

ELECTIONS

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

BAND MEMBER AIMS TO BRING CHANGE TO COUNTY BOARD

Bradley Harrington is running against Dave Oslin, who denies the existence of the Mille Lacs Reservation

"We all understand the importance of elections for president and governor, but the County Board makes decisions that affect our daily lives just as much, and sometimes more," said Bradley Harrington, Mille Lacs Band member and candidate for the Mille Lacs County Board seat held by incumbent Commissioner David Oslin. "The way I see it, David has not just been an opponent of the Band, but an opponent of the interests of the whole county, because he has spread fear and anger in a way that has prevented us from working together. If we all work together — the Band, the County Board, and all our neighbors — we can accomplish amazing things for our children and future generations."

In 2002, Oslin delivered a petition to the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners signed by 2,000 individuals demanding that the County file a lawsuit against the Mille Lacs Band, claiming that the Band's 1855 Reservation had been disestablished. Three years and several million dollars later, the lawsuit was thrown out, with Judge James Rosenbaum saying no one had been harmed by the continued existence of the Mille Lacs Reservation. At the time, Mille Lacs County's District 5, which includes the District I and IIa communities, was represented by Frank Courteau, who was backed by national and local anti-Indian groups like the Citizens Equal Rights Alliance and the Mille Lacs Tea Party and Equal Rights Foundation.

Courteau chose not to seek reelection in 2012 and was replaced by Oslin, who ran unopposed in 2016 and was re-elected. Oslin has followed Courteau's lead by opposing the Band — most significantly by voting to rescind the County's law enforcement agreement with the Band, which handcuffed the tribal police department right when the opioid crisis was surging in our communities.

Bradley is the first Band member to run for Mille Lacs County Board. Bradley grew up in the District I area, and he has worked in the private sector, served as Commissioner of Natural Resources for the Band, and now works as Tribal Liaison for the Minnesota DNR.

“

I live here and I am not going anywhere, you live here and you're not going anywhere, so I think it's time we start working together

Quote from speaking to the DFL County Board

BRADLEY HARRINGTON

Candidate running for Mille Lacs County Commissioner District 5



Vote November 3rd

WORKING TOGETHER

Bradley is emphasizing unity and cooperation in contrast to the divisive tone and behaviors set by the county board over the years.

IN HIS OWN WORDS

UNITING COMMUNITY

I took part in community discussions a few years back where I met some great individuals that live within this community. We discussed trails, transportation, and economic development. "Together" was a word used the most.

DIVIDING COMMUNITY

The Mille Lacs County Commission has a long history of dividing our community. Rather than build members up, they resort to fear tactics on issues they don't understand. Millions have been spent on division rather than bringing us together through economic partnerships and community programming.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

Plenty: Vote! Voting turnout in our area is low. Casting a vote in an election is how we exercise our right to

determine our leadership. If everyone votes, the voice would be so much louder.

I voted for the first time in 2017. I was scared to beforehand. I thought "What's the point? My voice doesn't matter!" In fact, it does. But it only does if WE vote. After I voted, I was empowered. Even though my candidate doesn't always win, I felt the urge to do more.

Getting more involved is how we will initiate change.

WHY VOTE HARRINGTON?

Times are changing. People are getting more information, and with that comes more awareness and responsibility.

I believe that the good people of this community truly want better. I wasn't always so open; I was closed-minded. I put myself in a place where I thought I was unable to make a difference. I was undeserving. That was then.

Now, I learned more. I met more people, people who also thought they were unable to make a difference. They want a better community, but where is the opportunity to bring that about?

I felt compelled to help myself and those with a similar mindset. This is America; there are freedoms we have yet to understand and those that go unused, like voting. Someone like me can make a difference, and so can you.

Together, we can make an even bigger difference. When I look at my kids, I wonder what I can do to empower them, their friends, and our community members.

It is not Indian vs. White, it is Us vs. Fear. I no longer fear, and neither should you.

Miigwech.

TRUMP, BIDEN MAKE PLEAS FOR NATIVE AMERICAN VOTES

President Donald Trump expresses support for Indian Country

Republican President Donald Trump does not have a statement on his website devoted to Native American issues, but on May 5, the White House released a statement titled "President Donald J. Trump is Protecting the Native American Community as We Combat the Coronavirus."

"We will leverage every resource we have to bring safety to our tribal communities, and we will not waver in this mission," said Trump. Trump takes credit for fighting COVID-19 in Indian communities by providing needed equipment.

He lists the following under the heading "COMBATING CORONAVIRUS IN NATIVE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES: President Donald J. Trump is supporting Native American communities impacted by the coronavirus."

- The President signed the CARES Act into law, providing \$8 billion to address coronavirus preparedness, response, and recovery for American Indians and Alaska Natives.
- The initial allocation of this funding, totaling nearly \$5 billion, will be one of the largest programmatic investments in Indian Country in our Nation's history.
- The Administration has also allocated over \$1 billion through the Indian Health Service (IHS), to support tribes, tribal organizations, and Urban Indian Organizations in their coronavirus response efforts.

"WE WILL LEVERAGE EVERY RESOURCE WE HAVE TO BRING SAFETY TO OUR TRIBAL COMMUNITIES, AND WE WILL NOT WAVER IN THIS MISSION."

