

Mr. Kenneth Khan Chairman, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians

Kenneth Kahn's involvement and deep interest in tribal government and politics developed at an early age. Kahn was elected to the tribal leadership team in March 2003 when he was just 25 —making him the youngest person to ever serve on the Chumash Business Committee.

Kahn went on to be elected for seven consecutive terms, serving as Secretary/Treasurer and Vice Chairman through many vital tribal milestones — including the purchase of 1,390 acres of Santa Ynez ranch land known as Camp 4, the acquisition of two hotel properties, and the launch of Kitá Wines. In April 2016, Kahn won a special election to become the new Tribal Chairman and was re-elected in that role during a general tribal election the following March. Under his leadership as Chairman, the tribe completed its casino expansion project and Camp 4 was placed into federal trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Kahn comes from a long lineage of influential tribal members, including his grandmother, Chumash matriarch Rosa Pace, and grandfather and father who were also members of the tribe's leadership.