

TAMARA ANDREW

CANDIDATE FOR COUNCIL

Firstly, I want to express what an honour it was to serve our people at the leadership table this past year. It was the hardest, most heartbreaking but also the most meaningful and fulfilling experience of my life so far. It helped me to grow immensely and gave me an outlet for all my passion for our community.

It was never my plan to run in these elections, especially because being at the council table made me question how far along, I am on my own healing journey, however, our elders have given me enough medicine and strength to keep going. My plan was to go back to serving our people at the administrative level, the week leading up to nominations everything changed. If I had done that, I would have felt that I was abandoning broken governance systems, that admittedly are a product of the impacts of colonization and intergenerational trauma. You can tell by the way it reacts by protecting itself and grasping for control when it perceives a threat to the current system, notably young people, people willing to question our current approach and bring new ideas, and elders, speakers of truth and wisdom (when it comes from a place of love), instead of reacting with love and support and uplifting all our people, our culture, and our ways. I'm not sure I blame anyone except the colonizers that attempted to extinguish our identify and existence, we are the ones left to deal with those consequences, but it is our responsibility to change these systems, so they serve our people.

If you'll have me, I want to help break the cycle we've been carrying at the governance level. I believe the only way we move forward from trauma and hurt is through love, acceptance, and accountability. I want to listen deeply to our people, to hear your voices, your stories, and your hopes, and let that guide the change we build together. I will continue to push for systems that uplift our people, especially our youth, our elders, our culture,

and our ways. I promise that I want change just as much as I hear our people calling for it, but our systems and governance, especially our governance model, need to adapt to create space for meaningful change that is aligned with our community.



Please never allow your voices to be silenced. Be loud and proud (Although I will mention when your message comes from a place of love it usually reaches so much further).

#Seabird Strong #Eyem Sq'ewqel

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