- The President has also acted to expand telehealth capacity and availability across IHS regions, allowing patients to get the care they need, while staying at home.
- The Federal Government delivered 250 Abbott testing systems to IHS and they have been distributed to IHS and tribal healthcare facilities throughout Indian Country.
- These systems allow for rapid testing at the time and place of patient care and expands testing capacity, especially important for harder to reach and vulnerable populations.
- The Administration sent 100 ventilators to Arizona to support Indian Country.
- The Trump Administration has worked closely to provide relief — including the delivery of 50 ventilators — to the Navajo Nation, which has seen significant impacts

from the coronavirus.

- The Federal Government has also deployed two Disaster Medical Assistance Teams and constructed three 50-bed Federal Medical Stations for the Navajo Nation.
- The President issued the first ever Executive Order establishing a task force on missing and murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives whose work is underway.
- To examine systemic problems at IHS, the President launched his Presidential Task Force on Protecting Native American Children served by the IHS.

Read more about President Trump at <https://www.donald-jtrump.com>.

You can also read his statement on Columbus Day at https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/proclamation-columbus-day-2020/?fbclid=IwAR3lu4q6EHKt0cfKl-cVQFuwe1o2rwJ5Wun_024L8PWtjrgGChvEqHz1cQ08.



Vice President Joe Biden has a long history of support for tribes

Vice President Joe Biden, the Democratic candidate for president, devotes a large section of his website to his history of supporting tribes and his plans to make life better for Native Americans. The introduction states: "For decades, Joe Biden has worked to foster tribal sovereignty and prosperity, and to ensure the United States follows through on the commitments it has made to Indian Country. He knows that Tribal Nations should be empowered to govern Native communities and that the United States must work harder to meet its solemn trust and treaty obligations. As president, Joe will build on the progress made under the Obama-Biden Administration to strengthen the nation-to-nation relationship and to support the sovereignty and prosperity of tribal nations."

Under "Highlights of Joe's Commitments," he lists the following, with details on each:

- **Protect Native homelands.** As President, Biden will work to uphold the United States' promises to tribes by defending federally-recognized tribal homelands and will support efforts to protect and secure reservation boundaries. In the critical *McGirt v. Oklahoma* decision in July, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the federal government's treaty responsibilities to protect homelands in Indian Country. Instead of working with tribes to ensure public safety and justice for victims of crimes in the area, the Trump Administration expanded its efforts to oppose tribes in the case and threaten tribal homelands. Biden stands with tribes, not against them." Make tribal self-governance and sovereignty, as well as support for the federal trust responsibility to Tribal Nations, cornerstones of federal policy. Biden is committed to strongly defending tribal sovereignty from encroachment and will look for additional self-governance opportunities.
- **Ensure tribal nations will have a strong voice and role in the federal government.** Biden will build productive, collaborative Nation-to-Nation relationships with tribes and indigenous peoples.
- **Tackle the crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.** As the author of the original Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), Joe fought for tribes' rightful authority to protect Native women through the Act's 2013 reauthorization. As President, he will further

"AS PRESIDENT, JOE WILL BUILD ON THE PROGRESS MADE UNDER THE OBAMA-BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO STRENGTHEN THE NATION-TO-NATION RELATIONSHIP AND TO SUPPORT THE SOVEREIGNTY AND PROSPERITY OF TRIBAL NATIONS."

expand tribal jurisdiction to include sexual violence, sex trafficking, and stalking to help tackle the epidemic of violence against indigenous women and girls.

- **Restore Tribal lands and safeguard natural and cultural resources.** Joe will make it a priority to restore tribal lands and protect the natural and cultural resources within them, while honoring the role of tribal

governments in protecting those resources.

- **Tackle climate change and pollution.** As president, Joe will ensure the U.S. achieves a 100% clean energy economy and net-zero emissions no later than 2050.
- **Invest in Native students.** Joe will dramatically increase funding for both public schools and Bureau of Indian Education schools.
- **Provide reliable, affordable healthcare.** As president, Joe will increase and work to ensure stable funding for Indian Health Services and protect and build on the Affordable Care Act.
- **Expand economic and community development in Indian Country.** Joe is calling for a transformational investment in our country's infrastructure, housing, and economic development in every corner of the country, including in Indian Country.
- **Fight for Native voting rights.** As president, Joe will continue to not only protect the right of American Indians and Alaska Natives to vote, but to make it easier to vote.

Under "Highlights of Joe's Record," he lists his role in the Obama-Biden administration in passing protections for tribal members in the Violence Against Women Act, forming the White House Council on Native American Affairs, prioritizing Native consultation, empowering youth, appointing Native Americans to high-level positions, achieving the history \$3.4 billion Cobell settlement, and creating the Land Buy-back Program, which restored millions of acres of land to Tribal governments.

On October 12, Biden sent a message to Native Americans celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day. You can read the statement at <https://joebiden.com/2020/10/12/indigenous-peoples-day-statement-by-vice-president-joe-biden/>.

Read more about Vice President Biden at <https://joebiden.com>.



CLEAR CONTRAST IN RACE FOR SENATE

Tina Smith

Incumbent U.S. Senator Tina Smith devotes a page of her campaign website to Native American issues where she says the following:

“Sen. Smith is proud to represent and advocate for the seven Ojibwe tribes, the four Dakota tribes, and the urban indigenous community in Minnesota.

