indigenous Advisory Council*

Position Title: *Member*

☐ Appointment ☒ Reappointment

***Term of Position:** *8/1/2026 to 7/31/2028*

☐ *Serving partial term (eligible for full terms thereafter)*

Appointing Authority: ☒ City Council ☐ Mayor ☐ Other: *Insert Appointing Authority*

City Council Confirmation Required? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Residential Neighborhood: *Include Seattle neighborhood or other city residence*

Appointee brief overview:

Luther "Jay" Mills, Suquamish Tribal Member, and elected Tribal Council Member, has served more than 25 years on Council, and has been employed with the Suquamish Tribe and its economic agency, Port Madison Enterprises, for more than 45 years—serving in several different capacities, but most recently as Port Madison Enterprises Ambassador.

Jay has more than 25 years of experience in Tribal Government overseeing government operations such as administration, human services, the Dept. of Community Development, legal, law enforcement, Tribal court, wellness, education, health benefits, and government-to-government relations with local cities, counties, Washington state, and the U.S. government.

Jay is also a commercial fisherman with a wealth of knowledge in gathering and preserving Salish Sea seafood for over 50 years! Jay has been teaching Chief Kitsap Academy students in the traditional ways to cook and preserve seafood he learned from his great grandmother, Cecelia Jackson. He and his wife Joanie have raised five amazing children, as well as 19 grandkids!

Jay's leadership roles on boards and committees include: Suquamish Tribal Council (elected), Kitsap Economic Development Board (appointed), Washington Economic Development Association (member), Bremerton Chamber Board Member (appointed), Visit Kitsap Peninsula Board Member (appointed), Suquamish Foundation Board Member (appointed), Chief Kitsap Academy School Board Member (appointed), and Leadership Kitsap Board Member (former).

Appointing Authority Signature:

Date Signed: *July 13, 2026*

Appointing Authority Printed Name and Title:

Dan Strauss, Seattle City Councilmember

Luther F. Mills Jr. (Jay)

OBJECTIVE

Enrolled Suquamish Tribal Member, and Elected Official of the Suquamish Tribal Council with 25 years' experience in Tribal Government and Enterprise work. Seeking an opportunity to strengthen and influence diversity by serving on the Seattle Indigenous Advisory Board.

EDUCATION

West High, Bremerton, WA

EXPERIENCE

2017- Current

Ambassador: Port Madison Enterprises, Clearwater Casino Resort

2017-2004

General Manager: Kiana Lodge, Port Madison Enterprises

1999-2004

Slot Manager: Port Madison Enterprises, Clearwater Casino Resort

1994-2004

Bingo Manager: Port Madison Enterprises, Clearwater Casino Resort

KEY SKILLS

Senior Executive Manager
Program & Site Management
Networking & Volunteerism
Strategic Planning
Leadership Development
Project Management
Communication Skills

COMMUNICATION

Ocean to Table Project, Chief Kitsap Academy
Since Time Immemorial Curriculum Lecturer
Canoe Journey Traditional Foods Coordination
Suquamish Seafood's Enterprise Liaison, Tribal Council
Suquamish Tribal Court Liaison, Tribal Council

LEADERSHIP

Suquamish Tribal Council Member (elected)
Bremerton Chamber Board Member (appointed)
Visit Kitsap Peninsula Board member (appointed)
Kitsap Economic Development Board Member (appointed)
Washington Economic Development Association Member
Suquamish Foundation Board Member (appointed)
Chief Kitsap Academy School Board Member (appointed)

REFERENCES

Available upon request

Indigenous Advisory Council

9 Members: Pursuant to Ordinance 126512, 5 or all members subject to City Council confirmation, with 2-year terms.

- 5 City Council-appointed
- 4 Mayor-appointed
- 0 Other Appointing Authority-appointed:

Roster as of [6/15/26]

Position Number	Position Title	Appointee Name	Term Begin Date	Term End Date	*Term Number	Appointed By
1	Tribal Member-WA	Donny Stevenson	8/1/25	7/31/27	3	City Council
2	Tribal Member-WA	Jay Mills	8/1/26	7/31/28	3	City Council
3	Tribal Member-Any	Jeremy Takala	8/1/26	7/31/28	3	Mayor
4	Indigenous Youth	Tia Yazzie	8/1/25	7/31/27	1	Mayor
5	Indigenous Elder	Suzanne Sailto	8/1/26	7/31/28	3	City Council
6	Urban Native Org	Esther Lucero	8/1/25	7/31/27	3	City Council
7	Urban Native Org	Derrick Belgarde	8/1/26	7/31/28	3	City Council
8	Urban Native Org	Eddie Sherman	8/1/25	7/31/27	1	Mayor
9	Urban Native Org	Jaci S. McCormack	8/1/26	7/31/28	3	Mayor

Self-identified diversity chart

Appointing Authority	Male	Female	Transgender	Non-Binary	N/A	Asian	Black/African American	American Indian/Alaska Native	White/non-Hispanic	Hispanic/Latinx	Pacific Islander	Middle Eastern	Multiracial	N/A
Mayor	2	2						4						
Council	3	2						5						
Other														
Total	5	4						9						

City Council districts represented

Council District	District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7	N/A
Total								9