

Dear Lumbee People,

Homecoming 2023 was one for the ages! Thousands of Lumbee and our friends attended the festivities. Homecoming is a time for celebration; a celebration of our culture, our history, our talent, and love for our tribe. I would like to thank Lumbee Regional Development Association for their leadership, as well as UNC-Pembroke, the town of Pembroke, and the County of Robeson for their continued collaboration and support.

This year, due to construction at the Lumbee Tribe Cultural Center, Strike at the Wind! (SATW!) was held on the campus of UNC Pembroke at Givens Performing Arts Center (GPAC). Director Jonathan Drahos and the many talented volunteers came together to put on an amazing performance for two nights. I am thankful to UNCP and Director Drahos for working with us this year and hosting this amazing story about my third great-grandfather Henry Berry Lowrie. Next year, we will host SATW! at the newly renovated Adolph Dial Amphitheater!

In July, we held our annual scholarship awards ceremony, where we recognized over 100 Lumbee college students. Our scholarship program is open to all Lumbee students in higher education regardless of location or income. I would like to thank the Tribal Council for their continued support and efforts for this scholarship program.

Project IndigeCHOICE, once again, provided Lumbee students with great opportunities to explore future career options. Twenty-four Lumbee students attended the Aviation Earth & Beyond Camp that took them to tour helicopters at Fort Liberty, learn about airport operations at Raleigh-Durham International, and experience a space shuttle taking off in a simulator at Kennedy Space Center. Our youth programs and camps are open to Lumbee Youth, regardless of income, and they provide excellent opportunities for our students to plan their future careers.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Chairman.

I love you all,

John L. Lowery Chairman