“When Senator Smith joined the Senate, she asked to serve on the Indian Affairs Committee because she’s heard time and time again from leaders in Indian Country who are frustrated that policy decisions are being made without bringing tribes to the table. There are tremendous needs in Indian Country, and Sen. Smith understands that leaders in Indian Country often have answers for how the federal government can step up and fulfill its trust responsibility to tribal communities.

“Sen. Smith wants to make sure programs in Indian Country or that directly impact tribes from energy and economy development to health and education are adequately supported. She believes we need to address the effects of the opioid crisis on tribal communities, especially on mothers and children. We need to address the lack of housing in Indian Country, which makes it harder to attract teachers, law enforcement officers, and health care workers that reservations need. Sen. Smith believes we also need to give tribes the tools to develop their workforce and attract business and investment, while also investing in basic infrastructure like roads and broadband.”

News headlines from the last two years list Senator Smith’s accomplishments on behalf of Native Americans:

- Thursday, September 10, 2020 — U.S. Senators Tina Smith & Lisa Murkowski Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Help Tribes Combat COVID-19, Other Public Health Crises
- Monday, July 27, 2020 — U.S. Senator Tina Smith Leads Fight to Provide Mental Health Care for American Indian & Alaska Native Youth During Pandemic
- Wednesday, July 1, 2020 — In Senate Floor Speech, Sen. Smith Says Congress Must Address Public Health and Economic Crisis of COVID-19 in Tribal Communities
- Thursday, May 7, 2020 — U.S. Senators Tina Smith and James Lankford Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Expand Health Care Resources for Urban Indian Health Organizations Amid Pandemic
- Friday, May 1, 2020 — U.S. Senator Tina Smith to Mnuchin: Disburse \$8 Billion in Critical COVID-19 Relief to Tribal Governments Immediately
- Thursday, April 16, 2020 — U.S. Senator Tina Smith, Minnesota Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan: Coronavirus Relief Funding Meant for Tribes Should Go To Tribal Governments, Not Corporations
- Wednesday, April 8, 2020 — At the Urging of U.S. Senator Tina Smith, Congress Approves \$20 Million to Provide Nutrition Services to Native Elders
- Thursday, April 2, 2020 — U.S. Senator Tina Smith Calls for Quick and Effective Implementation of Tribal Provisions in Bipartisan Coronavirus Relief Package
- Thursday, December 19, 2019 — U.S. Senator Tina Smith Introduces Legislation to Help Tribal Communities Address Opioid Epidemic, Mental and Behavioral Health
- Monday, December 2, 2019 — Klobuchar, Smith, Peterson Announce \$200K for Transit Improvements in Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians

To learn more, visit <https://tinaforminnesota.com>.



Jason Lewis

Republican candidate Jason Lewis does not address Indian issues on his campaign website.

His campaign website does not include policy or position statements on the issues.

As a one-term Congressman, Jason Lewis was known as a typical conservative Republican who voted with the GOP and President Trump more than 90 percent of the time.

In the 115th United States Congress, Lewis had voted with his party in 96.3% of votes and in line with President Trump’s position in 90% of votes.

According to Project Vote Smart’s 2016 analysis, Lewis generally supported anti-abortion legislation, opposed income tax increases, opposed mandatory minimum sentences for non-violent drug offenders, opposed federal spending, supported lowering taxes as a means of promoting economic growth, opposed requiring states to adopt federal education standards, supported the building of the Keystone Pipeline, opposed federal regulation of greenhouse gas emissions, opposed gun-control legislation, supported repealing the Affordable Care Act, supported requiring immigrants who are unlawfully present to return to their country of origin before they are eligible for citizenship, and opposed American intervention in Iraq and Syria beyond air support.

Criminal justice reform: Lewis authored a bill that would provide education and vocational training resources to at-risk youth and young criminal offenders instead of levying penalties against them for petty offenses. He reintroduced the SAFE Justice Act, a criminal justice reform bill. He cosponsored legislation to let states set their own policy on cannabis and to remove cannabis from the list of Schedule I drugs.[33]

Health care: Lewis supported the March 2017 version of the American Health Care Act (the GOP’s bill to repeal the Affordable Care Act).[34] On May 4, 2017, he voted to repeal the ACA (Obamacare) and pass the American Health Care Act.

LGBT rights: In 2011, Lewis said that prohibitions on same-sex marriage were not discriminatory against gay people, because they would still be free to marry those of the opposite sex. In 2013, he argued against same-sex marriage, comparing gay people to rapists, speeders, and polygamists. “The gay-rights lobby is playing underhanded to get their will and in the process they are shredding the Constitution of this country,” he said. Lewis suggested that households headed by gay parents might be harming their children and that more research was needed to confirm that they were not. He called the decision of school boards to allow transgender restrooms and locker rooms in public schools an “abomination”.

Taxes and spending: Lewis voted for the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. He voted against the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, a bill that increased discretionary spending by \$300 billion. After his vote he said, “I ran for Congress to get the economy going again by reducing taxes, regulations, deficits and debt. A \$300 billion increase in discretionary spending along with hiking the debt ceiling fails on all accounts.” Lewis authored a bill that would mandate an audit of the Department of Defense. He later praised the department’s decision to undergo an audit in 2018.

