



Yaqit Pa-knuqti'it

For immediate release: October 28, 2022

?akanuxunik' ?amak?is, (traditional territory) Grasmere, BC

## Media Release

### Yaqit Pa-knuqti'it (Tobacco Plains Indian Band), Announces Hiring of a New CAO

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Garry Yablonski to Yaqit Pa-knuqti'it in the position of Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), effective October 28, 2022.

Garry brings a twenty-year, proven track record in successfully delivering programs within First Nations settings. He has extensive experience in economic development projects within the natural resources sector and with infrastructure and housing projects. Additionally, he has 10 years' experience in the residential and commercial construction industry. Garry is a results-driven Executive specializing in governance, long-term strategic planning, land use planning, development and design, economic development, operations, facility development, infrastructure, and environment.

There will be a transition period with former CAO Tania Brewer and management to facilitate a smooth transition for Garry into this critical role. Over the coming weeks, Garry will be introduced to staff, ?akanuxunik' (membership), Yaqit Pa-knuqti'it committees, business partners, industry, and political affiliates.

*Greetings from Garry "Hello Yaqit Pa-knuqti'it Membership, my name is Garry Yablonski, I come to you with extensive First Nation experience, skills learned over a 30-year career, which includes having worked for First Nation communities in Alberta, Northwest Territories and British Columbia. I am proud and excited to be a member of the team, and assisting Yaqit Pa-knuqti'it in achieving its goals and objectives. I am a father of 4 adult children and have 11 grandchildren. I wish all the Membership well, and look forward to meeting you all. Thank you".*

We look forward to working with Garry! Join us in welcoming him into our Yaqit Pa-knuqti'it family.

If you would like to connect with Garry please contact Lisa McCoy via C:236-985-4765 or E: [lisa.mccoy@tobaccoplains.org](mailto:lisa.mccoy@tobaccoplains.org) and she will provide you with his contact information.

Huyas Taxas,

Nasu?kin Heidi Gravelle

Councillors Kyle Shottanana, Corey Letcher, Garrett Gravelle, and Avery Gravelle