

Brian Patterson

USET/USET SPF President 2006 - 2016

Since 2006, Brian Patterson has served as President of United South and Eastern Tribes (USET) and President of USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (SPF) since its inception in 2013, a national Indian organization that represents 26 Tribal Nations east of the Mississippi River. He also served as Chairman of USET's Culture and Heritage Committee.

Patterson is a Bear Clan Representative of the Oneida Indian Nation's Men's Council and Clan Mothers, the Tribe's governing body, responsible for directing policy for the Oneida Indian Nation of New York. The Oneidas have created numerous new economic and social opportunities for its people, including comprehensive health and community programs.

Among those programs are housing initiatives; recreational programs, including a resurging lacrosse program; and educational incentives, together with an Oneida language program that will ensure the Oneida language will thrive for generations. These achievements have been made possible by the revenue earned from the Oneida Indian Nation's enterprises.

He also has been the Tribal liaison for issues related to the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. He has been active in government-to-government consultations on a variety of issues with local and state governments and federal agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Fort Drum Army Base.

During his USET presidency, Patterson has testified before Congress twice: March 12, 2008, and April 17, 2008. He is involved in the formation of a USET Task Force to address the effects of the *Carcieri* decision. He has created a new Government Working Relations Group to facilitate political relationships and support. He initiated a strategy session with Tribal leaders which led to an expanded and updated USET Web site. He also sponsored the appointment of Keller George as USET President Emeritus.

Patterson is the father of four children.