Women’s issues: In 2011, Lewis decried laws prohibiting sexual harassment in the workplace, claiming such laws are unconstitutional because they interfere with free speech.

Learn more at <https://lewisformn.com>.



VOTING IN MINNESOTA: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can vote?

To vote in Minnesota, you must be:

- A U.S. citizen
- At least 18 years old on Election Day
- A resident of Minnesota for 20 days
- Finished with all parts of any felony sentence

You can vote while under guardianship unless a judge specifically has revoked your right to vote. You cannot vote if a court has ruled that you are legally incompetent.

Can felons vote?

Your criminal record does not affect your right to vote in Minnesota unless you are currently serving a felony conviction sentence, including probation, parole, or supervised release. You can vote after you finish all parts of your sentence, including any probation, parole, or supervised release. As soon as you finish (once you are “off-paper”), you can vote. You will need to register to vote. It is best to register before Election Day, but it is not required. You can vote if...

- you were charged with or convicted of a misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor.
- you are in jail, but are not currently serving a felony sentence.
- you have been charged with a felony, but you haven’t been convicted.
- you have been given a stay of adjudication.
- you finished all parts of your felony sentence.

You cannot vote if...

- you are currently serving a felony sentence.
- your stay of adjudication was revoked and you are currently serving a felony sentence.

How do I register?

Online registration ended October 13, but you can register or update your registration when you vote at your polling place on Election Day or at an early voting location. **You will need proof of residence to register — a driver’s license or tribal ID with current address. If your ID does not show your current name or address, you can bring a photo ID and a document with current name and address.** Learn more at mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us.

How do I vote early or by absentee ballot? You can vote early at your county courthouse. Many cities and towns, especially in the urban area, also have early voting. You can see a list of early voting locations or request an absentee ballot online at mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us.

Need help?

Call the Minnesota Secretary of State’s office at 1-877-600-VOTE (8683), the Mille Lacs Band Government Affairs Team at 320-495- 5006, or contact your county election office.

Aitkin County: 218-927-7354

Mille Lacs County: 320-983-8302

Pine County: 320-591-1670

Hennepin County: 612-348-5151

Ramsey County: 651-266-2171

Learn more at <https://sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting!>

ELECTION GUIDE

DOES MY VOTE REALLY MATTER?

The Native vote can and has made a difference. For example, in 2006, U.S. Senator John Tester (D-Montana) won his Senate seat over the Republican incumbent candidate by only 3,562 votes. In that election, more than 17,000 voters cast ballots on Montana's seven Indian reservations. Again in 2012, Senator Tester was re-elected by a narrow margin with the power of the Native vote. Our vote is our power, and we need to ensure that every Native vote counts.

There are over 4.7 million eligible Native voters over the age of 18+. Increasing the participation of Native Americans in the voting process is one of the key means of reclaiming our power.

In the United States, power is available through participatory democracy. If Native Americans can engage fully in the political system — free from the barriers that currently obstruct us — we can reclaim power and participate in a way that is fair and just.

The power of Native Americans

- Native Americans voters have the potential to become potent political forces. Only 66% of the eligible Native American voting population is registered to vote.
- There are over 1,000,000 eligible Native Americans voters (18+) in the United States who are not registered.
- There are active forces working against African Americans, Native Americans, and Communities of Color to keep us from voting. They know the power we hold. Together, we must ensure that EVERY Native vote counts!
- Check your registration status — Make sure you are registered and ready to vote.
- Know how you will plan to vote. It's probably too late to vote by mail, but you can still vote early in person or at your polling place on election day, November 3.
- 2020's election may look different than previous years. Look up information about how to vote by contacting Minnesota's Secretary of State's Office or going to NativeVote.org.
- Embrace your power! Get out the Native Vote 2020!

Avoid these common vote by mail issues.

- Take time to do a good signature. Some ballots are challenged because the signature may not match the one on file.
- Sign in the right spot. Some voters write their name where it says "sign" and sign where it says "write your name."
- Sign the ballot envelope.
- Don't seal the envelope with tape. Ensure it is properly sealed.
- Add a postage stamp, if it's required.
- Vote early if voting by mail. The USPS is experiencing delays, particularly in rural communities. If you plan to vote by mail, don't wait until the last minute!

NYSTROM, STAUBER COMPETE IN CD8

Pete Stauber of Duluth, who was elected in 2018 to represent the traditionally Democratic stronghold of northeast Minnesota, is being challenged this year by Quinn Nystrom, a health care advocate from Brainerd.

Quinn Nystrom

Nystrom's campaign website devotes the following paragraph to Native issues under the heading "Supporting our Native Peoples": "Too often, our Native people are left out of the conversation about the 8th district's future. Quinn will ensure that they are always at the table when we're discussing how the 8th district will move forward. She'll fight to ensure tribes have sovereignty over their lands and clean, safe water. She'll work with native people to strengthen their political voice and improve turnout rates. In office, she will hire staff to specifically work with native people and make sure her district offices are accessible. She'll also work to ensure funding and quality of the education, healthcare, and housing as required by the treaties between the tribes and the United States Government."

She also lists the following as reasons for running:

"I'm frustrated that Minnesota's hardworking families can't make decent wages and are struggling just to pay the bills each month. Working families are still being left behind. Healthcare, prescription drugs, and other basic expenses are growing much faster than Minnesota families' incomes. I'm running for Congress to bring down the costs of healthcare and prescription drugs because these are the deeply personal causes I have fought for my entire life."

