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## **Tribal Ready Announces its Board of Directors**

*The board of directors consists of members with expertise in broadband, government and Tribal relations*

**Washington, D.C.** – Today, Tribal Ready, a Native American-owned-and-governed company with decades of experience in communication network design and delivery to unserved and underserved areas, announced the members of its Board of Directors. The Board members include Joseph Valandra (Rosebud Sioux Tribe of South Dakota), Scott Dinsmore (Pakan'yani Maidu of Strawberry Valley Rancheria), Kevin Miller (Oglala Sioux Tribe), Wendy Helgemo (Ho-Chunk Nation), Jase Wilson, Mike Faloon, and Justin Fulcher.

“We are excited to have such a diverse and experienced group on our Board of Directors to help guide Tribal Ready’s strategy,” said Joseph Valandra, CEO and President of Tribal Ready. “We are certain that the expertise these board members bring to the table, whether it be in Tribal relations, government, or broadband technology, will facilitate our efforts in filling the digital divide on Tribal lands.”

In February, Tribal Ready launched an outreach program to ensure that Indian Country is accurately mapped for broadband access. Accurate broadband mapping is essential for Tribes to receive funding from the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

Funds from the program are allocated based on an FCC map known as the Fabric. Estimates indicate that location data in the Fabric may be incorrect in the vast majority of cases in rural areas, either by omission or error. Tribal Ready helps Native communities challenge the data and advocate for their concerns about the process. Tribal Nations are encouraged to sign up for the Virtual Tribal Broadband Office and take the speed test that helps Tribal Ready collect more accurate data by visiting Tribal Ready’s site; click [here](#).

### **About the Board of Directors**

**Joseph Valandra** (Rosebud Sioux Tribe of South Dakota) – Joe is the president and CEO of Tribal Ready, Inc. He has over 25 years of experience in executive-level leadership roles in the public, private, government, and non-profit sectors, including an extensive background in Tribal economic development. Using his collective experiences in government, business, and gaming, Valandra has launched various ventures uniquely focused on the technological development, marketing, and deployment of products and services designed to benefit Native nations. He is deeply committed to hard work and determination, leading to expanding opportunities for all Natives.

**Scott Dinsmore** (Pakan'yani Maidu of Strawberry Valley Rancheria) – Scott is the vice president of external affairs at Tribal Ready, Inc. Calling upon over 20 years of award-winning experience in network, sales, and marketing, Dinsmore has bridged the divide for large and small organizations looking to expand their footprint and forge a path into the future. He founded



a 501c3 non-profit (The One Native Nation Foundation, Inc.) to provide scholarships for Native American youth from federally recognized and unrecognized tribes. Scott believes connecting Native communities to the highest quality broadband service is fundamental to Tribal data sovereignty and self-determination.

**Kevin Killer** (Oglala Sioux Tribe) – Kevin is an activist, Native American politician, and former president of the Oglala Sioux Tribe. He previously served as a Democratic member of the South Dakota House of Representatives from 2009 to 2017 and the South Dakota Senate from 2017 to 2019, representing the 27th district. He lives in Pine Ridge, South Dakota. as an actor and executive producer on two short films, *Running Shadow* and *Istinma*.

**Wendy Helgemo** (Ho-Chunk Nation) – Wendy is a policy advocate dedicated to serving American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians in the public, nonprofit, and tribal sectors and protecting tribal sovereignty. She brings over 25 years of experience in federal Indian law and policy and working with Tribal governments. Wendy was senior advisor on Indian Affairs for United States Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid (NV) and served as in-house counsel for several federally recognized tribes and the National Indian Gaming Commission.

**Jase Wilson** – Jase is the co-founder and CEO of Ready.Net, the platform empowering broadband providers to connect more families and businesses to better services.

**Mike Faloon** – Mike is the co-founder and COO at Ready.Net. Before that, Mike was the Chief Operating Officer at Standish Mellon Asset Management.

**Justin Fulcher** – Justin Fulcher is an entrepreneur, founder, and CEO of RingMD, a platform that connects a global network of doctors and patients through digital products -- including an app, remote-diagnostics wearable technology, and a chatbot. He is working to bring access to affordable healthcare to everyone through digital disruption.

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### **About Tribal Ready**

Tribal Ready is a Native American-owned and governed company with decades of expertise in communication network design and delivery to high-cost rural areas. Our mission is to ensure high-speed broadband reaches every Native American individual and community. We are committed advocates for tribal sovereignty, fighting for the right to govern our communities and benefit from access to modern technology. Our team has the knowledge and relationships vital for tribes to access broadband grant funding and the trust necessary to preserve culture and advance tribal sovereignty.

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