



City of Seattle Boards & Commissions Notice of Appointment

Appointee Name: *Jeremy Takala*

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: *N/A*

Appointee brief overview: *Jeremy Takala, known as Pax'una'shut in the Yakama Nation hails from the Kahmiltpah Band (Rock Creek) located on the Columbia River, while also a proud descendant of Hopi. He was nominated in 2020 to serve as a Tribal Councilman for Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation. Councilmember Takala chairs the Fish and Wildlife & Law and Order Committees, serves as Secretary of Legislative Committee, and is a member of Heath, Employment and Welfare Committee. Prior to his time in office, he worked 12 years for the Yakima Klickitat Fisheries Project (YKFP) at the Klickitat River Research Monitor Evaluate as a fisheries technician. His hands on training and Washut upbringing has contributed to his skillset as a CRITFC Commissioner with the Nez Perce, Umatilla and Warm Springs Tribes. He is compassionate about upholding up his tribes' Treaty Rights with the federal government and protecting resources for those yet unborn.*

Jeremy was raised in Goldendale, WA and is a proud member of the Rock Creek Longhouse. Learning to drum and provide for the longhouse at an early age is a tribute to his elders who have passed on their traditional educations. He continues to carry on old-style values with his wife Kim, their two sons Tyler and Clint and infant daughter Nena, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and extended community participants. When time allows between his son's baseball and basketball schedules he finds time to display his Round Bustle style of dance on the Pow-Wow circuit, with his boy's right behind mimicking his every move. He has lead students to national conferences as part of the Big River Council and has been an instrumental presence in local schools and parent committees as a voice for Native representation.

Jeremy's passion has always been in the mountains gathering traditional foods and medicines, hunting, fishing and practicing the ways of time immemorial. He resides as a stewardship for future generations to understand and defend natural foods, streams and animals. Striving to carry out the visions of past leadership while embarking on ways to preserve natural laws in the contemporary world. Jeremy attributes his large family and Longhouse gatherings as a reason for his achievements and for preparing him to be a team player, "it takes a village". When called upon by the elders to take the helm, he graciously accepted their words of encouragement and stepped into his governance role.

Appointing Authority Signature:

Date Signed: 6/12/26

Appointing Authority Printed Name and Title:

Katie B. Wilson
Mayor of Seattle

Jeremy Takala



Objective

Seeking to be reappointed to the Seattle Indigenous Advisory Council to leverage my experience. Expertise of 6 years includes strategic planning, community engagement, local, county, lobbying efforts in state and federal levels. This also includes engagement initiatives in the federal, state, tribal partners at the federal level while engaging with internal staff, and NGOs. Passionate in areas of Natural Resources, Cultural Resources while carrying expertise in areas of public safety and legislative areas.

Experience

Awards & acknowledgments

National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development

Recipient of 40 under 40 award-2025

Tribal government leader with 15+ years of experience in governance, natural resource management, and intergovernmental relations. Elected Tribal Councilmember and two-term Chairman with a proven record of legislative advocacy, policy leadership, and regional collaboration to protect treaty rights, fisheries, and community services.

CONFEDERATED TRIBES & BANDS OF THE YAKAMA NATION

Toppenish, Washington

Tribal Councilmember | Feb. 2020 – Present

- **Elected Tribal Councilmember providing governance oversight for tribal government programs and enterprises.**
- **Assistant Secretary, Executive Committee; Chair: Law & Order, Fish & Wildlife, Legislative, and Energy Committees; Member: Veterans Committee.**
- **Oversee public safety and justice entities (Tribal Police, Justice Services, Tribal Court, Prosecutor, Public Defender),**

Gaming Commission, and Natural Resources divisions.

- **Lead strategic planning for fisheries management, environmental protection, fire response, and regulatory compliance.**
- **Conduct state and federal legislative advocacy, including testimony and lobbying for policy priorities and funding.**
- **Collaborate with tribes, states, and NGOs on regional initiatives including the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative and Resilient Columbia Agreement to protect salmon and ecosystem health.**

COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

Portland, Oregon

Chairman (Elected, Two Terms) | Feb. 2020 – July 2021; July 2024 – July 2025

- **Represent four Columbia River Treaty Tribes and set Commission business agendas and policy direction.**
- **Provide state and federal advocacy and testimony in Oregon and Washington.**
- **Advance treaty rights, fisheries policy, and inter-tribal coordination.**

YAKAMA NATION – YAKIMA/KLICKITAT FISHERY PROJECT

Klickitat, Washington

Fish Technician III | Mar. 2008 – Feb. 2020

- **Supported research, monitoring, and evaluation of Chinook and Coho salmon in the Klickitat and Columbia River systems.**
- **Conducted trapping, PIT-tagging, translocation, biological sampling, and field data collection.**
- **Contributed to habitat, food web, and fisheries management studies; completed professional fisheries training.**

YAKAMA NATION HOUSING AUTHORITY

Wapato, Washington

Maintenance & Construction Laborer | 2004 – 2008

- **Performed framing, roofing, weatherization, and general maintenance for tribal housing on and off the reservation.**

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP/ Engagement
Seattle Indigenous Advisory Council-2 terms 2022-
Present
Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians- Alternate
Rep. 2020-Present
National Congress of American Indians-Delegate
2020-Present
Rock Creek Longhouse — Drummer, singer,
Ichishkíin-language speaker; Leader, Big River
Youth Council Adviser
Goldendale High School — Diploma

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	8/1/25	7/31/27	2	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