

CANOES NEWSLETTER

City of Seattle Native American Employees

New Board of Directors

Chair Pamela Masterman-Stearns presented new Board Member nominations at the March 2010 meeting. The following members were nominated to fill seven positions on the Board of Directors for a one year term beginning in March 2010 and running through March 2011:

- **Pamela Masterman-Stearns**
- **Cherry Briggs**
- **Shannon Morrison**
- **Tina Sajor**
- **Marta Idowu**
- **Eddie Ferrer**
- **Wyvonne Ray**

The 2010 Nominations for Co-Chairs are Tina Sajor and Shannon Morrison, both to serve as 6 months terms. The 2010 Nominations for Co-Secretaries are Wyvonne Ray and Cindy Hutchings.

Chair Pamela Masterman-Stearns asked for additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none, nominations were closed. Tina Sajor made a motion to elect the nominees. The motion was seconded by Marta Idowu. By a unanimous vote, all of the nominees were unanimously elected to serve on the Board and in their respective positions. CANOES heartily congratulates and welcomes all of the new Board members. They will be attending the upcoming Board Retreat as participants!

CANOES, an organization comprised of City of Seattle Native American Employees and supporters. We are busy planning exciting new programs and events for 2010 – 2011. Here are two of last year's highlights.

Native American Heritage Celebration

-November 4, 2009.

CANOES was proud to hold its thirds annual Native American Heritage Celbration in the Berthan Knight Landes Conference Room at City Hall. Hundreds of city workers as well as the Seattle Channel were on hand to participate. The Celebration featured Master Storyteller Gene Tagaban (Filipino/Tlingit), Two Birdz Drum, Naa Haan (Tlingit), Old Growth Alliance, Craig Bill (Swinomish, Executive Director, Governor's Office of Indian Affairs, and Chris Stearns (Navajo) Seattle Human Rights Commissioner and Lawyer. Craig and Chris engaged the audience in a discussion around Trial Sovereignty and civil rights. One of the big hits were the Indian Tacos prepared by Naomi Stuker and served by CANOES members to the delighted audience.

Ethnic Heritage Art Gallery – October 2009.

Last year CANOES worked with the Ethnic Heritage Art Gallery in the Seattle Municipal Tower to showcase an emerging Native American Artist, Andrew Morrison (Haida). CANOES hosted a



lunchtime reception for Andrew which was open to the public on October 22, 2010 to launch the exhibit of Andrew's newest paintings. His inspiring paintings received plenty of attention and admiration from the public during the three months in which his work was featured in the gallery.

A special thanks to the Cherry Briggs, Shannon Morrison, Tina Sajor, Naomi Stuker, Dan Brisbois, Sonny Ortiz, Bennie Armstrong, Marta Idowu, Eddie Ferrer, Tyler Running Deer, Flor Alacorn and Wyvonne Ray for all of their hard work in making our events a success. Special thanks also goes to the staff of Seattle Office for Civil Rights, the City of Seattle Coalition of Affinity groups: Preston Hampton of CLBEA, Patricia Lopez, LCE, Brenda Sevilla of FACES, Charles Oliver of BIG and Maria Batayola, past president of FACES; the Race and Social Justice Core Team, Seattle Public Utilities Diversity Team and to the SPU Multiple Ethnic and Affinity groups for their support and assistance.

AHO!

Pamela Masterman-Stearns

New Advisory Member

Please give a warm round of applause and welcome to **Chris Stearns!** Chris joins **Tyler Running-Deer** as our newest Advisory Council Member. Advisory Council members will continue to serve in strategic planning and provide advise in their area of expertise to promote the mission and purpose of CANOES. Tyler, Finance, Workforce Equity, Chris Stearns, Tribal Relations, Govt-to-Govt relationships.

Valuing our heritage, our community
and our people.

CANOES meets at a variety of locations at various times. For more information, please contact:

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Seattle Public Utilities
(206) 733-9872

Tina Sajor, Human Services Dept.
(206) 684-0288

Shannon Morrison, City Personnel
(206) 684-7906