Making Healthcare Affordable: "Quinn wants to advance legislation to lower out-of-pocket expenses, cut deductible prices, and protect coverage for people with pre-existing conditions."

Ending the Opioid Epidemic: "Quinn will fight for the expansion of Suboxone and Naloxone, peer recovery support in emergency departments, prevention programs in schools, medical education, and increasing treatment coverage."

Getting Dark Money Out Of Politics: "Quinn knows that our costs are sky-high because corporations have bought our politicians. That's why she signed the pledge to overturn the disastrous Citizens United vs. FEC ruling."

Expanding Our Economy: "As a small business owner herself, Quinn knows just how critical it is that we create an environment where businesses can succeed, including expansion of rural broadband internet."

Funding Our Schools: "Quinn will fight for our schools to get the funding they were promised and deserved."

Strengthening Our Unions: "She opposes 'right to work' legislation and wants to strengthen collective bargaining."

Protecting Our Environment: "Climate change is an existential threat that everyone must do their part to combat. Quinn will support our renewable energy technologies."

Farming: "She strongly believes that we have to end the corporate takeover and consolidation of our family farms."

Mining: "Our district has a long and proud history with mining — one that must continue with proper, rigorous environmental oversight."

Veterans: "Veterans have sacrificed greatly for our country. It only makes sense that we take care of them in return and lead in the best interests of all Americans."

Read more at <https://quinnforcongress.com>.



Pete Stauber

Congressman Stauber released the following on October 14:

"During his time in Congress, Pete Stauber has sought to listen to native leaders and hear the voices of all who are impacted by the legislation brought before the federal government.

One of the first caucuses he joined was the Native American Caucus, which is chaired by his friend and mentor, Rep. Tom Cole from Oklahoma.

"As a husband and father of four, Pete has continuously fought domestic violence, which disproportionately affects Indigenous Women. In fact, he participated in a local event and spoke on the importance of raising this issue to the highest levels. Just recently, the President signed into law Savanna's Act, a bill he cosponsors that directs law enforcement to address the tragedy of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women.

"Pete personally championed legislation that would address an issue ravaging Indian Country — suicide. He introduced legislation with Rep. Don Young of Alaska that would provide a nearly \$3 million increase in the Department of Health and Human Services for Native American Suicide.

"Rural broadband is a high priority for Pete Stauber as he understands that access to the internet is not a luxury but a necessity. He has fought to bring rural broadband investments to the 8th Congressional District and all of rural America so our schools, small businesses, and rural hospitals can survive.

"After being recently named to the Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples, Pete served as Ranking Member and was fortunate enough to highlight issues faced by MN08's tribally-operated schools, including the Nay Ah Shing/Pine Grove School. Also in Committee, he spoke in favor of and voted to advance the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act, which rightfully transfers tens of thousands of acres back to control of the Leech Lake Band. Since the issue was brought before him early in his tenure, he advocated for a win-win, and was proud to support it.

"Highway infrastructure in America is desperately in need of investment, and that's doubly true in Indian Country. On the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee raised the issue of the current highway funding formula leaving tribal roads and bridges out in the cold. It's crucial these investments are made on tribal land and throughout the country.

"Furthermore, Pete has continually touted investment from the federal government to bands in Minnesota in the form of grants and awards for environmental protection, infrastructure, tribal schools, and others. In fact, the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a program Pete champions, invested in St. Louis River Areas of Concern that support the fragile wild rice ecosystem. He also fights for tribal issues nationwide, as he voted for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Reservation Reaffirmation Act when tribes in Minnesota requested his support.

"Pete Stauber has fought for his Native Brothers and Sisters since day one in Congress and looks forward to continuing support for federal policies that uphold, uplift, and respect northern Minnesota's sovereign tribal nations."

Read more at <https://petestauberforcongress.com/issues>.



DISTRICT 11

BAND EMPLOYEE FACES LUECK; SAMUELSON CHALLENGES RUUD

Gaylene Spolarich, a 13-year employee of the Mille Lacs Band and an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, seeks to expand the presence of Native Americans in the Minnesota House of Representatives. She is challenging Republican incumbent Representative Dale Lueck for the District 10B House seat representing Mille Lacs Band District II communities and other residents of Aitkin County.

In the District 10 race for State Senate, incumbent Republican Carrie Ruud is being challenged by Steve Samuelson.

Gaylene Spolarich

Do you support the inherent sovereign rights of the Non-removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe? Yes.

Will you commit to working with the Band to improve government-to-government relations? Yes.

How are you planning to work with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe to address important issues in the region? As an Indigenous woman (enrolled Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa), and an employee of this great Nation for 13 years, important issues that arise will be addressed swiftly and as a priority.

What does tribal sovereignty mean to you? Tribes having the governing power and authority over their band members and their territories, including protecting the environment.



Steve Samuelson

Do you support the inherent sovereign rights of the Non-removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe? Yes.

Will you commit to working with the Band to improve government to government relations? Yes.

