



PALA BAND OF MISSION INDIANS ELECTS NEW TRIBAL COUNCIL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PALA – On December 5, 2006, the Pala Band of Mission Indians (Tribe) held its biennial election for the positions of Tribal Chairman, Treasurer and one at-large Executive Committee member. The posts of Vice-Chairman, Secretary and the other at-large Executive Committee member are voted on in odd-numbered years.

As a testament to their appreciation for the housing, healthcare and educational opportunities that have emerged as a result of their leadership, the same three individuals were re-elected to the Tribal Council.

Robert H. Smith will continue to serve as Tribal Chairman, as he has done for the last sixteen years. Theresa Nieto was once again re-elected to the post of Tribal Treasurer and Annalee Yanez will become the at-large Executive Committee member for a second time.

“I am extremely fortunate to be able to serve the Tribe yet again,” said Robert Smith, re-elected Tribal Chairperson of the Pala Band of Mission Indians. “We have made tremendous progress in asserting ourselves culturally, socially and economically, but we still have much more to achieve in the years to come.”

When weighing in on this year’s election, Members gave much consideration to the Pala Casino Resort and Spa, now in its fifth year of operation, the Boys & Girls Club, the Cupa Cultural Center, the Pala Library and the Pala Fire Department.

The Pala Band of Mission Indians consists of 867 members with 600 living on the reservation along the Palomar Mountain range, located along 5,000 square miles of California’s desert and approximately 30 miles northeast of San Diego on Interstate 15. Pala Casino, a 185,000 square foot, \$115 million casino, entertainment and dining complex owned by the Pala Band of Mission Indians, opened in April 2001.

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