

Joseph Pavel, Vice-Chairman
The Skokomish Tribe of Washington State

Joseph Pavel serves as Vice Chairman of the Skokomish Tribal Council, a position he's held since 2009. Joseph Pavel, who has a B.S. in Fisheries, from the University of Washington, came home in 2008 to work for his own people as the Director for the Department of Natural Resources. His passion for protecting the Tribe's most precious resources, fisheries and the environment is demonstrated through his chosen profession and board memberships. His previous job at the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission was also connected to the Skokomish Tribe and caring for the Skokomish Watershed. He continues to seek ways to address the many issues facing his Tribe through his work plus his active participation on the Tribe's committees, Council and boards.

Joseph has served on Council in various offices for much of his life. From 2009 until present Joseph Pavel has been the Skokomish Tribe's Council Vice Chairman. Joseph was first elected as General Council President in 1989 and in 1990 he was elected to serve as both President and Tribal Councilmen. He was appointed to the office of Vice Chairman in 1991 and again in 1992. In 1993 he served his people as Council Chairman and in 1994 as a Council member. In 1998 and 1999 he was again elected the annual term of General Council President. Joseph was elected to Council Office in 2000 where he was selected to be Vice Chairman. In 2008 and 2009 he was elected and appointed Chairman. From 2009 until today he serves the Skokomish membership as the Vice Chairman of the Skokomish Tribal Council with his term completing June 2016.

He has been upfront for many years in the fight to save the Skokomish River. Prior to 1987 Joseph was appointed to the "Skokomish Rights Protection Committee" established to negotiate a settlement with the City of Tacoma, et al which after years in court finally occurred in 2009, for damage to the Skokomish Tribe resulting from the Lake Cushman Hydroelectric Project. He served as delegate to multiple other committees and boards as well which include Head Start Parent Policy Council; Native American Fish and Wildlife Society Pacific Region; Point No Point Treaty Council Board; SPIPA Board of Commission; and the National Indian Gaming Association, just to name a few.

Vice Chairman Pavel now resides at the home where he grew up on the Skokomish Reservation. He enjoys spending time with his family, cultural activities, and attending his children's ball games and many school activities.