How are you planning to work with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe to address important issues in the region? Right now I know some of the active members of the Band. Going forward I would seek out members of the Government Affairs team, and start to build a productive relationship with the team. I also watched how Congressman Oberstar, Nolan and my Father Senator Don Samuelson, worked with the Band. What does tribal sovereignty mean to you? Tribal Sovereignty to me means, that the land that is deemed tribal land is under the rules of the tribal nation. It should have the same meaning as any other country has within its borders!



Carrie Ruud

Carrie Ruud did not reply to our questionnaire.

Dale Lueck

Do you support the inherent sovereign rights of the Non-removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe? Yes.

Will you commit to working with the Band to improve government to government relations? Yes.

How are you planning to work with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe to address important issues in the region? Bills I co-authored this legislative session: HF0111 - Task Force on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women created, violence against indigenous women and girls annual report required, and money appropriated; HF1348 - American Indian legacy grant program funding; HF1503 - Tribal public health access added to birth data; HF3641 - Permanent school fund endowment examination task force created; HF3642 - Tribal contract or grant schools authorized payment equivalent to annual payment to school districts from permanent school fund endowment.

What does tribal sovereignty mean to you? Tribal sovereignty is the right to govern. Our U.S. Constitution and federal law recognize tribal governments as distinct governmental bodies. Within the framework of the U.S. Constitution tribal governments have similar powers as the federal and state governments to regulate the affairs of their members. The challenge before us to ensure that all our citizens are provided the best possible opportunity to succeed, we do that by working cooperatively. I remain committed to doing that.



- 1 Check your voter registration status
- 2 Know how you're going to vote
 - Does your state offer absentee or mail in ballot options? If so, request your ballot and vote early.
 - If you plan to vote in person, know your polling place. Find state-specific voter info at NativeVote.org.
- 3 Stay informed about the latest election information by checking your latest state laws and rules through your state's election office website
- 4 Research the candidates and initiatives before voting
- 4 Vote early if voting by mail to avoid USPS mail delays or use a voter drop box
- 5 Organize transportation to polling places
- 6 On Election Day, bring a state-approved ID card and follow CDC and tribal-approved COVID-19 protocols

Need help? Contact vote@narf.org



MCGREGOR AREA SAMPLE BALLOT

Official Ballot State General Election Ballot 0180 - SPALDING TWP
Aitkin County, Minnesota Ballot ID: 3051
November 3, 2020

Instructions to Voters:
To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

Federal Offices	State Offices	School District Offices
President and Vice-President Vote for One Team	State Senator District 10 Vote for One	School Board Member Independent School District No. 4 (McGregor) Vote for Up to Four
<input type="radio"/> Donald J. Trump and Michael R. Pence <input type="radio"/> Joseph R. Biden and Kamala Harris <input type="radio"/> Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente and Darcy Richardson <input type="radio"/> Howie Hawkins and Angela Walker <input type="radio"/> Kanye West and Michelle Tidball <input type="radio"/> Brock Pierce and Karla Ballard <input type="radio"/> Gloria La Riva and Leonard Peltier <input type="radio"/> Alyson Kennedy and Malcolm Jarrett <input type="radio"/> Jo Jorgensen and Jeremy "Spike" Cohen	<input type="radio"/> Carrie Ruud <input type="radio"/> Steve Samuelson State Representative District 10B Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Dale K. Lueck <input type="radio"/> Gaylene Spolarich County Offices Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor District 3 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Franklin Turnock Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor District 4 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Bob Janzen Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor District 5 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Robert Roseberg	<input type="radio"/> Pat Scollard <input type="radio"/> Jordan Moser <input type="radio"/> Bethany Sellers <input type="radio"/> Jennifer Brekke <input type="radio"/> Brandon J. Popp <input type="radio"/> Sarah Pylvanen
United States Senator Vote for One		
<input type="radio"/> Kevin O'Connor <input type="radio"/> Oliver Steinberg <input type="radio"/> Jason Lewis <input type="radio"/> Tina Smith		
United States Representative District 8 Vote for One		
<input type="radio"/> Judith Schwartzbecker <input type="radio"/> Pete Stauber <input type="radio"/> Quinn Nyström		

