

LTBB Election Board Nonimation Application Form - SECTION 3
CANDIDATE STATEMENT (Limit to 1 page)
(This Section of Form Will Be Published on LTBB Website)



Aanii, Denise Petoskey Ndizhnikaaz. Biidisige ndongeba.

Aanii, my name is Denise Petoskey. I'm running to be your Vice-Chairperson in this election.

I was lucky enough to be born and raised at Mukwa Ziibing like many of my ancestors before me. After graduating from Petoskey High School, I attended Aquinas College in Grand Rapids earning a bachelor's degree in political science.

I have always been fascinated by how communities govern themselves. I also earned a master's degree in public administration from Central Michigan University and consider myself a lifelong student of governments and how they operate.

In addition to my 24 years working for the Tribe, including 14 years as the Human Resources Director, I spent 9 years as the Chairperson of the LTBB Election Board, 7 years as the Chair of the Sovereignty Day Committee, 3 years as the Gaming Enterprise Board Chairperson, and most recently, 4 years as the Gaming Authority Vice-Chair. In 2020, I was elected to the School Board of the Public Schools of Petoskey as the first indigenous member. In 2025, I was elected President of the Board.

I have taken on some of the toughest jobs that the Tribe has to offer: I've been on the emergency management teams responding to both the 2019 cyberattack and to COVID. I am battle tested and ready to advocate for you as your Vice-Chairperson.

I believe in investing in our future while honoring our past. I believe in asserting our rights, rather than asking for them. I trust that our ancestors have laid a strong foundation of advocacy and education for us to follow. I want to provide our children with a strong, safe, empathetic community that nurtures their gifts. I want to continue developing programs and services for our people, both local and non. I will prioritize protecting our land, water, community, and culture for the next generations.

I am running with Regina Gasco because I believe in her vision for the Tribe. Her calm and steady leadership has held us together through many trying times. There is no challenge that Waganakising can't handle. We recognize the threat the US administration is to Indigenous peoples. Now is not the time for untested leadership, but rather consistency and experience.

In this election, you'll have lots of choices before you. I hope you carefully review those choices and humbly ask you cast your vote for Regina Gasco and Denise Petoskey for Tribal Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Miigwetch!

**LTBB Election Board Nomination Application Form - SECTION 2
(This Section of Form Will Be Published on LTBB Website)**

Denise Petoskey

Petitioner's Name As It Should Appear On The Ballot

Petoskey, MI

City & State of Residency

1. Work Experience:

2001-2002 - Receptionist, LTBB Education Department
2002-2004 - K-12 Student Services Coordinator, LTBB Education Department
2004-2006 - Career Development Coordinator, Victories Casino
2006-2010 - Marketing Database Manager, Victories/Odawa Casino
2010-2011 - Employment and Training Manager, Odawa Casino
2011-Present, Human Resources Director, LTBB

2. Educational Background:

Petoskey High School (Petoskey, MI) - Diploma
Aquinas College (Grand Rapids, MI) - B.A. Political Science
Central Michigan University (Mt. Pleasant, MI) - M.S.A. Public Administration

3. Traditional Cultural Experience/Knowledge, and/or Other Training, Certificates:

Certified Mediator through Northern Community Mediation. Certified in General Mediation and Child Welfare Mediation.

4. Volunteer Experience, Special Skills and Abilities:

2003-2013 Junior Achievement of Northern Michigan
Advisory Board
Classroom Volunteer
2020-Present Public School of Petoskey Board of Education
January 2025 elected Board President

5. Awards, Honors Received (cultural/colonial):

6. Describe Current and/or Previous Elected or Appointed Positions Held at LTBB or in Any Other Capacity, Government, or Organization (dates, titles, etc):

2002-2011 - LTBB Election Board, Chairperson
2005-2013 - LTBB Sovereignty Day Committee, Chairperson
2015-2018 - LTBB Gaming Enterprise Board, Chairperson
2021 - Present - LTBB Gaming Authority, Vice-Chaiperson

7. If applicable, describe anticipated Campaign Information in Detail (Campaign Address, Email, Website, Social Media, Campaign Plan, Any Endorsements, etc):