

CHERYL JOHNSON**Tribal Telephone Services Outreach Coordinator****Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Economic Development Corporation**

Ms. Johnson (Lummi Nation) has worked in the technology field for 17 years with federal government, private sector and tribal government entities. Her positions have always focused on customer service and assisting people to do their jobs better by using technology. Most of her job experience has been off the “rez” and, after moving home to Lummi, she quickly saw that the Lummi Reservation was living the “digital divide”.

In January 1999, Cheryl ran for and was elected to a position on the Lummi Indian Business Council (LIBC), the tribal government body comprised of 11 tribal members, where she served one three-year term. The LIBC provides policy guidance and decisions for the Lummi Nation and its people. She also served as the Chair of the Telecommunication and Technology Committee, Board Member of the Lummi Water and Sewer Board, member of the council-formed Economic Development Task Force, and Secretary/Treasurer of the Lummi Commercial Company. Her main interest has been to complete the assessment and implementation of a telecommunications solution for the Nation’s members and the Tribe’s overall economic goals. She continues to work on this project for the Nation as a member of the Lummi Development Authority (LDA). The LDA oversees all economic development activities of the nation. As of today, the Lummi Nation has received two grants to fund this effort – \$75,000 from the Economic Development Administration and \$50,000 from the USDA Rural Business Opportunity Grant program.

Cheryl is currently employed by the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Economic Development Corporation. She is one of two Tribal Telephone Outreach Coordinators providing support to Washington State tribes on telecommunications consumer issues and increasing phone penetration on tribal lands.

Contact Information

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