

Guy Lonechild defeats incumbent, challenger in Sask. Indian nations election

SASKATOON — The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations has a new chief.

Vice-chief Guy Lonechild, a member of the Whitebear First Nation, defeated Red Pheasant Chief Sheldon Wuttunee by a vote of 464 to 328. The announcement was made Thursday night in Saskatoon after a third and final ballot.

Incumbent Lawrence Joseph was ousted earlier in the day in the second round, and threw his support behind Lonechild soon after.

Joseph said he was proud of the 12 years he spent on the FSIN executive.

"I want to have a really good rest and review the situation here and see what happens," he said. "I still want to contribute to our new chief. If he calls me, I'll certainly be there to serve."

First vice-chief was claimed by Morley Watson.

Meanwhile, Dutch Lerat was elected third vice-chief over Glenn Pratt.

What is the FSIN?

The Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations (FSIN) is a Saskatchewan-based First Nations organization.

The federation grew out of a number of different organizations. Although the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians (FSI) was organized in 1959 (with John Tootoosis as its first president), it grew out of the Union of Saskatchewan Indians, founded February 14, 1946.

The Union was created with the merger of two other groups, the Protective Association for the Indians and their Treaties, and the Association of Saskatchewan Indians, (officially incorporated in 1945 with Joe Dreaver as president.

On April 16, 1982, FSI restructured itself into a true federation, and changed its name to the current Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations.

Source: Canadian Press

Source: Wikipedia free encyclopedia