



Aanii! Many of you know me as Kenny Dewey, but my spirit name is Zhoomingwe, meaning s/he is smiling. I've spent my entire life in Petoskey where I've worked and continued to learn our Anishinaabe way of living. Given that, I'm still learning and will always be. I've always had to strive to be a role model for all of the younger generations in every aspect. The one thing that I am able to pass on and share is the continuous knowledge of singing and drumming, the one thing that I take great pride in. One of the biggest areas we lack is the people's voice, including those of the youth, in which our leaders fail to take into account in our decisions. Albeit many good things have come from past and previous leadership, but I believe that our biggest decisions should come from the Waganakising Odawak. I've decided to run for council in hopes of bringing a younger perspective to the table, along with the thoughts of the community as a whole. Too many times, citizens express their concerns on matters and feel they aren't heard. Although there are many issues that need addressing, these areas of focus are where I'll do my best to help progress LTBB for the future generations.

Renewable/Sustainable Energy - While adapting to western practices is beneficial to living, it's important to remember our roots in how we lived. LTBB needs our owned and operated renewable energy sources to power our sites by means of solar energy, wind and hydro turbines, etc. LTBB also needs to have self-grown sources of medicines and the growth of selections of foods. This will be beneficial to the environment while providing continuous sustainable energy to the Tribe and outside communities.

Broader Economic Diversity - To become self-sustainable, there needs to be risk in economic development that will have profitable outcomes. Currently, we have the casinos, a gas station, various rental contracts, and a diluted rental/revenue sharing contract with Lume. There needs to be LTBB owned and operated business ventures that will bring more revenue to our people.

Affordable Housing - Too many times have citizens express concerns regarding affordable living. Possible solutions could include having an LTBB owned bank to provide loan services that many couldn't otherwise qualify for, having credit building guidance to be able to qualify for services, or simply create more housing sites to provide the affordable living that everyone should be guaranteed.

Expanded Service Area - While many citizens choose to live outside of the state, there are those who grew up outside of the service area. It's not an easy fix to bring our people back home if there are no affordable living arrangements. To combat this issue, LTBB should accommodate such instances by having satellite offices that citizens from around that state could go to instead of having to travel far to receive services.

If you have any questions, do reach out to me via email: kennydewey97@gmail.com

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