



### **Introduction:**

My name is Ryan L. Oatman and I am a proud descendent of Old Chief Looking Glass. My parents are Paula Walker and the late Kenneth Oatman, former member of the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee. My maternal grandparents are Ron & Lois Oatman and the late Jerry Walker. My paternal grandparents are the late James Havill and Loda Sublett (Oatman). During my younger years, I grew up and attended school in Kamiah, Idaho and eventually moved to Lapwai in 1989. I graduated from Lapwai High School with the Class of 95.

### **Work Experience:**

I have worked for the Nez Perce Tribe for 21 years, honing skills and experience in various capacities. My work history includes Fisheries, Students for Success, Headstart, the Nez Perce Tribal Enterprises, and Nimiipuu Health. For the past 11 years, I've worked in the Social Service Department; I served as the Interim Director for Child Protection Services in 2015 and I was the director for the IVision Program from 2016 to 2020.

### **Education:**

- A.A. Degree from Haskell (2009)
- BSW from Lewis-Clark State College (2011)
- MSW from Boise State University (2012)

### **Volunteer Work:**

- Lapwai Days Committee
- Lapwai Teen Nights (2011 to Present)
- The Healing Lodge NARCH Board (2018 to Present)

### **Culture:**

- Enjoy Stickgames all over the Northwest
- Fishing on the South Fork
- Gathering huckleberries @ The Smoking Place
- Digging Qemus w/ my Grandma Maudie at Mussellshell



### **What I stand for:**

I will always stand up and advocate for the youth of the Nez Perce Tribe. I believe our youth are our most precious gift from Creator and we must strive to invest every resource in our future: Nimiípuu Mamáayac. We cannot ask our youth to be better if we as adults do not provide better for our youth, which is why I am a strong proponent of leading by example. I also stand by all Nimiipuu who want sobriety. I was once lost in the addiction of alcohol and I am proud to say that I have been in recovery for almost a decade. I am a proud supporter of Nimiipuu Wellbriety.

