

**SAMUEL N. PENNEY, CHAIRMAN  
NEZ PERCE TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Samuel N. Penney is the Chairman of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee (“NPTEC”), the nine-member governing body of the Nez Perce Tribe. Chairman Penney is currently serving his tenth three-year term on NPTEC—14 years as Chairman and four years as Vice-Chairman. Chairman Penney has also served on several boards and commissions of different organizations, including the Executive Board of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, a Northwest Region delegate to the National Indian Gaming Association Board of Directors, and an Idaho representative to Environmental Protection Agency Region 10-Tribal Operations Committee.

Chairman Penney is a strong advocate for education opportunities for Nez Perce tribal members. He has served on Native American advisory boards for the Presidents of Washington State University, University of Idaho, and Lewis-Clark State College. Recruitment, retention, and student services were the primary issues discussed amongst these advisory boards. Selected for his dedication to promoting educational opportunities for Native American youth and understanding the importance of higher education for everyone—both-Indian and non-Indian—Chairman Penney received the President’s Medallion from Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho on May 16, 2003.

Chairman Penney has always advocated to protect the Nez Perce Tribe’s treaty rights and natural resources on issues, including air quality, water quality, land exchanges, and mega-loads because land, water, and air are critical to the Nez Perce way of life. In 1999, the Idaho Statesman newspaper featured Chairman Penney in their article, *Top 10 of the Decade, Idahoans Changing Idaho – 10 Who Make A Difference*. He was selected because of his work to protect the rights of Idaho’s Indian residents and the region’s natural resources.

Chairman Penney defended the Nez Perce Tribe against attacks on tribal sovereignty by the North Central Idaho Jurisdictional Alliance (“NCIJA”). The Harvard Executive Leadership Training educated the NCIJA about the rights of the Nez Perce Tribe and tribal membership. On May 17, 2003, the University of Idaho conferred an Honorary Doctorate of Doctor of Administrative Science to Chairman Penney for helping to improve tribal-local relationships.

Chairman Penney has provided testimony at the local, state, regional, and federal levels of government advocating on behalf of the Nez Perce Tribe. For example, in 1995, Chairman Penney helped negotiate the 1995 Class III Gaming Compact with the state of Idaho and removal of the Idaho Lottery from Nez Perce Reservation; and in 2002, he worked on a statewide “Indian Gaming and Self Reliance Act” initiative to define and secure tribal gaming in Idaho.

Chairman Penney is married to Loretta Penney. They have three children and four grandchildren.