



Born Jennifer Lynn McLeod, I am eagle clan, a wife, and grandmother. My parents Laurence and Carleen McLeod raised me in a rural setting outside of Pontiac, Michigan. The oldest of seven siblings, I graduated from high school (1973), started college and at 19 years of age I was the Executive Director of the Oakland County American Indians, Inc. (a social service agency operating under a CETA grant). I learned to manage State programs, help people find jobs, food, clothing, housing and health care. I have owned my own graphics design business, and worked as a subcontractor on a Department of Defense program.

I moved to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in 1998, and discovered a new passion at the Hannahville Indian School... Teaching. The students were amazing and, at their request, I went back to college, earned my bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and graduated Summa Cum Laude. I have been educating tribal students ever since, teaching about our culture and our language in addition to reading, writing and arithmetic. This passion for children brought me to a new career as a Tribal councilwoman for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. I am in my second term, and have found in this way, I can make a better world for my Tribe. In addition to my duties as a Tribal Council member, I serve my Tribe by participation in the following:

Tribal Experience (committees, governance, volunteer, projects, etc.):

Chairperson, JKL Fiduciary Committee

Department of Justice, Intertribal Working Group VAWA

TAP to Combat Substance Abuse

Tribal Drug Court

Constitutional Review Committee

Sault Tribe Gaming Authority

Sault Tribe Culture Committee

Delegate – National Congress of American Indian

Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes

United Tribes of Michigan

Odenaang Development Committee

Early Head Start Policy Committee

BOD Advisory Early Childhood Committee