

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



Aanii boozhoo, Naniibwin Mkwa indizhnikaas, Mishike ndodem. My name is Jonathan Rinehart Sr., and I am honored to run for Tribal Council. I am the grandson of Samuel and Ida (Cabinaw) Shananaquet. My mother is Elsie Shananaquet. As a Licensed Master of Social Work and behavioral health clinician for the Nottawasepi Huron Band of Potawatomi, I have dedicated my career to serving our people, understanding our shared struggles, and working toward solutions that strengthen our community. My work in behavioral health has given me insight into how historical trauma affects our people, and how to approach leadership with integrity, patience, empathy, and a deep commitment to lifelong learning.

Prior to working as a behavioral health clinician, for eight years I worked with the Native American Education Program and Bimaadiziwin Alternative High School as a Home/School Coordinator performing duties such as a student advocate as well as to providing direct services for at-risk students such as tutoring, and developing and implementing culturally relevant curriculum. My time in the greater Grand Rapids area allowed me to build relationships with LTBB community members and understand our shared goals and values. It is my goal to expand my connections to fellow tribal citizens both at home and abroad.

I have served in various capacities that have informed me as a leader such as the former chair of Anishinaabe Circle and Pawating Medgedawin Kikajek, WK Kellogg Foundation Network Leadership Fellowship alumnus, member-at-large of the Odawa Council Fire, seven-time Sundancer, caretaker of Owashtanong Community Migizii Migwanantek, and Gidinawendimin Odaswanii Ogiimaa.

These leadership roles combined with my experiences—as an educator, and therapist—have shaped my vision for our Nation. These roles have deepened my understanding of our history, our challenges, and the importance of unity and solidarity in protecting our sovereignty for the next seven generations and beyond.

When elected, I will advocate for a consensus-based decision-making process that ensures every voice is heard. I will work to build a strong network that outlines and represents citizen needs, fosters transparency, and supports our treaty rights.

Our sovereignty is our strength, and our unity is our power. I thank you in advance for your support in building a future where our voices guide our Nation forward together.

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

Jonathan P. Rinehart Sr.

Petitioner's Name As It Should Appear On The Ballot

Allegan, MI

City & State of Residency

1. Work Experience:

8/16-Present-Behavioral Health Clinician Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians

4/15-8/16- Tribal Youth Specialist- Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians

2. Educational Background:

April 2019- Master of Social Work- Grand Valley State University

April 2013- Bachelor of Social Work- Grand Valley State University

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

Host Shananaquet/Church Annual Ghost Supper in Allegan, MI

Seven Time Sundancer and Pawaagan Nini

Gidinawendimin Odaswani Ogiimaa- (We are all related sweatlodge)

PowWow Emcee, Male Traditional Dancer, Drummer, Singer

Caretaker of Owashtanong Community Migizii Migwanantek

2021- Licensed Master of Social Work

2019- Certified Trauma and Resiliency Practitioner- Clinical

2017- Acudetox Specialist

4. Volunteer Experience, Special Skills and Abilities:

Public Speaker

- Presented in various settings for diverse ages and sized groups
- Anishinaabek Cultural Sensitivity Trainings
- Anti-bias Presentations

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

2025- University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service Center on Community Philanthropy Certificate in Racial Healing

2014-2017- W.K. Kellogg Foundation- Community Leader Fellow

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

2015-2016- Anishinaabe Circle- Chairperson

2007-2008- Pa-wa-ting Medgedwin kikaajik- Chairperson

Chairperson for Grand Rapids Public Schools, Native American Education Program Parent Committee

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

<https://www.facebook.com/share/18m6VN9U5Y/?mibextid=wwXlfr>