

Council Candidate

JANE COPEGOG

Aaniin/boozhoo Chimnissing!

I am pleased to provide this introduction and to inform the membership that I have accepted my nomination to Council in the 2021 Beausoleil First Nation election. First off, I would like to thank my nominators, Connor Sunday and Jacqueline Copegog. After speaking with my family and community members, I decided to let my name stand for election. I look forward to earning your vote over the next days and weeks.



My name is Jane Copegog. I have lived and worked on Christian Island for all of my adult life. I have dedicated close to 30 years serving Beausoleil First Nation, including the last few years as the Lands Manager.

Being a member of Council is important and demanding work. I share many of the concerns that have been expressed by our membership and I have a sincere desire to affect change. Change is growth!

STRENGTHENING OUR FIRST NATION. *Beausoleil First Nation has limitless potential and untapped opportunity that we all need to be taking part in. I will work to promote our skilled labour force, instill a sense of pride in our community, and work to deliver real, tangible results for the whole membership. As a member of Council, I will treat all members fairly and ensure that everyone has equal opportunity. I will promote the success and achievements of our students, staff and community members. Success starts young – our children deserve a new school where they can prosper and flourish as proud Anishinabe students.*

BEING A POSITIVE AND CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF OUR NATION *I will dedicate myself to the work of being a Councillor by showing up to the job, supporting families and devoting myself to making our community a better and safer place for all. You can count on me to be fully engaged in the community development work that we all need to undertake. I will act in a way that will build a positive and well-functioning First Nation, that will make our community proud.*

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL MEMBERS

My commitment is to making our community a place where members can raise their families, have access to opportunities and services, and where our Elders are taken care of. This includes creating housing opportunities for those that need it and exploring the idea of long-term care in the community which all members can come home to access. Creating opportunities in training and in the skilled trades will equip our membership with the tools to succeed at home and anywhere they choose to go.

IMPROVING OUR FIRST NATION GOVERNMENT

In my many years working for BFN, I have had the opportunity to learn from various Councils. I've found that the most successful leaders succeed when they work together and in the community's best interest. I will bring integrity to the Council table, a sense of decorum, and respect for all. In all things, I will uphold confidentiality, avoid conflict of interest, and will work to maintain the trust of the membership. I believe that lateral violence has no place in our community, and I will work to hold others and myself accountable in this regard.

This is my first run for Council. I believe that, after years as a dedicated staff member who worked to earn the trust of the community, I have the skills and experience to move our community forward. Being a leader is a full-time, 24/7 commitment. I will be ready on Day One to do this job. You can trust that I will be available, approachable and understanding. I will stand up for our community and our members where it matters.

On May 22, I ask for your consideration and I hope that I will have earned your vote to be a Councillor for Beausoleil First Nation.