



## **The Mohegan Tribal Government**

The Mohegan Tribe is a sovereign, federally recognized Indian nation. Its reservation is located on the Thames River near Uncasville, Connecticut. The Mohegan Nation exercises full civil jurisdiction and concurrent criminal jurisdiction over its lands.

The Tribe is governed by a Tribal Constitution, which empowers the Tribal Council to serve as both the legislative and executive branch, and a Council of Elders which is responsible for judicial oversight and cultural integrity. The Tribal Council and Council of Elders serve four year, staggered terms. A Tribal Court system exists to adjudicate constitutional as well as civil issues.

Other Tribal leaders include Chief Lynn “Mutáwi Mutáhash” (Many Hearts) Malerba, Medicine Woman and Tribal Historian Melissa Tantaquidgeon Zobel, Pipe Carriers Bruce “Two Dogs” Bozsum and Christopher Harris “Painted Turtle,” Firekeeper Jay Ihloff “Two Trees,” and Lodgekeeper Charlie Strickland “Two Bears.”

The Tribal Government has numerous administrative departments, including Cultural and Community Programs, Education, Library and Archives, Gaming Commission, Health and Human Services, Housing Authority, Public Safety, Utility Authority, Land Preservation and Planning and Environmental Protection.

Current enrollment of the Tribe stands at approximately 2,200 individuals, most of whom reside in Connecticut near ancestral Tribal lands.

**Current Tribal Council Members:**

James Gessner Jr., Chairman  
Sarah E. Harris, Vice Chairwoman  
Kathy Regan-Pyne, Recording Secretary  
Patricia A. LaPierre, Corresponding Secretary  
Thayne D. Hutchins Jr., Treasurer  
William Quidgeon, Jr., Councilor  
John G. Harris, Councilor  
Joseph M. Soper, Councilor  
Kenneth Davison, Councilor

**Current Council of Elders Members:**

Laurence J. Roberge, Chairman and Justice  
Charlie Strickland, "Two Bears", Vice Chairman and Justice  
Beth (Elizabeth) Regan, "Morning Deer", Secretary and Justice  
Marie Pineault, Treasurer and Justice of the Peace  
Sharon Maynard, "Accomac", Elder and Justice  
Christopher Harris, "Painted Turtle," Elder and Justice  
Bruce Bozsum, "Two Dogs," Elder and Justice