Gordon Howell serves as the Chairman of the Ute Indian Tribal Business Committee and as a representative of his Whiteriver Band of the Ute Indian Tribe. He also currently serves as Treasurer and Secretary for COLT, the Coalition of Large Tribes, a national inter-tribal organization consisting of the Three Affiliated Tribes, Crow Tribe, Ft Belknap Tribe, Spokane Tribe, Several Sioux Tribes, Blackfeet, and Navajo Nation among others, which was founded to address issues of concern to large land based tribes, such as energy development. Prior to being elected to the Tribal Business Committee, Chairman Howell served as President and CEO of Howell Trucking LLC, a business that he was able to single handedly grow and develop from a small tribal member owned business enterprise to a multi-million dollar trucking company with dozens of employees and operations throughout the Uintah Basin Region in Eastern Utah.

As the Tribe's Chairman, Chairman Howell is intimately involved in the day to day oil and gas operations on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. These operations include overseeing the Tribe's 100 % owned energy company, Ute Energy Marketing and Production LLC, the use of hydraulic fracturing to develop oil and gas resources, and the protection of the Reservation's water, natural and cultural resources for all tribal members. Apart from energy development, Chairman Howell is currently working to address a number of other important issues facing the Tribe, including the development of the Tribe's water rights, jurisdiction and law enforcement, the establishment of a youth center and diversification of the Tribe's financial investments.