

## **Snoqualmie Indian Tribe Voters Guide 2016 | Tina Podlodowski Full Responses**

Podlodowski is running for Secretary of State

### **Do you have experience working with tribes?**

Yes. My primary experience working with Tribes was as a Seattle City Council member. I worked with the Seattle Indian Health Board, United Indians of all Tribes, and with the Duwamish people. In my city council race, I was proud to be supported by Bernie Whitebear and consider Bernie to have been a mentor and a friend. His passing was an incredible loss to so many and his legacy continues on through the countless lives he touched.

Additionally, as the CEO of Big Brothers Big Sisters I worked with the Tulalip and Puyallup Tribes around mentoring programs to connect tribal youth with tribal mentors.

As a member of the community police commission, I was honored to be able to work with the John T Williams organizing committee around issues related to ending police violence and deepening the police's relationships with the Native American community.

### **If you are elected, how will you and your staff continue working with tribes?**

As Secretary of State, I will continue the many conversations I've started with several tribal Nations in Washington (and I am always looking to start more!) about how to increase the number of people voting and participating in the Tribal Nations and communities across Washington. A few ideas that have come out of those meetings are creating a tribal liaison position, focusing the department of voter engagement on building relationships and working with Tribes to identify the needs of the community (for example, the Makah Nation tells me they need a ballot drop box to better engage their voters, the Quinault nation suggested hosting voting and civic days of action), and focusing the Washington State libraries and archives work on telling the diverse stories and history of Washington State. I think the possibilities for collaboration are endless and at the very least, hope to work with every Tribe on a comprehensive voter engagement plan.

### **What is your position on tribal sovereignty?**

Yes. I support tribal sovereignty to the fullest extent.

If you have any questions about me, my background, or my commitment to voter engagement, please visit my website: [www.votersfortina.com](http://www.votersfortina.com) or email me [tina@votersfortina.com](mailto:tina@votersfortina.com). I look forward to your questions and helping me make sure that every voice and every vote in Washington counts!