

**Elect**

# Lynn Dunson

## Kaw Nation Chair

**Lynn Williams Dunson** began serving the Kaw People in 2016 as Vice Chairman. More recently she stepped into the role as Tribal Chair from May 7, 2018 through July 18, 2018, providing much-needed solid, steady leadership after the unexpected resignation of the previous chair. She is the great-granddaughter of Kaw full-bloods, Barkley DeLano and William Jones, granddaughter of Theodore DeLano and Clara Jones, and daughter of Henrietta (Sockie Sue).

### EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE

Lynn was the first Chief Nurse Officer for the Muscogee Creek Nation, serving as nurse administrator of 5 clinics and a 25-bed hospital. Lynn graduated Cum laude from Oklahoma City University with a Bachelors of Science in Nursing degree. She was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau International, the honor society of nursing in 1999. Always looking for a new challenge, Lynn applied and was accepted into the nurse practitioner program at the University of Oklahoma and received a Masters of Science degree in 2001. She is a graduate of the Executive Leadership Development Program in Aurora, CO, and has received additional training as a nurse administrator. Her professional experience also includes serving as a preceptor for OU and SWOSU nursing students, deployment to hurricanes Ivan and Jean, speaker at state and national conferences, clinic manager and educator.

The executive level positions Lynn has held in administration and clinical positions have

provided her with the expertise and ability to manage people, budgets and various programs within tribal and federal government as well as the private sector.

### COMMITMENT

Lynn retired as a Captain in the U.S. Public Health Service in 2014 after 25 years of service, but her commitment to helping others in Indian Country, and more importantly, to the Kaw Nation, never wavered. Since that time, she has remained active as an advocate for Native women, working closely with Kaw Nation Domestic Violence. She is a trainer for the SAFESTAR program which educates native community women to assist in sexual assault exam and support. Lynn has served on the Kaw Economic Development board, currently sets on the Kanza Health Advisory board and was instrumental in the Kanza Health Center expansion.

### TRANSPARENCY

Lynn was honored to be elected as Vice Chair of Kaw Nation in 2016. As Vice Chair she remained consistent in her attempts to bring the tribal government to the people and insist on transparency within the administration, particularly the office of the Chair. Tribal members that have attended past tribal council meetings can attest to her fair mindedness and transparency. Lynn firmly believes a government that is not transparent is more prone to corruption and undue influence in decision making. During her tenure as Vice Chair and Chair, Lynn has shown her willingness to listen to tribal members and address their issues – a sharp contrast to previous administrations and most notably shown by the drop in concerns observed on social media platforms after she stepped into the role of Chair.

### FOCUS

In the short time she served as Chair, Lynn has worked hard to repair some of the damage that

was done to the Nation without the approval or knowledge of the Tribal Council. One notable accomplishment was the streamlining of the hiring process, resulting in vacancies being filled with qualified people and removing the Chair as being the sole decision maker in the process. Her goal is to serve the needs of the whole over the wants of the few. Lynn works to move beyond those obstacles and maintain focus on making informed decisions for the Kaw People. It is for these reasons she was asked to run for Tribal Chair by tribal members, tribal employees and Tribal Council members.



### A NOTE FROM LYNN:

*I am honored to have the opportunity to run for Chair of Kaw Nation. I am honest, direct and fair in my treatment of other people. I bring education and experience that will assist our tribal government to move forward and I will work for the common good of the Kaw Nation.*

*I respectfully ask for your vote on September 9 to serve as your Chair of Kaw Nation.*



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#### **EXECUTIVE BACKGROUND FOR AN EXECUTIVE POSITION**

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