State General Election Ballot
Aitkin County, Minnesota
November 3, 2020

Instructions to Voters:
To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

Judicial Offices	Judicial Offices	Judicial Offices
Supreme Court Associate Justice 4 Vote for One	9th District Court Judge 4 Vote for One	9th District Court Judge 21 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Michelle MacDonald <input type="radio"/> Paul Thessen <input type="radio"/> James Hughes	<input type="radio"/> Benjamin T. Lindstrom <input type="radio"/> Charles D Halverson <input type="radio"/> James Hughes <input type="radio"/> Jana M AUSTAD <input type="radio"/> Matthew Mallie <input type="radio"/> D. Corey Wahwassuck <input type="radio"/> Anne M. Rasmussen <input type="radio"/> Sarah L. McBroom <input type="radio"/> Robert D. Tiffany <input type="radio"/> Tamara L. Yon <input type="radio"/> Jeffrey S. Remick	<input type="radio"/> Patricia Aanes <input type="radio"/> Judge 22 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Darlene Rivera Spalla
Court of Appeals Judge 3 Vote for One	Judge 19 Vote for One	
<input type="radio"/> Carol Hooten <input type="radio"/> Randall J Sieler <input type="radio"/> Jeanne Cochran <input type="radio"/> Kevin G. Ross	<input type="radio"/> James Hughes <input type="radio"/> Jana M AUSTAD <input type="radio"/> Matthew Mallie <input type="radio"/> D. Corey Wahwassuck <input type="radio"/> Anne M. Rasmussen <input type="radio"/> Sarah L. McBroom <input type="radio"/> Robert D. Tiffany <input type="radio"/> Tamara L. Yon <input type="radio"/> Jeffrey S. Remick	
Judge 9 Vote for One	Judge 2 Vote for One	
<input type="radio"/> Randall J Sieler <input type="radio"/> Jeanne Cochran <input type="radio"/> Kevin G. Ross	<input type="radio"/> Matthew Mallie <input type="radio"/> D. Corey Wahwassuck <input type="radio"/> Anne M. Rasmussen <input type="radio"/> Sarah L. McBroom <input type="radio"/> Robert D. Tiffany <input type="radio"/> Tamara L. Yon <input type="radio"/> Jeffrey S. Remick	
Judge 13 Vote for One	Judge 5 Vote for One	
<input type="radio"/> Jeanne Cochran <input type="radio"/> Kevin G. Ross	<input type="radio"/> D. Corey Wahwassuck <input type="radio"/> Anne M. Rasmussen <input type="radio"/> Sarah L. McBroom <input type="radio"/> Robert D. Tiffany <input type="radio"/> Tamara L. Yon <input type="radio"/> Jeffrey S. Remick	
Judge 15 Vote for One	Judge 11 Vote for One	
<input type="radio"/> Kevin G. Ross	<input type="radio"/> Anne M. Rasmussen <input type="radio"/> Sarah L. McBroom <input type="radio"/> Robert D. Tiffany <input type="radio"/> Tamara L. Yon <input type="radio"/> Jeffrey S. Remick	
Judge 12 Vote for One	Judge 14 Vote for One	
<input type="radio"/> Sarah L. McBroom <input type="radio"/> Robert D. Tiffany <input type="radio"/> Tamara L. Yon <input type="radio"/> Jeffrey S. Remick	<input type="radio"/> Robert D. Tiffany <input type="radio"/> Tamara L. Yon <input type="radio"/> Jeffrey S. Remick	
Judge 15 Vote for One	Judge 18 Vote for One	
<input type="radio"/> Tamara L. Yon <input type="radio"/> Jeffrey S. Remick	<input type="radio"/> Jeffrey S. Remick	

0180 - SPALDING TWP

0180 - SPALDING TWP

Learn all you need to know about voting, registering, and your ballot at sos.state.mn.us.

On the left is the front of the ballot for McGregor area residents; on the right is the back of the ballot. To see your sample ballot, go to myballotmn.sos.state.mn.us and type in your zip code and address.

DISTRICT III

LEE, FRECHETTE HOPE TO UPSET REPUBLICAN INCUMBENTS

In Aazhoomog and Hinckley, voters will choose between incumbent Republican State Senator Jason Rarick and Democratic challenger Michelle Lee.

Republican incumbent Nathan Nelson is being challenged by Democrat Jack Frechette in the race for State House of Representatives.

Michelle Lee

Do you support the inherent sovereign rights of the Non-removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe? Yes!

Will you commit to working with the Band to improve government to government relations? Yes!

How are you planning to work with the Mille Lacs

Band of Ojibwe to address important issues in the region? Boozhoo! As your next state senator, I'll listen to band members, continue to honor your traditions and insure your leadership has a place at the table when decisions are made on the issues impacting all of our lives. In a post COVID 19 world of projected budget deficits, difficult decisions will be required to continue serving our communities and build a better Minnesota. Your voices will be critical in the work ahead.

What does tribal sovereignty mean to you? Minnesota's indigenous tribes have a sovereign right to their lands and to hunt and gather in ceded territories, guaranteed by treaty with the federal government. We must honor and protect these rights. Tribal governments have a critical and necessary role to play in land, water and air use policy, as well as monitoring and enforcement in these areas. I look forward to working with you to improve the quality of life in our district. Miigwech.



Jason Rarick

Do you support the inherent sovereign rights of the Non-removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe? Yes.

Will you commit to working with the Band to improve government to government relations? Yes.

How are you planning to work with the Mille Lacs

Band of Ojibwe to address important issues in the region? I have been getting to know more of the leaders with the Band, and am committed to continue meeting with them and learning about the issues you are facing, and listening to how I can help. I am open to meeting with you in person, whether at one of your sites, or in St. Paul, or virtually when that works better.

What does tribal sovereignty mean to you? Tribal sovereignty to me means that you have the rights to govern your lands, yet also work with local, state, or federal governments when needed. The relationships must continue to be strengthened and better understood so that your tribe has the ability to work with local governments when that is best, and work independently when that is best.



Jack Frechette

Do you support the inherent sovereign rights of the Non-removable Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe? Yes.

Will you commit to working with the Band to improve government to government relations? Yes.

How are you planning to



work with the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe to address important issues in the region? Perhaps nothing is more important to address in our community, of which the Band plays such a crucial role, than access affordable healthcare. As drug prices and premiums skyrocket, our families pay staggering percentages of their income on care that does a pitiful job with preventative care, mental health, and substance abuse treatment. I'll make it a priority to work with Band leaders to identify the healthcare needs of the community at large and provide economical solutions.

