

November 9, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my honour to provide this reference for Pernell Jones, whom I have had the privilege of knowing and working alongside since 2010. Over the past fifteen years, I have witnessed Pernell's steady dedication to uplifting our people through culture, leadership, and community development.

When I first met Pernell, he was already deeply involved in cultural work and community building. He helped me reconnect to my culture, my teachings, and my songs. His mentorship grounded me in who I am today both personally and professionally. Pernell's guidance has always come from a place of humility, strength, and purpose, guided by traditional knowledge and a genuine commitment to our people.

Professionally, I had the opportunity to work closely with Pernell during his time with Carolinian Canada Coalition, where he served as our Indigenous Leadership Specialist. In this role, he led the writing of major proposals, secured significant funding, and co-designed key programs that advanced Indigenous leadership in conservation and community well-being. Pernell was instrumental in shaping and securing support for the Indigenous-led symposium Guardians of the Land, hosted at Six Nations, a major success that reflected his ability to bring vision to life through action and collaboration.

Pernell has a rare ability to see both the immediate needs and the long-term vision for our people. I personally have never met someone so dedicated to his work ethic and carrying out everything he does with the utmost integrity and humility no matter the challenges he may face. Pernell's mentorship along with strong leadership has allowed him to use those strengths to support others and build solid foundations for programs, organizations, and individuals. I have seen him help countless people over the years through his mentorship, his work ethic, and his heart for community.

It is with complete confidence that I recommend Pernell for any opportunity that allows him to continue leading, building, and supporting others. He is one of those rare individuals that uplifts everyone around him for success while embodying the true qualities of dedication and leadership.