



Dear Lumbee People,

I was humbled and honored to take the oath of office as Chairman of the Lumbee Tribe on January 6, 2022. It is a great honor to serve the Lumbee people as your chairman.

During my campaign I made a promise to send out a monthly report to update you, the Lumbee citizens, on what your Tribal Government is working on for you. Soon Tribal members will begin receiving a quarterly newsletter which, will come to you by email and/or regular mail. Make sure our Enrollment office has your latest email and/or mailing address so you do not miss your copy. I would also encourage you to like and follow us on Facebook and Instagram as our Public Relations team does a great job of keeping you informed. We are also working to give a face lift to our website, [www.lumbeetribe.com](http://www.lumbeetribe.com), by making it easier to navigate and find what you need.

I campaigned on a promise to remove the asset requirement for individuals who apply for the Housing Rehabilitation Program. On February 2nd this promise became a reality, as I signed an executive order to remove this requirement. This order will mainly affect elders who are on a limited income, but have accumulated land and other property over their lifetime. Our elders will not be penalized for working hard and owning some property as they move into the later years of their life.

The Energy Department had a record season taking applications for the LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance program) and LIHWAP (Low Income Household Water Assistance Program). The staff took more than 6,000 applications for services and are currently processing these applications for payment. Tribal citizens are already seeing credits to their heating and water source accounts. We will advertise for the cooling program soon. We look forward to continuing to serve our tribal members through the Energy Program.

Our staff is working to streamline our Enrollment process. They are exploring and meeting with software companies to enhance our computer programming and make the process more efficient. We are working to record the Lumbee History Course; our hope is to make the New Enrollment process as efficient as possible, while still meeting the requirements in our Tribal Constitution. Next time you update your card, you will notice it looks a little different. The back of your Tribal Card now includes your tribal district number, making it easier for members to know which district they vote in.

We kicked off the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina Student Housing Voucher Program for the Spring Semester. Our team is accepting applications now through Friday, March 4, 2022.

**OFFICE OF THE LUMBEE TRIBAL CHAIRMAN**  
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This program will provide housing assistance for income eligible Lumbee Undergraduate and Graduate College students attending a (4) Four - Year University/College within the State of North Carolina. This program is based on the student's individual income and demonstrated housing needs. Help us get out the word to Lumbee students.

As Chairman, I recognize the importance of our relationships with other Tribal Nations and governmental entities. Recently, I was able to spend time with our neighbors and relatives, the Catawba. Assistant Chief Jason Harris and I discussed tribal governance, working with Congress, housing, and economic development. I look forward to our government-to-government relationship as both our Nations progress. United States Congressman David Rouzer toured the Tribal Complex, as we welcomed him to Lumbee Territory. We had the opportunity to discuss agriculture, economic development, federal recognition, and housing. I also recently visited North Carolina Speaker of the House Tim Moore to discuss opportunities for the Lumbee and the State to collaborate on.

Lastly, we mourned the recent passing of Tribal Council Member Alvin "Johnny" Mercer. Mr. Mercer proudly served District 7 and was a beloved member of the Tribal Council. He had served as Chairman of the Housing Committee and was devoted to providing housing options to all Lumbee, but especially those in the greatest need for housing. I am thankful for his leadership and offer continued prayers to his family.

I look forward to reporting our successes to you every month. I love you all and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the Lumbee Nation.

John Lowery  
Chairman