What does tribal sovereignty mean to you? Tribal sovereignty means honoring agreements. The State of Minnesota and the Federal Government have a duty to uphold these agreements in regards to taxation, commerce, and, perhaps most importantly, tribal law. This sovereignty does not in any way diminish the potency of the State of Minnesota. Rather, these protections clarify the role of the Band as a partner in bettering our whole District — a community that is stronger when all of its elements are afforded due respect.

Nathan Nelson

Nathan Nelson did not reply to our questionnaire.

IF YOU CAN'T VERIFY IT— DON'T SHARE IT!

Learn how to spot disinformation

- Be skeptical
- Consider the source
- Beware of the “copy and paste and pass it on” posts
- Double check ALL voting related information, regardless of source
- Watch out for false equivalence

Need help? Contact vote@narf.org

AAZHOOMOG AREA SAMPLE BALLOT

Official Ballot

State General Election Ballot

Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

Federal Offices	State Offices	Special District Offices
President and Vice-President Vote for One Team	State Senator District 11 Vote for One	Special Election For Hospital District Board Member Town of Ogema To fill vacancy in term expiring January 2, 2023 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Donald J. Trump and Michael R. Pence Republican <input type="radio"/> Joseph R. Biden and Kamala Harris Democratic-Farmer-Labor	<input type="radio"/> Jason Rarick Republican <input type="radio"/> Michelle Lee Democratic-Farmer-Labor <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> Roque "Rocky" De La Fuente and Darcy Richardson Independence-Alliance <input type="radio"/> Howie Hawkins and Angela Walker Green Party <input type="radio"/> Kanye West and Michelle Tidball Independent	<input type="radio"/> Nathan Nelson Republican <input type="radio"/> Jack Frechette Democratic-Farmer-Labor <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> Brock Pierce and Karla Ballard Independent <input type="radio"/> Gloria La Rive and Leonard Peltier Socialism and Liberation <input type="radio"/> Alyson Kennedy and Malcolm Jarrett Socialist Workers Party <input type="radio"/> Jo Jorgensen and Jeremy "Spika" Cohen Libertarian Party	<input type="radio"/> Terry Lovgren <input type="radio"/> Steven D. Craffie <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> U.S. Senator Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Kevin O'Connor Legal Marijuana Now <input type="radio"/> Oliver Steinberg Grassroots - Legalize Cannabis <input type="radio"/> Jason Lewis Republican <input type="radio"/> Tina Smith Democratic-Farmer-Labor	<input type="radio"/> County Commissioner District 3 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Kelly Henry <input type="radio"/> Brenna Doheny <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> U.S. Representative District 8 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Judith Schwartzbecker Grassroots - Legalize Cannabis <input type="radio"/> Pete Stauber Republican <input type="radio"/> Quinn Nystrom Democratic-Farmer-Labor	<input type="radio"/> Dan Benzle <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any

Vote front and back of ballot

State General Election Ballot

Instructions to Voters: To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

Judicial Offices	Judicial Offices	Judicial Offices
Supreme Court Associate Justice 4 Vote for One	10th District Court Judge 8 Vote for One	10th District Court Judge 35 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Michelle MacDonald <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> Laura A. Pielen Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 9 Vote for One	<input type="radio"/> Ellen Louise Matis Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 38 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Judge 3 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Carol Hooten Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 9 Vote for One	<input type="radio"/> Sheridan Hawley Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 14 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Nancy J. Logering Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 15 Vote for One	<input type="radio"/> Gregory G. Galler Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 39 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Walter M. Kaminsky Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 43 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Randall J. Sliater Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 13 Vote for One	<input type="radio"/> Thomas R. Lehmann Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 17 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Patrick W. Flanagan Incumbent <input type="radio"/> Judge 15/ Vote for One	<input type="radio"/> Jonathan Jasper Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> Judge 15/ Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Kevin G. Rose Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> Judge 22 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Melissa M. Saterbak Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> Judge 1 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Juanita C. Freeman Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> Judge 23 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Catherine (Kate) McPherson Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> Judge 4 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Suzanne M. Brown Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> Judge 24 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Karin L. McCarthy Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> Judge 5 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Douglas B. Meslow Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> Judge 26 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Barry A. Sullivan Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> Judge 6 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Stoney L. Hillus Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> Judge 28 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Karen B. Schommer Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any
<input type="radio"/> Judge 7 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Richard C. Ilka Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="radio"/> Judge 32 Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Elizabeth H. Strand Incumbent <input type="text"/> write-in, if any	<input type="text"/> write-in, if any

Vote front and back of ballot

On the left is the front of the ballot for Aazhoomog area residents; on the right is the back of the ballot. The Hinckley ballot is identical except that it will not include Special District Offices. To see your sample ballot, go to myballotmn.sos.state.mn.us and type in your zip code and address.



ABOUT THIS ELECTION GUIDE

This Election Guide was prepared for Band voters to provide information about the positions and policies of local, state and federal candidates on issues most important to American Indian tribal governments and people.

All information in this guide is the result of careful research done on each candidate. Those candidates who have developed a formal Indian policy statement are noted. When a candidate has not developed a formal Indian policy statement,

their record and public comments regarding Indian tribes was drawn from publicly available sources.

The Band encourages Band voters to do your own research, visit candidates websites and decide who you believe best represents your interests as Mille Lacs Band voters.

Miigwech.

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