

Grand Traverse Band Economic Development Corporation Names Michael Schrader as New CEO



Michael Schrader

The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Tribal Council recently announced that Michael Schrader has been named Chief Executive Officer for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians Economic Development Corporation (GTB EDC), primarily responsible for the gaming properties Turtle Creek Casino & Hotel and Leelanau Sands Casino & Lodge.

"We are excited to have Michael Schrader leading our exceptional properties and developing strategic plans that diversify our enterprises for long-term growth," said Thurlow "Sam" McClellan, Tribal Chairman for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. "His extensive career in the gaming industry and track record of operational excellence speaks to his expertise in casino management, and we look forward to having him at the helm to navigate us in our future growth."

Schrader returns to his home state of Michigan after serving in leadership positions at various properties throughout the U.S., bringing with him over 20 years of Native American casino and resort experience to his new position. His expertise also includes business management, security and surveillance, compliance, and eight years in the United States Navy.

"I realized as I drove north into Traverse City that I've come full circle; I belong here," said Schrader. "When you add up the beauty of the area, the award-winning casinos, outstanding amenities, and Traverse City as a top Midwest tourism destination, it's truly a winning combination. It is with pride and pleasure that I can call this home."

Schrader's goals include strengthening the bond with local community with more involvement in area events and sponsorships, guiding the growth of the sustainability of the GTB EDC to increase benefits for the tribal membership, and finding new economic resources to diversify both new and current holdings.

"This is an exciting time to join the Economic Development Corporation as we are looking to expand and diversify. We have created an outstanding team to tackle the goals in front of us; our new General Managers (Johnny Barrientozat at Turtle Creek Casino & Hotel; and Jesse Ward at Leelanau Sands Casino & Lodge) have both been with the company for many years, and not only bring their experience and skills, but fresh perspectives to their positions," said Schrader.

Circling Raven Appoints Scott Hendrick, PGA Class A Member, as Head Golf Professional



Scott Hendrick

Circling Raven Golf Club, an amenity of Coeur d'Alene Casino Resort Hotel in Idaho, recently hired Scott Hendrick as Head Golf Professional. Hendrick previously worked as Golf Operations Supervisor at Canyons Park, Utah, a Vail Resorts property.

Canyons Golf is an 18-hole course designed by Gene Bates, who authored Circling Raven's acclaimed layout.

"Gene had nothing but great things to say about Scott, and they're all true," said David Christenson, PGA, Circling Raven's Director of Golf. "He's a sharp professional and a skilled golf and business manager who understands what it takes to run a first-class golf resort course that exceeds guest expectations."

Hendrick ideally timed his arrival at Circling Raven, which is owned and operated by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and celebrating its 15th Anniversary season this year. The tribe recently announced that it will host a Symetra "Road to the LPGA" Tour event for three years beginning next season.

"Gene raved about Circling Raven. I have great respect for him – he's an amazing golf course architect," said Hendrick. "Now that I've been here a few weeks, it's clear that he wasn't exaggerating in his praise for the golf club. First, no courses use 620 acres for their layout. Kudos to the Coeur d'Alene Tribe for using some of its land so exquisitely. This place is a natural wonderland with an extremely fine golf experience and outstanding operations team at its core. I see why it's ranked No. 1 in Idaho, and I'm honored to be here."

Gauselmann AG: Third Generation on the Supervisory Board

Janika Gauselmann was recently appointed to the Supervisory Board of Gauselmann AG. The family-owned corporate group currently employs 13,500 people worldwide and generated aggregate sales in excess of 3.6 billion euros in the 2018 financial year.

"As an economics graduate and through her professional activities, among other things as a financial analyst, Gauselmann is ideally qualified to fulfil her new role on our Supervisory Board. In addition, as a member of the Gauselmann Family Foundation, she already has a very good insight into the company," says Manfred Grünewald, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Gauselmann AG.

"I'm proud that my granddaughter Janika is reinforcing our Supervisory Board. Following my sons Armin and Karsten, she represents the third generation in our



Janika Gauselmann

family-owned company,” said Paul Gauselmann, Founder and Chairman of the Management Board of the Gauselmann Group. “Employees across the group will surely appreciate the fact that with Janika in the third generation this important position in the company is now being filled by a woman.”

Janika Gauselmann succeeds Max Walberer, who passed away in spring 2019 after serving on the Supervisory Board for 28 years.

Alongside Manfred Grünwald and Janika Gauselmann, the third member of the Supervisory Board is Karsten Gauselmann. Armin Gauselmann is Vice Chairman of the Management Board of the family-owned corporate group.

Bergman Walls & Associates Promotes Interior Designer Melissa Deneen to Senior Interior Designer

Bergman Walls & Associates (BWA), a global architecture and interior design firm, recently announced that it has



Melissa Deneen

promoted interior designer Melissa Deneen, NCIDQ, to Senior Interior Designer. In her role, Melissa will continue to work closely with John Hinton, BWA’s Director of Native American Projects, to bring tribal gaming and hospitality projects to fruition.

“Melissa has been a valuable member of the Bergman Walls staff,” said Hinton. “She has played an integral role between BWA’s architectural and interior design teams, and has been instrumental in helping develop cohesive design solutions for our clients. In addition, Melissa is passionate about understanding the business and cultural needs of the tribal gaming industry. We look forward to continuing to work with her to deliver successful projects to our clients.”

Melissa’s interior design portfolio for the casino gaming and entertainment industry includes casino gaming venues, high limit lounges, hotels, owner and guest suites, bars, restaurants, and gaming facility masterplans. She is a certified

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Interior Designer through the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ), and received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Design from the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, NY.

Veridocs Announces Corporate Level Promotions

Veridocs Inc., a leading solutions provider for domestic and international ID authentication, compliance, and due diligence applications, recently announced the promotion of four executive leaders.

Joe Oprosko has been promoted to President and Chief Executive Officer. He previously held the position of President and Chief Operating Officer.



Joe Oprosko

“We are fortunate to have someone of Joe’s caliber and experience lead Veridocs,” said Carl Kuehne, Chairman. “Joe is a technology visionary with a proven track record of execution, and his keen understanding of our clients’ needs is helping them tackle their biggest ID authentication challenges.”

Chad Coker has been promoted to Chief Technology Officer. Coker joined Veridocs in 2006 as Vice President of Software Development and is responsible for providing strategic and technical direction for the company’s KYC software solutions. He has been invaluable in the development of Veridocs’ technology solutions. Coker will continue leading and developing solutions for the short and long-



Chad Coker

term needs of Veridocs’ clients, ensuring the company’s technology remains above industry standard and compliance expectations.

Andrea Oprosko has been promoted to Chief Financial Officer. She has been with the company for nine years, bringing with her extensive knowledge and experience of financial accounting, auditing, and management. Her focus in this new role aligns with the responsibilities she has already been



Andrea Oprosko

performing, developing policies and procedures for improving performance and productivity, as well as providing meaningful financial management.

Sam Shelton has been promoted to Chief Customer Office. Having previously served as the company’s Vice President of Technical Support for the past 12 years, Shelton will play a more prominent role in supporting Veridocs’ commitment to meeting the needs of clients. Customer satisfaction remains a key focus for the company, and with a customer-first mandate, Shelton will evaluate interactions across every touchpoint to improve customer experience and dictate continuous innovation.



Sam Shelton

“We are at an exciting moment in Veridocs’ history,” said Kuehne, “and this talented leadership team of Joe, Chad, Andrea and Sam will successfully advance our strategy and help clients leverage our technology to solve their ID authentication challenges.” ♣

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